



**Commemorating 75 Years of India's Independence**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India**

**SIKKIM SNA**  
**Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim**

**Reporting format for the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (ICONIC WEEK)**

**State :** SIKKIM  
**WEEK :** 30<sup>th</sup> Week (01.10.2021 to 07.10. 2021) including iconic week celebration (October 4-10, 2021)

**1. Name of State Nodal Agency**

Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok

**2. Activities carried out during the iconic week (October 4-10, 2021)**

Sikkim SNA celebrated Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav iconic week from 4th October to 10th October 2021 to promote awareness on harmful effects of Single Use Plastics, to promote conservation and protection of wildlife and water resources through the propagation of Green Good Deeds. The following events were organised in collaboration with School Eco-Clubs, Wetland division, NGOs, Army and ITBP and other stakeholders, volunteers and general public.

- **Launching of Iconic week** celebration on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti (2nd October, 2021) at Forest Secretariat, Deorali, Gangtok with signature on green pledges followed by state-wide clean up drive at the office premises and public places engaging officers and staff of Forest Department.
- **Signature Campaign** on Green Pledges along with Online Pledge Campaign.
- **Webinar (State level):** Online session for capacity building of 100 Green Teachers of School Eco-Clubs on "Problems of Plastics focusing on SUPs and finding alternatives" on October 5, 2021 [3-4pm] in collaboration with CSE, New Delhi.
- **Webinars (School level):** Online session on "ill effects of SUPs" at 800+ School Eco-Clubs by respective Green Teachers. PPTs and tool kits were provided to schools.
- Other Eco-Club activities such as clean up drives, plastic litter pick up campaign, essay writing, poster making, drawing and painting competitions, banner and rallies etc at school and neighbourhood.
- **Photography Contest** (National level - Open for All Indian Nationals).
- **Wildlife Week Celebration** October 2-8, 2021 across the State on the theme "Conserving Ecosystem for Posterity".
- **Water Conservation:** Lakeside clean up and awareness campaign on water conservation at Tsomgo Wetland, East Sikkim on October 8-10, 2021
- **Social Media Campaign** through broadcast of Jingles in Radio/ FM stations and publication of Video Message of dignitaries

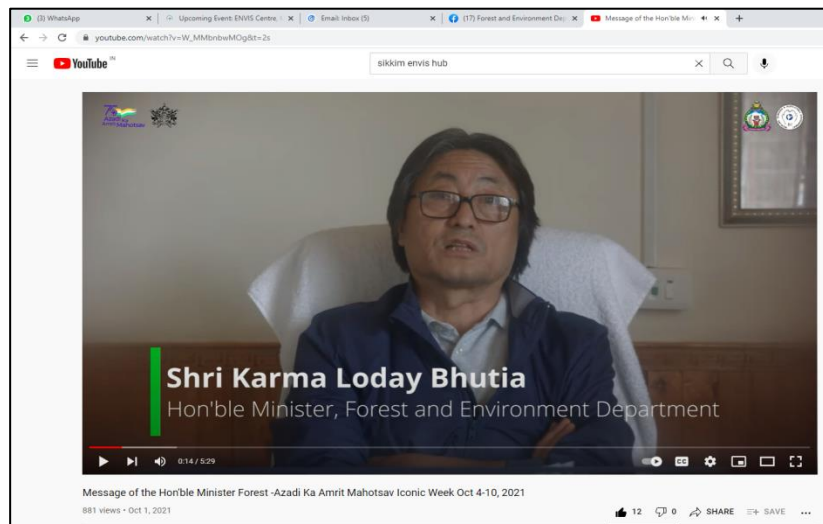
3. Number of Eco-clubs participated: **About 600 Eco-Clubs participated**
4. Number of students participated during the month: **5000 plus students, teachers and non-teaching staff**
5. Photos, newspaper clipping/media coverage, etc.:

#### **Detail Activity Report and photos from Annexure – I**

*More Photos can be downloaded from*

<https://www.facebook.com/555091487987565/posts/1994070814089618/>

### **BANNERS AND MEDIA USED**



**Message of the Hon'ble Minister Forest Shri Karma Loday Bhutia** on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Iconic Week Celebration Oct 4-10, 2021. The minister in his message appeals one and all to stop the use of Single Use Plastics and practice eco-friendly lifestyle. The Minister also appeals to conserve wildlife and biodiversity while also observing Wildlife Week during October 2-8.

#### **Published links:**

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W\\_MMbnbwMOg&t=2s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_MMbnbwMOg&t=2s)
- <https://fb.watch/8o-l-hu7Yb/>
- <https://fb.watch/8zRlezp9gU/>

## BANNERS AND MEDIA USED

### CM announces cash prizes for cleanest towns & villages

## Plastic water bottles banned in Sikkim from Jan 1, 2022

**BJOY GURUNG**

**GANGTOK, October 2:** Chief Minister P.S. Golay on Gandhi Jayanti announced a complete ban on plastic water bottles from January 1, 2022 onwards in Sikkim.

"We are announcing a complete ban on sale and use of plastic water bottles in Sikkim from January 1, 2022 onwards. No shops or restaurants can sell plastic water bottles and the plastic water bottles cannot be used in social functions like marriages," said the Chief Minister.

Golay was speaking to media after a cleanliness drive at Ganesh Tok to mark Gandhi Jayanti and 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign.

The Chief Minister mentioned that cleanliness drive is being conducted in every office, village and bazaars of Sikkim following the Swachhata Abhiyan announced by the Prime Minister.

"Under this Abhiyan in Sikkim, we are giving special focus on plastics as plastics are non-biodegradable items and harmful to our environment. Hence, we are announcing the ban on plastic water bottles in Sikkim from January 1, 2022," said Golay.

