

Upon this handful of
soil
our survival depends.
Conserve it and it will
replenish your needs.



Abuse it and
it will collapse and
takes mankind with it.

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION MEGHALAYA

Newsletter

VOL . 10 ISSUE NO.10

July– December, 2005.

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Dear Readers,

We welcome, suggestions for improvement, anecdotes, snippets, incidents of interest which can be featured in the newsletter. Please write to -

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Meghalaya, Shillong.**

WORKSHOPS OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Soil & Water Conservation Department organized a series of workshops covering different projects. A two day State level workshop on the theme “Soil & Water Conservation For Enhancing Productivity In Degraded Lands Of River Valley Projects And Flood Prone Rivers With Special Reference To Kopili Catchments” was held on the 7th & 8th July, 2005 at Shillong Club, Shillong.

At the Inaugural session of the Workshop, the Chairman was Shri P.W. Ingty, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Soil & Water Conservation. The welcome address was delivered by Shri K.C. Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation and the Keynote Address by Dr. S.C. Patra, Director, North Eastern Regional Institute for Water and Land Management (NERIWALM), Tezpur. Other speakers include Dr. P.P. Nageshwara Rao, Deputy Director of North East Space Application Centre (NESAC), Dr. V.T. Darlong of NERCAMP and Shri H.K. Marak, Director of Agriculture, Meghalaya. Shri A. Syiem, Additional Director of Soil & Water Conservation offered the Vote of Thanks.

The Workshop consisted of six technical sessions covering different sub-topics. The first technical session chaired by P.K. Bhattacharjee of North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) was an introductory session and the Resource Person was Shri R.S. Patel from the Ministry of Agriculture & Co-operation. Dr. B. Datta Ray, Secretary, NEICSSR presided over Technical Session-II covering the sub-topic “Mechanical Measures in Soil & Water Conservation” and the Resource Person was Shri D.C. Burman of the

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WATER CONSERVATION: A GLIMPSE

It was not on a whim or by mere coincidence that the name of the Department was changed to that of Soil and Water Conservation Department. In view of the new global phenomenon of water scarcity, which had extended its tentacles to Meghalaya, the State can feel the pinch of water shortage, particularly, during the arid winter months. It is in the backdrop of this situation and also the fact that this Department is the only agency in the whole State that deals with the conservation of water and harvesting-cum-management of water sources that the word water is tagged to the name of the Department.

There is this peculiar situation in this State where the abundance of rainfall does not match with the availability of water, particularly for drinking and irrigation. This is because of the severe rate of run-off due to the topographical conditions coupled with soil condition of the State and the lack of water management in the catchment areas. Besides, the degenerative trend of the overall ecology due to deforestation, jhumming, mining, et al., had depleted the water sources in the State. Taking into consideration the fact that water usages for domestic and agricultural purposes had increased many fold, the need to conserve and manage water and water sources in Meghalaya is imperative.

To meet this requirement, changing the name only will not suffice. The Department had on its bill of fares relevant concepts and projects of water conservation and management. Prominent among these are the efforts of the Department to treat and invigorate watershed areas laid waste by jhumming and deforestation including water sources and sources of rivers and streams. The Department is also vigorously pursuing the practice of water harvesting through incorporation of water retention structures in its schemes and also water conservation and distribution through construction of check dams, conservation ponds, waterways and canals.

Cultivating right attitude among the general population where water is not to be treated merely as a free commodity to be squandered at will, would perhaps greatly help the efforts of the Department to conserve and manage water and water sources through judicious and conscientious practices.

