



**Government of Sikkim
Office of the PCCF-cum-Secretary
Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department
Deorali, Gangtok**

Press Release

“Chief Minister’s Forestry and Environment Mission: 100 percent Environment Conscious Citizen by 2020”

We all know that we are part of the environment we live in. Solution to many environmental problems lie in our attitude towards environment. Be it awareness to keep our surroundings clean or the realization to conserve natural resources by re-using and recycling wherever possible, they all are attitudinal. On the surface it looks simple. But changing the attitudes of such huge population is not going to happen overnight. The best way to attempt to bring about a change in the attitudes in the society is through children. They are impressionable and have no vested interests. They are our future. They are the single most important influence in any family. With this realization the Government of Sikkim under the visionary leadership of Shri Pawan Chamling envisages to achieve 100 percent environment conscious citizen in Sikkim by the year 2020. Meeting held at Forests Secretariat, Deorali on 23.05.2011 among the senior officers from Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department and Human Resource Development Department, Government of Sikkim. Shri. S. T. Lachungpa, PCCF-cum-Secretary Forest and Shri. C. S. Rao, Secretary HRDD actively took part in the discussion.

2011 being the year of innovation and pioneer year to achieve the vision, the Government of Sikkim has come up with an innovative state-level award scheme “**Chief Minister’s Green School Rolling Trophy**”, the first of its kind in the country. This award will be launched on the occasion of the World Environment Day on 5th June at Chintan Bhawan by the Hon’ble Chief Minister himself. The trophy will be awarded to the best performing School which have adopted the most innovative and effective practices to manage natural resources within their own premises. The ratings of the schools will be based on awareness and work of school in environmental issues, climate change, pollution control and the national standards as laid in the Green School Manual.

The programme and the award scheme will be coordinated under the National Green Corps programme jointly by Forests, Environment & Wildlife Management Department (FEWMD), Human Resource Development Department (HRDD), Government of Sikkim, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India and Centre for Science & Environment (CSE), New Delhi.

At present, National Green Corps - Sikkim state covers 182 schools with more than 5000 students in 354 School Eco-clubs.

**Sd/-
S. T. Lachungpa, IFS
PCCF-cum-Secretary**