Golay said a period of three months has been given to ensure that shops in the State do not face losses before the ban comes into place.

"We are giving a time of three months till December as the shops and restaurants have stock of plastic water

bottles with them at present. During this period, they can sell and finish their stock so they do not face losses," he said.

The Chief Minister added that from January 1 next year, the shops and restaurants in Sikkim cannot keep or sell plastic water bottles. "No one can keep plastic water bottles in their shops or restaurants. They cannot bring it from outside or sell it here secretly. We will also stop sale and use of plastic water bottles in villages. Presently, plastic water bottles are used in social functions and that too will be stopped from January 1, 2022 onwards," he said.

The Chief Minister also announced annual awards to the cleanest gram panchayats and towns in Sikkim from Gandhi Jayanti 2022 onwards.

"There are 185 gram panchayats in Sikkim. We will frame criteria and the cleanest gram panchayat will receive a cash prize of Rs. 5 lakh on October 2 next year on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. The second and third cleanest gram panchayats will get a cash prize of Rs. 3 lakh and Rs. 2 lakh respectively. This will be an annual event," said Golay.

Similarly, the cleanest bazaar in Sikkim will get a cash prize of Rs. 10 lakh. The towns coming second and third in the cleanliness index will receive a cash prize of Rs. 7 lakh and Rs. 5 lakh respectively.

The Chief Minister appealed the people of Sikkim to make cleanliness an important part of their daily life and to ensure that their homes, villages and towns are kept clean.



**Video News:** <https://fb.watch/8zRzYqmLSt/>

### Radio Jingles Broadcasted



#### **AIR Gangtok 103 FM**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16tZRAb4Q5s97Iu-0v37BIVrfgEoTP3Jn/view?usp=sharing>

#### **Radio Misty Sikkim 95 FM**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1G33Xuudf4xx\\_AFclB-anYDVJc\\_fzQ3\\_-/-/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1G33Xuudf4xx_AFclB-anYDVJc_fzQ3_-/-/view?usp=sharing)

#### **Red FM Sikkim 93.5 FM**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j47ZaLAiPBP9tONK0N3wAMQ9INpjuPAd/view?usp=sharing>



## ANNEXURE I (Detail Report and Photos)



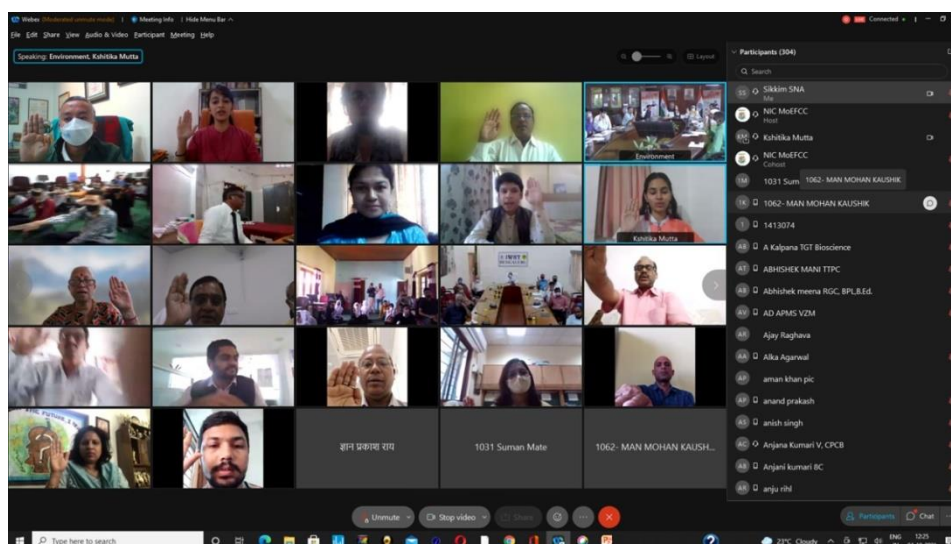
**Launching of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Iconic Week Celebration:** The officers and staff of Sikkim State Forest and Environment celebrated Gandhi Jayanti (October 2, 2021) at Forest Secretariat premises and across the State with short awareness drive, signature campaign on curbing the use of Single Use Plastics. The programme was followed by cleanup drive of the premises. The event also launched the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Iconic Week celebration (October 4-10, 2021) upon the direction of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.



More Photos at <https://www.facebook.com/555091487987565/posts/1994070814089618/>

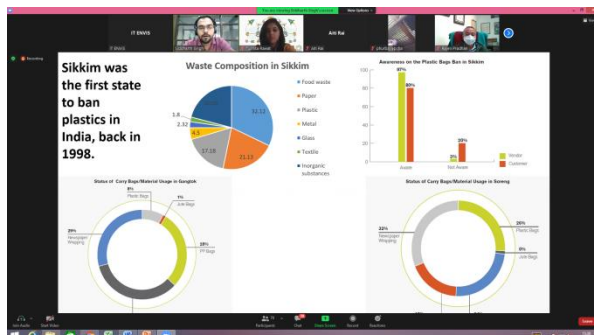
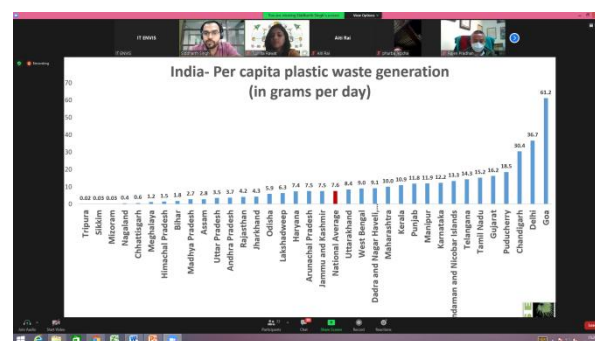
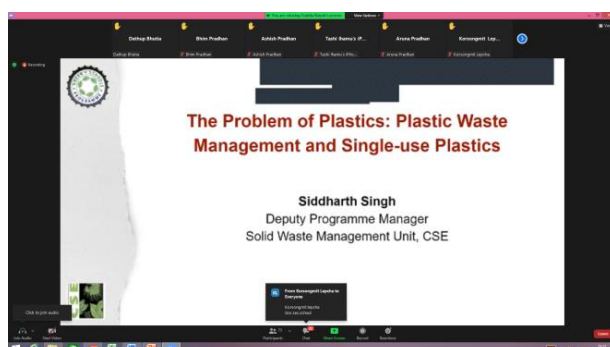