**Director of Soil & Water Conservation,
Meghalaya, Shillong
& Editor-in-Chief,
Soil & Water Conservation Newsletter.**

Brahmaputra Board. In the Technical Session-III chaired by Shri T.T.C. Marak, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry), the Resource Person was Shri R.K. Singh, Engineer, ICAR who rendered an exhaustive rendition on the sub-topic "Biological Measures in Soil & Water Conservation". The Technical Session-IV was on "Hydrologic & Sediment Yield Assessment & Monitoring" and presided over by Shri B.S. Rumnong, Faculty Member, SIRD and the discourse was delivered by Dr. K.K. Satpathy of ICAR. The Technical Session-V featuring the sub-topic "People's Participation" was chaired by Dr. H. Ghonglah, prominent columnist while Dr. S.C. Patra, Director, NERIWALM, Tezpur was the Resource Person. At the Technical Session-VI, the Chairman was Dr. K.K. Satpathy, Senior Scientist, ICAR and the Resource Person was Dr. P.P. Nageshwar Rao, Deputy Director, NESAC who spoke on the sub-topic "Application of Remote Sensing and GIS in Watershed Management."

At the Brainstorming and Valedictory Session, the Chairman was Dr. S.C. Patra, Director, NERIWALM and the Chief Guest was Shri P.W. Ingty, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Soil & Water Conservation Department.



**Smt. Archana Singh, IFS, Assistant Inspector
General Speaking at the Workshop**



Dignitaries at the IWDP Workshop

Another State Level Training-cum-Workshop on “The Role of Integrated Wasteland Development Project in Conservation of Natural Resources and Upliftment of Socio-Economic Condition of Rural People” was held on the 8th November, 2005 at KJP Assembly Hall, Shillong.

The workshop was inaugurated by Shri G.P. Wahlang, IAS, Principal Secretary, Soil & Water Conservation Department who was the Chief Guest. The Welcome Address was delivered by Shri K.C. Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya. Other speakers include Smti. Archana Singh, IFS, Assistant Inspector General, Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources. Dr. P.P. Nageshwara Rao, Deputy Director, North Eastern Space Application Centre and Dr. Y.P. Sharma, Joint Director, ICAR. The Vote of thanks was offered by Shri A. Syiem, Additional Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya.

Resource Persons at the workshop which was Chaired by P.W. Ingty, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Soil & Water Conservation include Shri A.K. Shukla, Deputy Adviser, Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources; Shri B.S. Rumnong, Faculty

Member, State Institute of Rural Development, Dr.S.C. Patra, Director of NERIWALM and Smti. Archana Singh, Assistant Inspector General, Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources.



A view of participants at the IWDP Workshop

A Workshop on Jatropha Cultivation was organized by the Department in collaboration with GLOFEPSE at the Science Hall, Nongpoh on 5th August, 2005. The Chairman of inaugural session was Shri A. Syiem, Additional Director of Soil & Water Conservation and the Chief Guest, Shri K.C. Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya. The Welcome Address was delivered by Shri D.S. Kharsyntiew, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation, (Research & Training), Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat.

Altogether, 119 nos. of participants including representatives from the District Rural Development Agency, Shillong and implementing officers of the Soil & Water Conservation Department attended the Workshop besides District heads, chairman of watershed committees, farmers from more than 60 villages of Ri-Bhoi and members of glofepse, Manipur. Shri B. Sohmat, Joint Director of Agriculture and Shri K.M. Brahma, Deputy Director, Agriculture H. Khongwang, secretary, GLOFEPSE and Shri K.S. Vite, NABARD delivered lectures at the Workshop.



Jatropha curcas seedlings in nursery.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

**23rd – 26th August, 2005
(DSWCO-Nongstoin)**

32 nos. of trainees from four IWDP project areas of Ummulieh, Nongmise, Upper Pynsong and Lower Pynsong IWDP attended short term training course on kitchen gardening and vermicompost at the Rural Resource Training Centre, Umran.

24th August, 2005 [DSWCO JOWAI (CC)]

A farmer's training on Capacity Building in Watershed Management and Sustainable Development under IWDP was held at Bosco Pnar. The Chief Guest was Shri F.R. Kharkongngor, Deputy Commissioner, Jaintia Hills and the Guest of Honour was Shri M.S. Lhuid, Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, Jaintia Hills. Shri A.Syiem, Additional Director Soil & Water Conservation, Shillong also attended and the Resource persons were Shri K.W. Marbaniang, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T), Shri G. Kharmujai, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (CC) Division.

