



NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL MISSION FOR SUSTAINING THE HIMALAYAN ECOSYSTEM (NMSHE)

JUNE 2024 - VOLUME II, EDITION I



**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 5th June,
2024**

Land Restoration, Desertification and Climate Resilient

**Our Land, Our Future, We are
#Generation Restoration**

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Arunachal Pradesh Goes Green: World Environment Day Activities Showcase Sustainability

- **Celebrating Culture and Conservation: Indigenous Edible Fruit Garden Established at Van Vigyan Kendra Chessa.**

To commemorate World Environment Day 2024 and honor the deep cultural significance of indigenous fruits, *Shri P. Subramanyam, PCCF & HoFF, launched the creation of a unique garden by including indigenous edible fruits at Van Vigyan Kendra (VVK), Chessa.* The ceremony commenced with the planting of a diverse selection of fruit trees native to the region, including *Phoebe cooperiana, Morus alba, Baccaurea sapida, Garcinia lanceifolia, Garcinia xanthochymus, Artocarpus lacucha, Syzygium cumini, Castanea mollissima, Dillenia indica, Nephelium lappaceum, Garcinia pedunculata,* and more. This act served as a symbolic tribute to Arunachal Pradesh's rich botanical heritage.

PCCF & HoFF, emphasized the importance of conserving these indigenous fruits, highlighting their deep connection to the state's cultural fabric. A moving moment followed as participants solemnly took the LiFE pledge, signifying their commitment to environmental responsibility and sustainable living. To further this initiative and encourage community engagement, the event concluded with the free distribution of tree saplings to the local public.

This project (Circular No. For(Env)-173/2024/1624-1628 dated 3rd June 2024) goes beyond simply planting trees. The Indigenous Edible Fruit Garden at VVK, Chessa, aims to be a vibrant platform for education, appreciation, and potentially, even research opportunities. By showcasing this diverse collection of fruits, the garden will not only serve as a living testament to the region's rich botanical heritage but also foster a deeper understanding of their cultural significance within Arunachal Pradesh.



Figure 1. plantation and creation of an indigenous edible fruit trees garden at VVK, Chessa.



Figure 2. Free distribution of tree saplings to the local public.

- **Greening Forest Division Offices: Circular Promotes Indigenous Fruit Tree Plantations.**

A recent circular issued by the Forest Department (Circular No. For(Env)-(SAPCC)-261/2021/1575-1601, dated 30th May 2024) signifies a commitment to promoting a healthy and sustainable environment within Forest Division offices across the state. This initiative focuses on a plantation drive specifically featuring indigenous fruiting trees. The circular likely outlines details regarding the types of trees to be planted, the designated areas within the Forest Division offices, and potential involvement from staff members. This approach not only enhances the environment within these offices but also promotes the conservation and appreciation of native fruit trees.

RIVER CLEANUP CAMPAIGN

Arunachal Pradesh participated in the World Environment Day 2024, aligning with national and global efforts, by organizing a series of events across the state. These activities, which involved various departments, schools, NGOs and other stakeholders, included a river cleanup campaign along the banks of the Senki River in Chimpu, Itanagar.

The River cleanup campaign was facilitated by the Arunachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (APSPCB), which was attended by senior officers from the Department of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change, APSPCB, AP State Biodiversity Board, NGOs and other concerned stakeholders with an important message on the occasion of world Environment Day 2024 to keep environment pollution free.



Figure 3: River cleanup campaign at Senki, Chimpu, Itanagar

PCCF & HoFF Subramanyam underscores importance of safeguarding environment for future generations

ITANAGAR, Jun 05: Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force (PCCF & HoFF), P. Subramanyam today underscored the paramount importance of safeguarding the environment for the well-being of future generations.

Subramanyam also stated that there is a need to conserve and promote the indigenous edible fruit plants of Arunachal Pradesh which are deeply rooted in the State's cultural fabric.

The PCCF & HoFF made the statement while speaking at a vibrant celebration



of the World Environment Day which brought together a diverse array of participants, including senior forest officials, local community leaders, scientists from SFRI, students,

and other stakeholders at Van Vigyan Kendra, Chessa.

The World Environment Day is celebrated every year on June 5 with enthusiastic participation of

people from more than 150 nations.

It is an initiative of the United Nations, aimed at fostering global awareness and inspiring positive change and environmental action to create a more sustainable world.

The theme for World Environment Day 2024, 'Land restoration, desertification, and drought resilience' underscores the urgent need to address pressing environmental challenges such as land degradation and the increasing vulnerability to desertification and drought. It stresses the need for concerted efforts

to restore and sustain our land resources for present and future generations.

Arunachal Pradesh, joining the nation and the global community, celebrated the World Environment Day-2024 by organising several events across the State involving various departments, schools and other stakeholders. A river cleanup campaign along the banks of the Senki river in Chimpu, Itanagar, was organized on this occasion.

The river cleanup campaign was facilitated by the Arunachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (APSPCB), (Cont. P.)

Figure 4: River cleanup campaign at Senki, Chimpu, Itanagar, Newspaper clip from Arunachal Front dated 6th June 2024.

From Art to Action: Highlights from World Environment Day 2024

- **Over 275 Students Bloom Green: Pan-Capital Region Holds Art Competition Sparks Awareness**

A drawing and painting competition themed "Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience" was conducted from May 29th to June 4th, 2024. The event saw the participation of approximately over 275 students from various schools covering the pan-capital region from Itanagar, Chandranagar, Zoo Road, Naharlagun, Gumto, Doimukh, Yupia, and Banderdewa. Entries were evaluated based on creativity, relevance to the theme, and artistic skill.

This event not only cultivated environmental awareness among young learners but also prompted them to critically consider topics such as land restoration, desertification combat, and drought resilience. The enthusiastic participation of over 275 students is a testament to the success of the event. The competition served as a microcosm of a larger collective effort – one where creativity and environmental consciousness go hand in hand. By nurturing environmental awareness in the younger generation, we can cultivate a future where communities are empowered to combat environmental challenges and ensure a sustainable future for our planet.

The competition served a dual purpose. It fostered a love for the environment among young participants, igniting a passion for safeguarding our planet. Furthermore, it provided a platform for students to critically consider solutions to pressing environmental issues. The act of creating art around these themes will prompt them to research, reflect, and develop their own perspectives on land restoration and environmental sustainability.

Brushstrokes for Change: A Glimpse into World Environment Day Painting Competition Across 6 Arunachal Pradesh Schools (Geotagged Photos)



Figure . Alphabet Girl's Residential School, Nirjuli.



Figure : T.P Memorial English School, Upper Dobam, Banderdewa (A.P)



Figure . Holy Cross School, Nyokum Lapang, Itanagar.



Figure 11. Queen's Gate Public School, Lekhi Hapa.



Figure 12. Gellam Memorial High School, Chandranagar.



Figure 13. Nichiphu Children's Foundation School, Hill Top, Itanagar.

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ARUNACHAL PRADESH
STATE CLIMATE CHANGE CELL



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Government of India

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