## Launching Session with MoEFCC



Sikkim SNA ENVIS attended iconic week launching session on “**Elimination of Single-use Plastic**” organized virtually on 4th October 2021 at 11:00am by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and National Museum of Natural History for SNAs, school students and youth. Shri Bhupender Yadav, Honble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India and Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Hon’ble Minister of State, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India graced the function and also administered Green Pledge

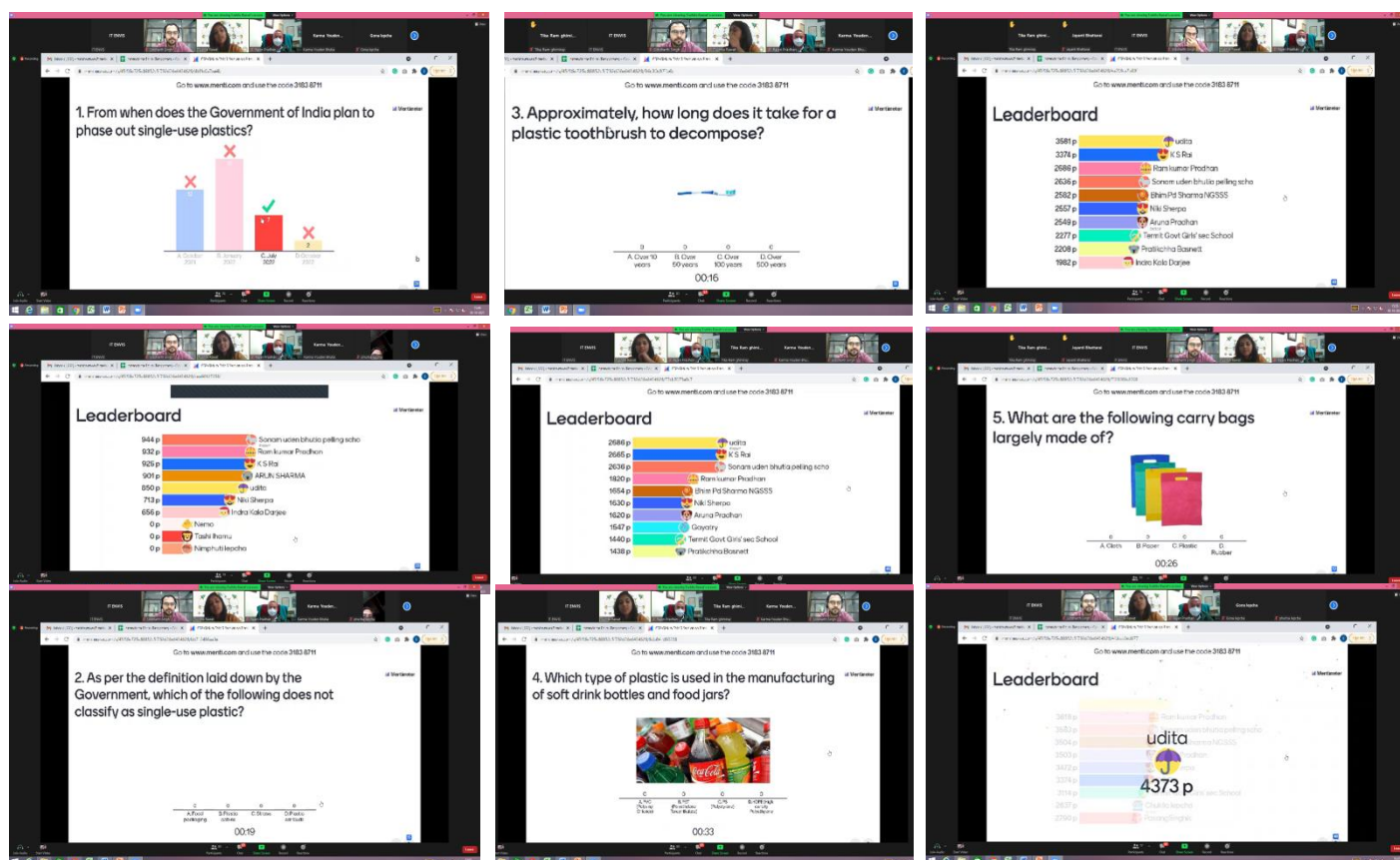
## Webinar (State Level)



Sikkim SNA in collaboration with CSE, New Delhi organized webinar capacity building session for 100 green teachers of Sikkim School Eco-Clubs on “**Plastic Waste Management focusing on SUPs**” on (5<sup>th</sup> October, 2021) 3-4.40 pm. Ms Tushita Rawat and Mr Siddharth Singh, Deputy Programme Manager, Solid Waste Management Unit, CSE made a very informative presentation on National and State's trends on SUPs. Many teachers interacted with the experts and few also shared their on-going activities to curb SUPs at school level.