30th August 2005 [DSWCO JOWAI (T)]

A one day Farmers Training Programme on the theme "Capacity Building on Watershed Management" was organized at Lad-Myngor village, for the benefit of the Farmers from Myngor village (Lower Pamtia Watershed) and Lad-Myngor village (Upper Pamtia Watershed) under the scheme IWDP. About 150 farmers from both the villages attended the training. Shri D.Kharshiing, MLA of the area was the Chief Guest while Shri R. Sna, MDC was the Guest of Honour. The Chief Guest in his speech stressed on the active participation of the farmers for the overall success of the scheme and the need of unity and cooperation among themselves so that the benefits of the scheme can be shared equally between them. Officers from Veterinary, Soil & Water Conservation and Forest Departments offered lectures on different topics.



D. Kharshiing, MLA inaugurating a Farmer's Training programme



K.S. Thubru, DSWCO, speaking at a Farmer's Training programme.

9th September, 2005 [DSWCO JOWAI (T)]

A one day Farmers Training Programme on the theme “Capacity Building on Watershed Management” was organized at Mulum village for farmers from Mulum village of Myntrong Watershed under the scheme IWDP. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Shri M. Suchiang, MLA of Raliang Constituency and the Guest of Honour was Shri M.S. Lhuid, MCS, Project Director, DRDA, Jaintia Hills District, Jowai. The Chief Guest during his speech stressed on the active participation of the people for the smooth implementation of the scheme. About 120 farmers attended the training. Officers from Soil & Water Conservation, Veterinary & Forest Departments offered lectures on different relevant topics.

13th September, 2005 [DSWCO JOWAI (CC)]

A training on SHG Concepts, etc., was held at Sungpyrdi under Lower Lukha Watershed (IWDP) and the Resource persons were Shri B.S. Rumnong, Faculty of SIRD, Nongsder.

20th September, 2005 [DSWCO JOWAI (T)]

The Division organized a one-day Training programme on the role of User Groups & Self Help Groups at Pdeiniadaw village for the benefit of the farmers of Sanaro and Pdeiniadaw village of Mynso-Palong Pamblang Watershed under the scheme WDPSCA. On the same day, 24 Nos., of Sewing Machine were distributed to 24 beneficiaries from both villages under the Production System components of the scheme.

21st September, 2005 [DSWCO JOWAI (CC)]

A training on Self Help Group Concepts, etc., was held at Thadmyntri under Mynksing Watershed (IWDP) and the resource person was Smti J. Nongrum, Block Co-ordinator-cum-Supervisor of Self Help Groups, Jaintia Hills.

23rd September, 2005 [DSWCO JOWAI (CC)]

A training on Self Help Groups Concepts, etc., was held at Umsahlang under Sumbati Watershed (IWDP) and the resource person was Smti J. Nongrum. On 27th September 2005, another training on Self Help Groups was held at Mynjai under Wahsama Watershed (IWDP) and the resource person was Smti J. Nongrum.



SHG members displaying their wares at SHG Meet-cum-Exhibition-cum-Sales of works

24th September, 2005. [DSWCO JOWAI (T)]

The Division again organized a one day Training Programme on the “Role of Self Help Groups for Economic Upliftment” at Nongsning village of Wah Danglun Watershed under the scheme WDPSCA for farmers from Nongsning and Mynkre villages. In his speech, Shri M.S. Lhuid, MCS, Project Director, DRDA, Jaintia Hills who was the Chief Guest at the function stressed on the importance of the SHG’s and exhorted the people to start forming these Groups for their own benefits. He also appealed to the farmers to properly utilize the benefits provided to them through the scheme. During the day, 20 Nos., of Sewing Machines were distributed to 20 beneficiaries from both the villages under the Production System components of the scheme.

27th October, 2005 [DSWCO JOWAI (T)]

A one-day Farmers Training Programme was organized by this Division at Tyrshang village for farmers of Tyrshang, Ummulong, Mookyndur, Moodymnai, Sung, Wahiajer and Puriang villages which falls under the Sung River Valley Project of the scheme RIDF-IX-NABARD implemented on the area. About 100 farmers from the villages attended the training. The main purpose in organizing this Training programme is to provide valuable inputs to the farmers to enable them to enhance the productivity of their land.