## Online Quiz Conducted

An interactive school level quiz session was held towards the end, the top 3 winners were 1<sup>st</sup> position – Government Senior Secondary School Namcheybong, East Sikkim, 2<sup>nd</sup> position - Government Senior Secondary School Kaluk, West Sikkim, 3<sup>rd</sup> position - Government Senior Secondary School Pelling, West Sikkim. The winning participant schools were provided cash incentives up to Rs 10,000/- to support eco-club activities.



*Online quiz competition with Sikkim Eco Club Green Teachers on the occasion of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav-Iconic Week” organized by Sikkim SNA on October 5, 2021.*



## Wildlife Week Celebration October 2-8, 2021

Celebration of **Wildlife Week**” (Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 2021): A week long awareness programme with state and district level workshops on Wildlife Conservation with the theme “Conserving Ecosystem for Posterity” and the role of Military & Paramilitary forces for its conservation was held. The programme was held under the banner of Secure Himalaya project of the Forest and Environment Department in collaboration with WWF-India and other stakeholders.





## Lakeside clean up at Tsomgo Lake, East Sikkim



### ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’ celebrated at Tsomgo Lake

**Staff Reporter**

**GANGTOK, October 8:** Celebrating ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’ to mark the 75 years of Independence, the State Wetlands Authority, Government of Sikkim conducted a stakeholders’ awareness programme and cleanliness drive at the Tsomgo Lake premises, East Sikkim on Friday.

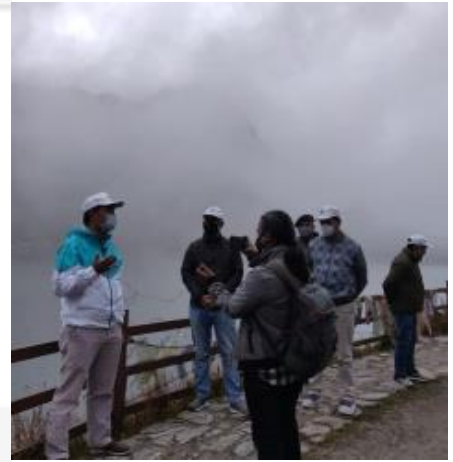
The programme also witnessed the constitution of ‘Wetland Mitras’ for

conservation of the lake and its surrounding areas.

Chief Conservator of Forests (HQ) N.W. Tamang administered the pledge to the newly constituted ‘Wetland Mitras’. Addressing the gathering, the CCF highlighted the importance of conserving the wetlands and carrying out sustainable tourism at Tsomgo Lake. He expressed satisfaction at the work carried out by the Pokhari Sangrakshan Samiti in keeping the surroundings of the lake clean.

The State Wetlands Authority installed informative signage at the Tsomgo Lake premises. T-shirts and caps marked with the Mahotsav logo were also distributed to the ‘Wetland Mitras’ to commemorate the celebration.

ACFs (Environment & Soil Conservation) B.K. Dhamala and C.M. Bhandari, officials of the Forest department and local stakeholders from Tsomgo Lake participated in the celebrations.





**Celebration of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Iconic Week” from (4.10.2021 to 10.10.2021) by School Eco-Clubs**

Sikkim Eco-club students and teachers conducted various activities such as plantation drive, practice of 3'R'- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, awareness on curbing the use of single use plastics, maintaining and fencing works at flower garden, herbal garden and kitchen garden, construction of nutrition garden and cleanliness drive in school and surrounding area as well as by uprooting the weeds grown in the school premise along with Panchayat, Head Master, teachers, non-teachers staffs along with quiz competition amongst participants. Green Pledge was administered, fruits were given as prizes in the quiz competition and painting and calligraphy competition, online drawing and painting competition, paper bags made from the waste paper simple steps on water conservation. Some students were seen spending time, caring and weeding the plants and some awareness speech was given by school head to reduce single use plastics and green teacher coordinator spoke on the importance of water, conservation of forest, wildlife and essay writing, slogan writing on reduction of sups and also presented crafts regarding reuse of plastics. The students along with teacher took a pledge on plastic free environment and ill-effect of Single Use Plastic using presentation and Signature campaign was also conducted by Eco Club students and Green teachers. Some teachers delivered speech to students on the day's focussing on the importance of the Garbage Free India' and urged everyone to discourage and **SAY NO TO SINGLE USE PLASTIC**. Some school were online live session in Google Meet was conducted to highlight various Environment topic and issues like Wildlife Conservation, Lake (Water) Conservation, Conservation of Forest, and Curbing of Single Use Plastic.

**Please note: As directed by the State Education Department, all Government-aided and private education institutions shall reopen from classes XI (nine) to XII (twelve) on a normal basis w.e.f 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2021.**



***Plantation drives on the occasion of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav”- Iconic week done by Eco Club students and teachers.***







***Plantation drives done by Eco Club students and teachers.***

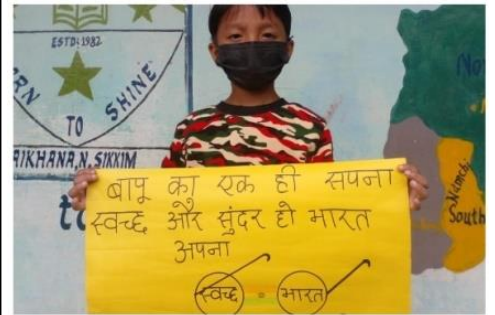




# *Gaikhana Primary School North Sikkim*

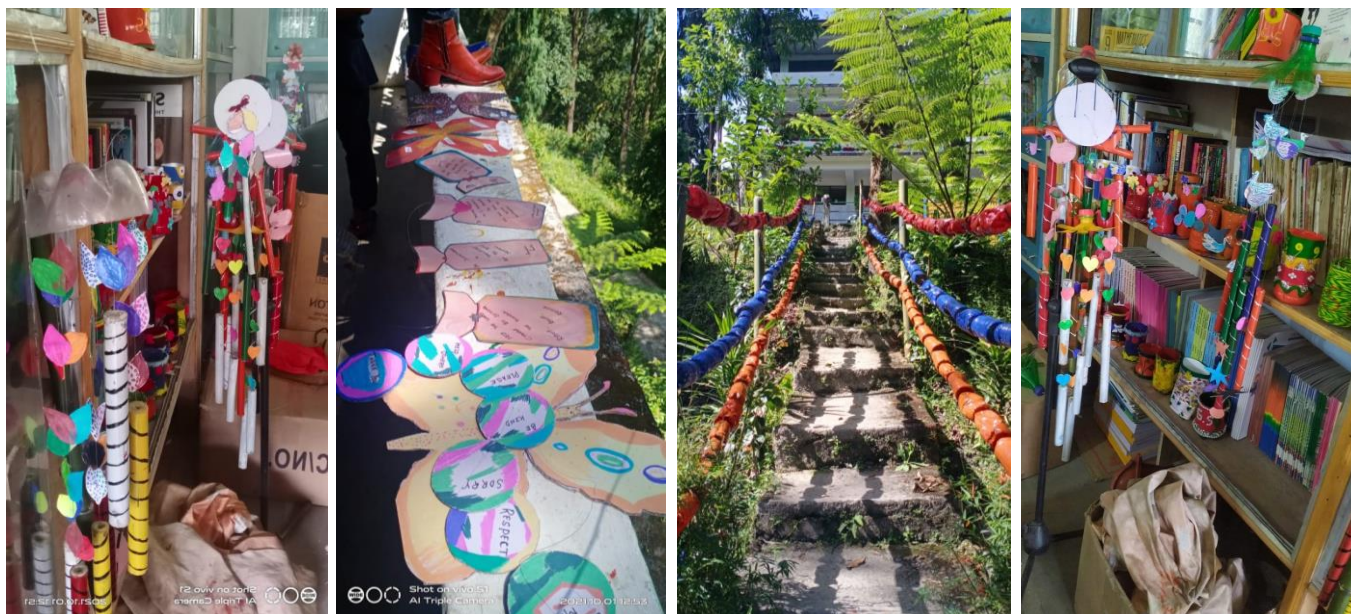
**Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav  
04-10 October 2021**

*theme- Recycling the  
plastics*



***Recycling the plastics and Say No Single Use Plastic on the occasion of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” Iconic week, done by Eco Club students***





***Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, quiz and painting competition on the occasion of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” Iconic week done by Eco Club students and teachers***





***Wind Chimes and Fencing around the stairs of the school made of plastic bottles.***



***Cushions and Sparrows, wrapped dolls a made from plastic wrappers***



***Home-Made Water Filter and Plastic bottle Sprinkler***





***Maintaining and fencing works at flower garden, herbal garden and kitchen garden done by Eco Club students***





*Pen- Pencil stand and decorative items made by Eco Club students*



*Tokri (Basket) made by Eco Club students*



*Bhui Pidha (Carpet) made by Eco Club Senior Students*





*Painting and Calligraphy Competition on “Say No to single use plastic” done by Eco Club students.*



*Some students were seen spending time, caring and weeding the plants done by Eco Club students*





*Students segregating paper wastes for reuse and up-cycling*



*Door-to-door awareness on the harmful effects of Single-Use Plastics*









*Cleanliness drive at school premise area done by Eco-club students and teachers*





***Cleanliness drive at school surrounding area done by Eco-club students and SMCs member***





*Cleanliness drive at school surrounding area done by Eco-club students*





*Cleanliness drive at school surrounding area done by Eco-club students and teachers*





*Cleanliness drive at school surrounding area done by Eco-club students and teachers*





***Celebrated of 152<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav-Iconic Week done by Eco Club students, HM, teachers and SMCs member also.***