10th November, 2005.

Shri K.S.Nongkynrih, Soil & Water Conservation Officers Monitoring & Evaluation Unit, Meghalaya, Shillong attended the workshop on "Interface for Technology Development and Transfer at NEHU permanent campus.

25th November, 2005 [DSWCO JOWAI (T)]

A one-day farmers Training Programme was organized at Kseh village which falls under Kremlabit Wahiaji Watershed under the scheme Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP). This village falls under Saipung Block and is situated in the least developed part of the District. About 80 farmers from the village attended the Training. Lectures on various topics were given by the Officers of the Department from both Territorial & Cash Crop Divisions.

9th December, 2005 [DSWCO JOWAI (CC)]

A training on capacity building on Records Keeping of Self Help Groups for the Community Organizers was held at Jowai.

14th December 2005 [DSWCO – RI BHOI]

A one-day training programme on 'Formation of Self Help Groups and User Groups' under IWDP and WDPSCA project

areas was inaugurated by Shri B.Dhar IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Ri- Bhoi District at the Science Hall, Nongpoh on 14th Dec 2005. Shri A. Syiem, Additional Director, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Meghalaya, Shri R.R.B.R. Thabah, Joint Director, (R&T), Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat and Shri S.R. Nonghulu, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Ri Bhoi Division, Nongpoh are also present at the training programme.

The program is a part of the awareness campaign by the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Ri Bhoi Division, Nongpoh on the need of Self Help Groups for uplifting socio-economic activities of rural communities within the project areas. About 200 participants from 16 watersheds attended the training and lively interactive session. The resource persons were Shri B.S. Rumnong and A. Dohling from SIRD, Nongsder and R.R.B.R. Thabah from Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat. Shri A.B.S. Swer Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Ri Bhoi conducted the training sessions while Shri P. Sungoh, Soil & Water Conservation Ranger offered the vote of thanks.

POSTING & TRANSFER

1. Shri A.Syiem, Joint Director Soil & Water Conservation (Hq) promoted as Additional Director Soil & Water Conservation.
2. Shri D.S. Kharsyntiew, Joint Director Soil & Water Conservation, Byrnihat transferred as Joint Director Soil & Water Conservation (Hq).
3. Shri R.R.B.R. Thabah, Instructor, Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat promoted as Joint Director Soil & Water Conservation, Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat.
4. Shri D. Khonglah, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer promoted as Instructor Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat

During this quarter the following staff were transferred as enumerated below:-

Name	From	To
1. Shri Tyngshain Rynjah, SCD (Jr I)	Soil Survey	Shillong (T)
2. Shri Marnylla Suni, S&WC. Ranger	Amlarem Range	Thadlaskein Range
3. Shri L.Diengdoh, S&WC Ranger	Weiloi Beat	Laitlyngkot S.C.Range
4. Shri O.R. Marak, S&WC Ranger	Simsanggre	Tura (T)
5. Shri R.M.Sangma, S&WC Ranger	Tura(T)	Simsanggre
6. Shri C. Laloo, SCD (Sr)	Namdong Range	Amlarem Range
	Jowai (CC)	Jowai (CC)
7. Shri G. Marwein SCD (Sr)	Weiloi S.C. Beat	To take charge of Weiloi S.C.Beat,
		Soil Survey
8. Shri Ioanis Lyngdoh, SCD (Jr)	Shillong (T)	

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

18th June, 2005 [Jt DSC CTI]

The State Forest Service College, Ministry of Forest and Environment of India, Byrnihat, Assam arranged a visit to the Conservation Training Institute to study and collect the data of forest, vegetations, etc., for the forest Ranger's Training Course

27th September, 2005 [Jt DSC CTI]

A visit to the para Rubber Plantation of the Conservation Training Institute was conducted by the Trainees of the Eastern Forest Rangers College, Kurseong to study on its Cultivation and Management techniques which was a part of their training course.

19th October, 2005.

Shri R.S. Gang, Director, National Commission on Scheduled Tribes, Government of India, New Delhi visit the Institute and appreciated the management and maintenance of the Institutes and its campus.