*Simple steps on water conservation done by Eco Club students*



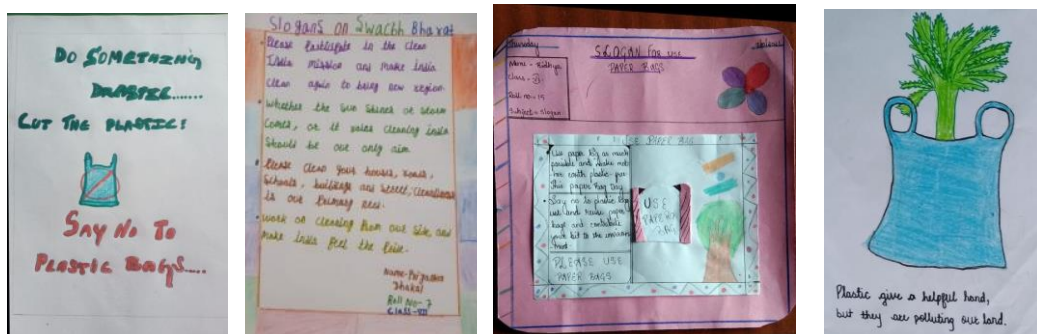
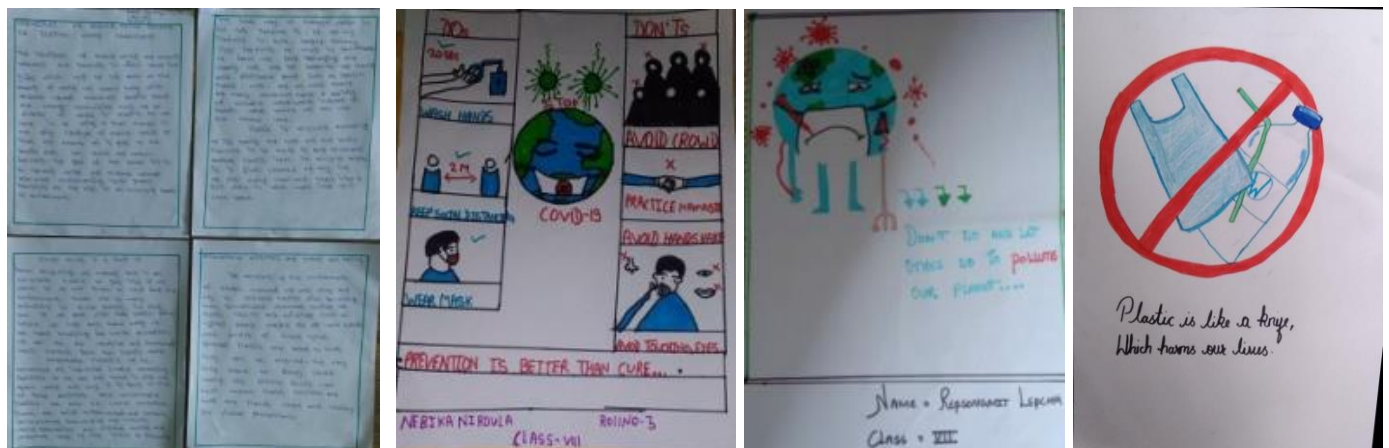
*Paper bags made from the waste paper done by Eco Club students*

*Online green pledge done by Eco Club students*



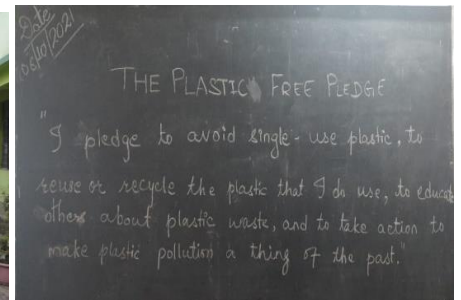


*Awareness speech was given by school head to reduce single use plastics and Green teacher coordinator spoke on the importance of water, conservation of forest, wildlife on the occasion of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav- Iconic week.”*

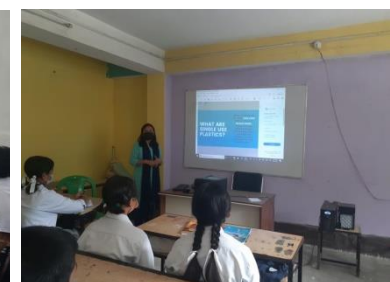


*Essay writing, slogan writing on reduction of sups and also presented crafts regarding reuse of plastics done by Eco Club students*





***The students along with teacher took a pledge on plastic free environment on the occasion of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Iconic week" done by Eco club students and teachers.***



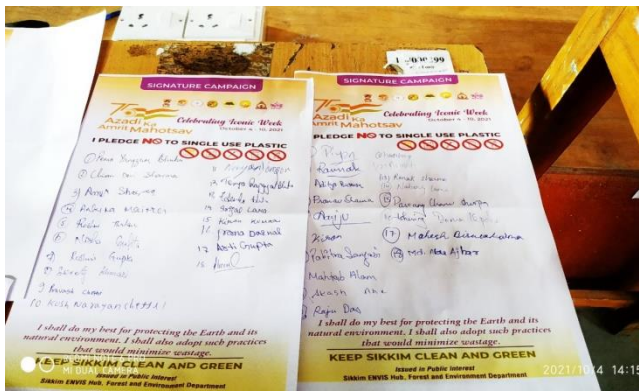
***Teacher conducted a session with the students on the ill-effect of Single Use Plastic using PPT done by Eco Club students.***