22nd October, 2005 [DSWCO-SHG(T)]

The two IAS Probationers namely Shri S.Goyal & Smti. A. Rajoria alongwith Additional Secretary, Education Department,

Government of Meghalaya visited Umjilieng Micro Watershed, (IWDP) 2000-2001 and were accompanied by Shri K.W.Marbaniang, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T)-cum-Project Leader of the Watershed along with Shri F. Lamin, Range Officer and the Secretary of Umjilieng Micro Watershed. An informal meeting was organized at Sadew Community hall in which an interaction and discussion with the SHG members took place. Altogether 17 (seventeen) SHGs were formed covering different activities like floriculture, tea plantation, furniture, grocery shops, piggery and mushroom cultivation. One SHG is dealing with sale & supply of fertilizers with the approval of the Director of Agriculture Department, Meghalaya. The meeting was concluded with the vote of thanks by Shri B.H. Pathaw, the Head and President of the Watershed Association.

The officers also had an interaction with members of the Shat Jingshai SHG of Madan Ingsyiem village and Nangkiew Shaphrang SHG.

4th November, 2005 [DSWCO-SHG (T)]

The Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officers, Shillong (T) along with a team of IAS officers, Border Areas Department officials, Block Officers including

members of Durbar Raid Lynshing visited the proposed Mawbnai view point under Mawkynrew C. & R.D. Block, East Khasi Hills District. The purpose of the visit is to make an assessment on the feasibility of taking up an Eco-Conservation Park at Lum Mawbnai about 43 km. from Shillong. The area could be developed through the establishment of a series of infrastructure. The community may subsequently take over the management of the infrastructures to be created for their benefit in order to improve their socio-economic conditions.

13th November 2005 [DSWCO-SHG (T)]

Members of the Iengbantei Self Help Group (SHG) formed under Umiew Watershed, IWDP – 2000-2001-Project-I participated in the International Trade Fair held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi commencing from the 13th to 27th November, 2005. They are being sponsored by the office of the District Rural Development Agency, East Khasi Hills District.

20th November, 2005 [DSWCO-SHG (T)]

Three IAS officers (probationers) namely Shri Santanu P. Gotmare, IAS and Smti Aruna Rajoria, IAS and Sanjay Goyal, IAS visited the composite Nursery at Umjalynshir village under Umiew Watershed. The officers were also taken to the site of Agro-Horticulture plot and the site where a water harvesting structure was constructed in the community land. They also had an informal meeting with members of Mattilang SHG. The Officers were very impressed with the Fast Food Centre set up by the group which earned the group a monthly profit of about Rs. 3000/-

The officers also visited the nursery site at Smit village. At the meeting they had on the above date, the Secretary, Shri H.S. Kharpran ASWCO presented a brief report on the physical and financial achievement on different activities of Umiew watershed, IWDP (2000-2001) project. During the meeting a good interaction between the IAS officers and members of SHGs took place. Shri D.

Kurkalang informed that under the Umiew Watershed there are 23 SHGs formed and promoted by the Soil & Water Conservation, its promoting agency. Out of these, two numbers of SHG have qualified for the 2nd stage level of grading and now they are in the process of getting term loan under SGSY Scheme. They also had an interaction with the various Self Help Groups, members of various Watershed Associations and Committees.

17th December, 2005 [DSWCO-SHG (T)]

Altogether three SHGs formed under Umiew Watershed namely Mattilang SHG of Nongkrem village, Iengbantei SHG of Smit village and Lawei Baphyrnai of Nongkrem village participated in the 1st One day SHG meet-cum-Exhibition-cum-sales-of-works held at Shillong Club premises which was organized by District Rural Development Agency, East Khasi Hills, Shillong.

22nd December, 2005 [DSWCO-SHG-(T)]

The Maitshaphrang Self Help Group (SHG) formed under Umiew Watershed, Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP) Project for the year 2000-2001 after receiving Term Loan under SGSY Scheme purchased a 407 Truck (Mini truck). The truck is now earning well and their income generating activities besides Transport/Running Vehicle include vegetable cultivation, Intra Loaning etc.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Shillong Soil & Water Conservation Cash Crop Division organized the following activities from July to December, 2005 :-

- ➔ From 7th June to 8th July, 2005 the office distributed 127306 nos. of subtropical horticulture saplings viz., citrus, arecanut, guava, etc. to 510 nos. of beneficiaries.
- ➔ On 6th August, 2005, 10000 nos. temperate fruit saplings viz., Lagoon,

Naspati, Santa Rose, etc., were distributed to 63 nos. of farmers of Umsaw Mawjynrong from the nursery created during 2002-2003.

- ➔ On 22nd September, 2005 an Awareness cum-Training Programme on IWDP was organized at Wah Bhowal Watershed, Dangar. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Shri A. Syiem Additional Director Soil & Water Conservation Officer Meghalaya and was attended by the farmer community residing within the project area.
- ➔ On 11th November, 2005, another Awareness cum-Training programme on Self Help Group was conducted at Wah Bhowal Watershed, IWDP. The training was conducted by Shri K.W. Marbaniang, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer Shillong (T), Shri Z.D. Shira Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Project Formulation Cell, Shillong and Shri G. Kharmujai, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (CC). The training was attended by members of Self Help Group from villages within the watershed areas.

The Tura Soil & Water Conservation (T) Division has taken up the following activities during the period from July to December, 2005:-

- ➔ The Tura (T) Division started eight new Hariyali Projects in West Garo Hills District during the year and training were conducted before executing the works. The field training were given to mobilize Self Help Groups, Watershed Associations and Watershed Committees for all the projects from 6th July 2005 to 15th July 2005. The officers from the allied Departments of Agriculture, Veterinary, Horticulture and Fisheries were the main resource persons in which a total of 240 trainees attended the training programme. The new watersheds started are:-

Baljek Aduma Watershed, Digitant Watershed.

Doldam Aduma Watershed, Sattop Watershed.

Sakal Aduma Watershed, Dearaksi Watershed.

Sisu Aduma Watershed, Atalpa Watershed.

➔ Seedling Distributions under WDPSCA & IWDP.

During July 2005 Arecanut seedlings were distributed to the beneficiaries of all the watershed projects under the ongoing IWDP & WDPSCA projects. A total of 240000 seedlings were distributed to the beneficiaries of the above projects.

Training were also conducted for the ongoing WDPSCA Projects under the Division from 6th December, 2005 to 15th December, 2005. The resource persons were officers from Agriculture, Veterinary, Fisheries and Horticulture Departments. The trainings were imparted to Self Help Groups, Watershed Association and Watershed Committees, in which 220 trainees attended the trainings.

➔ Celebration of World Environment Day 2005.

The World Environment Day 2005 was celebrated at Chakkonggre village under Pilgi Watershed Project and on the day seedlings were also distributed to the farmers of the project area.

Activities taken up by the Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat are as follows:-

7th September, 2005 [Jt DSC CTI]

A study tour was conducted by the trainees of the Forest Training School, Dimapur to study the various activities at the Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat.

16th September, 2005 [Jt DSC CTI]

The Passing out Ceremony of the 32rd Batch cadets of the 11 month Field Assistant Training Course, 2004-2005 was held at Conservation Training Institute's Auditorium. The function was chaired by Shri K.C.Momin, Director Soil & Water Conservation and the Chief Guest on the occasion was Shri P.W.Ingty, Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya.

30th September, 2005

The Conservation Training Institute organized a function on account of the passing out of the 4-months Advance Training Course of the Forester-I belonging to the Meghalaya State Forest Department. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Shri A. Syiem, Additional Director of Soil & Water Conservation.

15th October, 2005.

The 33rd Batch 11-months Field Assistant Training course commenced on this date. There are 17 trainees drawn from Khasi Hills, Garo Hills and Jaintia Autonomous District Council & Soil and Water Conservation Divisions.

25th November, 2005.