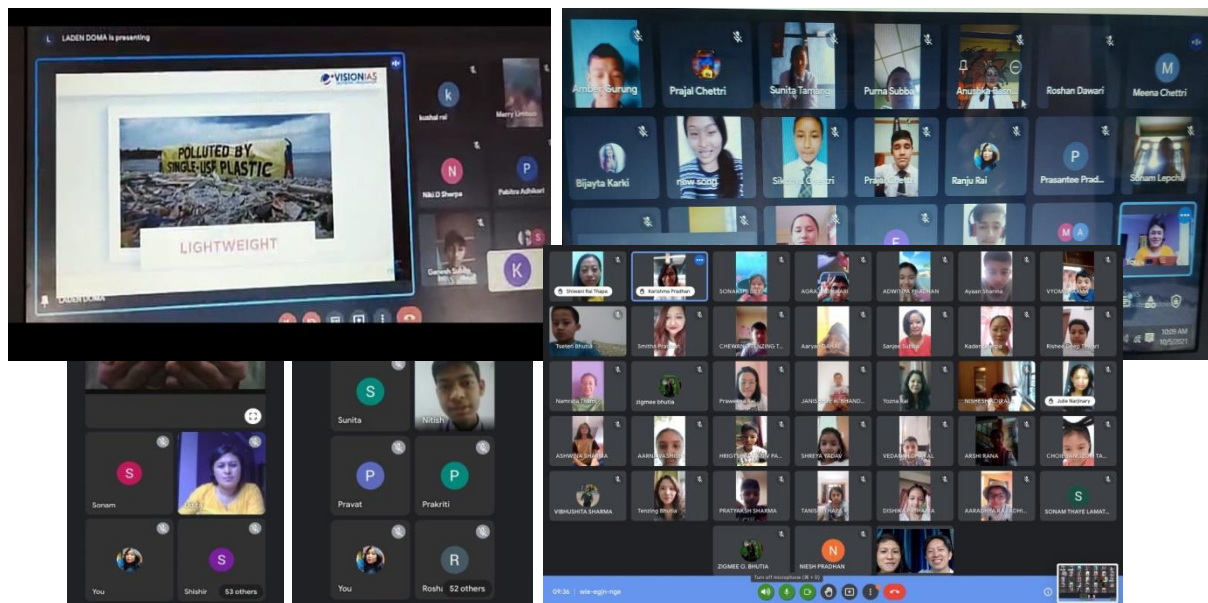


*Awareness programme as convenient focusing on SUP (Single used Plastic)*





*Signature campaign on the occasion of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav- Iconic Week done by Eco Club students and teachers*



*Online Live session in Google Meet was conducted to highlight various Environment Topic and Issues like Wildlife Conservation, Lake (Water) Conservation, Conservation of Forest, and Curbing of Single Use Plastic*





**Online drawing and painting competition for class VI students  
on the Theme – “SAY NO TO PLASTIC”**



## Sikkim ENVIS dedicates week to AkAM

SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 10 OCT:

Sikkim ENVIS Hub at Forest and Environment Department today concluded a week-long [04-10 Oct] dedicated to events organized as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

The weeklong event was launched at Forest Secretariat on 02 October with a signature campaign on green pledges followed by a clean-up drive, a press release informs.

A special online session for capacity building of 100 Green Teachers and eco-club in-charges was organized on 05 October in collaboration with Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi.

The webinar provided green teachers with updated information on all aspects of plastics with a special focus on single-use plastics. It also facilitated an understanding on the scale of the problem of plastic



waste, especially single-use plastics, and helped teachers take these learnings to their classrooms. Teachers were provided with presentations and tool kits.

An online interactive quiz amongst school eco-clubs was also held in which Namcheyong SSS, Kaluk SSS and Pelling SSS secured first, second and third position respectively.

The Green teachers then conducted awareness drives for students and staff on the ill effects of single use plastics

and undertook various activities on its alternative measures. The school eco-clubs further extended the campaign at homes and neighborhoods through propagation of Green Good Deeds focusing on waste management, water conservation, wildlife conservation and practice of 3 R's - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Eco-clubs across the state conducted clean up drives and pick up drives of plastic litter. Lectures, poster making, essay writing, drawings

and painting competitive events were organized by several school eco-clubs. An online green pledge campaign was conducted weeklong in which over 50,000 responses from students and teachers from the state were recorded. Several schools also administered green pledges in physical presence of students and staff. The iconic week celebration culminated on Sunday with clean up drives by Eco-Club volunteers at school's neighborhood.

## NEWS

## School eco-clubs celebrate 'iconic week' of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'

SE Report

GANGTOK, October 10: Celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to commemorate the 75 years of independence, Sikkim ENVIS Hub at Forest & Environment department observed an 'iconic week' from October 4 to 10 in coordination with school eco-clubs focusing on awareness to curb single use plastics. The weeklong event was launched at Forest Secretariat on October 2 on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti with signature campaign on green pledges followed by clean up drive, informs a press release.

A special online session for capacity building of 100 green teachers and eco-club in-charges was organized on Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi. The webinar intended to provide information on all aspects of plastics as an environmental bug-bear, with a special focus on single-use plastics, especially single-use plastics and helped teachers take these learnings to their classrooms.

Teachers were provided with presentations and tool kits. An interactive online quiz



amongst school eco-clubs was also held in which Namcheyong secondary school, Kaluk senior secondary school and Pelling secondary school secured first, second and third position respectively.

The green teachers then conducted awareness drives for students and staff on the ill effects of single-use plastics and undertook various activities on its alternative measures. The school eco-clubs further extended the neighbourhood through propagation of green good deeds focusing on waste management, water conservation, wildlife

conservation and practice of three 'R's' - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. The eco-clubs across the state conducted clean up drives and pick up drives of plastic litter. Lectures, poster making, essay writing, drawings and painting competitive events were organized by several school eco-clubs, the release mentions.

An online green pledge campaign was conducted weeklong in which over 50,000 responses from students and teachers from the State were administered green pledges in physical presence of students and staff. The iconic week celebration culminated on Sunday with clean up drives by Eco-Club volunteers at school's neighborhood.

The iconic week (Oct 4-10) was celebrated on direction of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC). MoEFCC's ENVIS Hub at Sikkim Forest and Environment Department has been coordinating the 75 weeks celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav w.e.f 12 March 2021 to 15 August 2022.

## NEWS

## Workshop on role of security forces for protecting Sikkim's biodiversity

DICHEN ONGMU

GANGTOK, October 7: A day long workshop on 'Biodiversity of Sikkim and the role of Military & Paramilitary forces for its conservation' was organised today as a part of the National Wildlife Week 2021 celebrations. The programme was held under the banner of SECURE Himalaya project of the Forest & Environment department and in collaboration with WWF-India.

APCCF Pradeep Kumar, in his keynote address, mentioned that both the Forest department and the security agencies have a similar mandate of guarding the natural wealth and sovereignty of the country and such sensitization programmes will go a long way towards sensitizing the forces for enhanced cooperation and coordination.