The Conservation Training Institute in collaboration with the Meghalaya State Council of Science, Technology and Environment (SCSTE), Shillong organized a one-day Technology Awareness camp at the CTI Campus. The camp was presided by Shri R.R.B.R. Thabah, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation, (Research & Training) while Shri R.D.West, Member-Secretary, SCSTE was the resource person. About 50 participants from the adjoining villages namely Aphanggre, Matchokgre and Umpher including Field Assistant Trainees attended the camp

PARTICIPATION

11th July, 2005

Smti I.Rynjah, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer (Extension), Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Shillong attended the workshop on 'The State of Environment of Meghalaya, Present Status & Strategies for Future' at Raitong Building Shillong.

12th – 13th July, 2005.

Shri K.C.Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation and Shri A.Syiem, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation (Head Quarter) attended the Regional Workshop on "Integrated Wasteland Development Project/ Hariyali Project" organized by NERI-WALM at Administrative Staff College, Khanapara, Guwahati.

12th – 13th July, 2005

The Department of Soil & Water Conservation deputed the following officers to attend the Regional Workshop on Integrated Development project/Hariyali Project at Administrative Staff College, Khanapara, Guwahati.

1. Shri D.S. Kharsyntiew, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation (R & T), CTI, Byrnihat.
2. Shri R.W. Momin, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Tura.
3. Shri S.R. Nonghuloo, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongpoh Division.
4. Shri K.W.Marbaniang, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer Shillong (T) Division.
5. Shri K.M.Syiem, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin.
6. Shri S.K.Sangma, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer Tura (T) Division.
7. Shri K.S. Thubru, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer Jowai (T), Division.

8. Shri S.A.Sangma, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Simsanggiri Division.
9. Shri L.N.Marak, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Baghmara (CC) Division.

18th –23rd July, 2005.

The following officers attended the Computer courses at National Institute of Rural Development at Khanapara Guwahati.

1. Shri S.P.Kafley, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Engineering Division.
2. Shri A.Lamare, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Survey Division.

8th August, 2005

Smti I.Rynjah, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, (Extension) Directorate, Shillong attended the State Level orientation workshop on “ Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms” at seminar room Directorate of Agriculture, Meghalaya, Shillong.

15th –20th August, 2005.

The following officers attended the Computer courses at National Institute of Rural Development, Khanapara, Guwahati.

1. Shri A.S. Kharlukhi, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer Shillong (T) Division.
2. Shri D.Challam, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Survey Division.

22nd –27th August, 2005.

The following officers attended the Computer courses at National Institute of Rural Development, Khanapara, Guwahati.

1. Shri D.Khonglah, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Jowai (T) Division.
2. Shri R.V.Jyrwa, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Ri Bhoi Division.

26th – 31st August, 2005

Shri H.Thubru, Assistant of Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Jowai (CC) attended the 6 (six) days Training on Storage research plan (Srep) at Directorate of Agriculture, Shillong.

29th August – 8th September 2005.

The Department deputed Shri D.L.Warbah, Divisional of Soil & Water Conservation Officer (Instructor) CTI, Byrnihat attended the Training for Hydrology & Sediment Monitoring Training courses for small watersheds for the Field/Project Officers engaged in Soil & Water Conservation Programme/Watershed Management at Soil & Water Conservation Training Centre Hazaribagh.

5th September, 2005

The following officers attended the 1 (one) day Awareness programme on Organic Farming held at Rural Resource Training Centre, Umran, Ri-Bhoi.

1. Shri A.B.S. Swer, Assistant of Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongpoh.
2. Shri H.S.Kharpran, Assistant of Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T) Division.
3. Smti M.Diengdoh, Assistant of Soil & Water Conservation Officer, (Cartography) Directorate, Shillong.

5th –10th September, 2005

The following officers attended the Computer courses at National Institute of Rural Development, Khanapara, Guwahati.

1. Shri S.S.. Kharsyntiew, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin Division.
2. Shri H.R. Sangma, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Tura (CC) Division.

12th –16th September, 2005

The Department deputed the following officers at attended the training course “Workshop on Gender Sensitization” at Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat.

1. Smti Ibashisha Nongkhlaw, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Project Formulation Cell Division.
2. Smti Prestina R. Marak, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Soil Survey Division.

12th –17th September, 2005.