Uday Gunung, CT, Wildlife and nodal officer, Secure Himalaya, informed that it is a first of its kind workshop where military forces have been included with an aim to conserve biodiversity, detect illegal activities in the wildlife and create awareness on waste management.

He said the workshop was organised as per the direction



of Chief Minister P.S. Gony who during the August 23 meeting of State Wildlife Board had directed to initiate talks with Indian Army in order to develop healthy and friendly relation with them in connection to wildlife conservation.

"After Forest department and WWF, paramilitary / military forces are in close contact when it comes to conserving wildlife hence we decided to create a common platform and impart ideas as to how one can detect and document whatever biodiversity they come across as they get to witness the wildlife activities up close," he added.

Likewise, Rajarshi Chakraborty, State project officer, Secure Himalaya, spoke on the importance of armed forces in biodiversity conservation and their role in Secure Himalaya project.

"It's an awareness workshop where we invited State Biodiversity Board gave a presentation on biodiversity of Sikkim and its significance while Priya Shrestha from WWF-India gave a presentation on critical conservation insights and strategies for collaboration with armed forces. The presentations were followed by a panel discussion where the representatives from

the military and paramilitary agencies assured their support in future activities and to address potential areas of convergence of enhanced waste management, joint monitoring of biodiversity and mitigating trans-boundary wildlife crime. In the end, all the participants took a conservation pledge and also signed on the same.

The workshop was attended by officers from the Forest department as well as WWF-Sikkim team, Lt Col Garvita from the Indian Army, second-in-command Kuldeep K. from the ITBP, deputy commandant Vijay K. Kumar from SSB and their teams.

GANGTOK, October 8: Celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to mark the 75 years of independence, the State Wetlands Authority, Mitras, conducted a stakeholders' awareness programme and cleanliness drive at the Tsomgo Lake premises, East Sikkim on Friday.

The programme also witnessed the constitution of 'Wetland Mitras' for keeping the surroundings of the lake clean.

GANGTOK, October 8: Celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to mark the 75 years of independence, the State Wetlands Authority, Mitras, conducted a stakeholders' awareness programme and cleanliness drive at the Tsomgo Lake premises, East Sikkim on Friday.

The programme also witnessed the constitution of 'Wetland Mitras' for keeping the surroundings of the lake clean.



## 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrated at Tsomgo Lake

Staff Reporter

GANGTOK, October 8: Celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to mark the 75 years of independence, the State Wetlands Authority, Mitras, conducted a stakeholders' awareness programme and cleanliness drive at the Tsomgo Lake premises, East Sikkim on Friday.

The programme also witnessed the constitution of 'Wetland Mitras' for keeping the surroundings of the lake clean.

conservation of the lake and its surrounding areas.

Chief Conservator of Forests (HQ) N.W. Tamang administered the pledge to the newly constituted 'Wetland Mitras'. Addressing the gathering, the CCF highlighted the importance of conserving the wetlands and carrying out sustainable tourism at Tsomgo Lake. He expressed satisfaction at the work carried out by the Pokhari Sangrakshan Samiti in keeping the surroundings of the lake clean.

The State Wetland Authority installed an informative signage at the Tsomgo Lake premises. T-shirts and caps marked with the Mahotsav logo were also distributed to the 'Wetland Mitras' to commemorate the celebration.

ACF's (Environment & Soil Conservation) B.K. Dhamala and C.M. Bhandari, officials of the Forest department and local stakeholders from Tsomgo Lake participated in the celebrations.

## MoS calls on

## Rights activists demand UN





**Education Department; Government of Sikkim**  
**PO: Tashiling; Gangtok; East Sikkim- 737103. Telefax: 03592-203338**

**Ref: 125/SPO/SS/EDN/2021-22**

**Date: September 27, 2021**

**CIRCULAR**

Whereas, all central and state government, government aided, and private educational institutions, universities, colleges, tutorials, coaching institutes, and hostels were reopened w.e.f. September 06, 2021 vide circular Ref. 84/SPD/SS/Edn/2021-22 dated August 28, 2021 from Classes IX (nine) to XII (twelve) and higher institutions on a 50% attendance with parental consent, w.e.f. September 06, 2021.

And whereas, some cases of COVID-19 infection among the students and the staff members were reported in both government and private educational institutions in the state in the first week of the reopening of the educational institutions itself. After that, all State Government, Government aided and private educational institutions were closed down till October 31, 2021 vide Circular No: 113/SPD/SS/Edn/2021-22 dated September 11, 2021.

And whereas, it has been observed that positivity rate of COVID-19 has come down considerably and re-opening of schools can now be considered.

Now, therefore, after careful consideration, the following decision is taken by the State Government for compliance by all concerned:

1. All state government, government aided, and private educational institutions, will reopen with effect from October 01, 2021 for students of Classes IX (nine) to XII (twelve).
2. Initially, only 50% of the students should be called on alternate days with parental consent, which shall be further increased based on the monitoring of the situation.
3. For Central Government institutions directions issued by the Central Government will apply.
4. For institutions with no specific guidelines or directions, this circular will apply.
5. All institutions will scrupulously observe all standing COVID-19 protocols.
6. All Heads of Institutions are further instructed to continue online classes, online teaching, home schooling, tests, examinations or any such assessments through online or any other mode as per prevailing situation for Classes LKG to VIII and also supplement online classes for Classes IX to XII.

Sd/-

(GP Upadhyaya, IAS)  
Additional Chief Secretary  
Education Department

Copy to:

01. All Directors, Education Department, for information and further instructions for compliance.
02. All District Education Heads for further instructions and compliance.
03. PS to Secretary, CMO
04. Staff Officer to CS.
05. PS to HM, Education.

**Special Secretary**  
Education Department