The following officers attended the Training on participatory Watershed Management at NIRD Khanapara, Guwahati.

1. Shri J. Swer, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T) Division.
2. Shri H.Thubru, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Jowai (CC) Division.
3. Shri Z.A. Kurbah, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, CTI Byrnihat.

26th September–1st October, 2005.

The Department deputed Shri O.T.Lyngwa, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, (Mechanical) Directorate, Shillong to attend the Training programme on ‘Technology Options For Quality Control Standardization And Packaging For Rural Products’ at State Institute of Rural Development, Nongsder, Meghalaya

4th October, 2005 (DSWCO-Nongstoin)

Shri K.M. Syiem, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer delivered lecture at the workshop organized by ICAR for Mawlyngkhar Model Village Scheme at Govt. High School, Mawlyngkhar. Director, ICAR, senior scientists and officials from NABARD and beneficiaries participated in the workshop.

17th October, 2005

Shri R.R.B.R. Thabah, Divisional Assistant of Soil & Water Conservation Officer, (Instructor) Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat attended the workshop on ‘Generation of Spatial Data of Natural Resources in Khasi Hills’ at Conference Hall University Guest House, Permanent Campus, Mawkyntroh.

10th November, 2005 [DSWCO NONGSTOIN]

Shri P.Rapthap, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin participate as a Judge in the District Level Science Congress organized by the office of the District Planning Officer Nongstoin for students of different schools under West Khasi Hills District.

19th –21st December, 2005.

The following officers attended the Workshop/Training programmes on “Project Monitoring and Management at Shillong club, Shillong.

1. Shri D.Langstieh, Divisional of Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Project Formulation Cell Division.
2. Shri K.S. Nongkynrih, Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Monitoring & Evaluation Unit, Meghalaya, Shillong.

PHOTO FEATURE



Bamboo spurs: stemming the tide.



Brushwood check dam



Gully control: strengthening the soil.



Brick enclosures for saplings protection



Taming the flow: water canals between agricultural fields



Conservation pond and dams in West Khasi Hills



Bathing booth for women.

LEST WE FORGET

1. Shri Windham K.Sangma, PTO Tura (T) Division, expired on 26.7.2005
2. Shri Marshan Singh Lyngdoh, AS&WCO, Shillong (CC), expired on 3.8.2005
3. Shri Ivan Kenneth Funcon, Chainman, Survey Division, expired on 14.9.2005
4. Shri Jephrein Roy Rongrin, PTO, Nongstoin, expired on 13.10.2005.
5. Shri Theriswalthain Marak, SCFW, Tura (CC) Division, expired on 31.10.2005
6. Shri Singless Sun, Tractor Driver, Shillong (T) Division, expired on 26.12.2005
7. Shri Justice Kharmutee, SCD (Jr), Shillong (T), expired on 12.12.2005.

Retirement

1. Shri Molis Khymdeit, Soil & Water Conservation Field Worker, Shillong (T) Division on voluntary retirement on 13.8.2005
2. Shri Marquish A.Sangma, Power Tiller Operator, Tura (T) on Voluntary Retirement on 30.11.2005
3. Shri S.D. Chyne, Stenographer Gr. II, Shillong Directorate, Retired on Superannuation on 30.11.2005
4. Smti A. Lyngdoh, Head Assistant, Jowai (T) Division, retired on Superannuation on 31.12.2005

COMPASSIONATE APPOINTMENTS

1. Smti Veronica Khyriem, w/o (L) R.K.Lyngwa S.C.D. (Jr) as Khalasi 0.0.No. 29, dt. 31.8.2005
2. Shri Hamilton Lapang s/o (L) Flinsandy Lyngdoh, S.C. Ranger as S.C.D. (Jr) and undergoing 11th month F.A. training at CTI, Byrnihat.
3. Shri Toda Suting s/o (L) Haiborn Nongtdu, Tractor Driver, as Tractor Driver.

Miscellaneous

GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

- Abraham Lincoln, US President in 1863 –

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate – we cannot consecrate – we cannot hallow – this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced, for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us – that from these honoured dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion – that we are highly resolved that these dead shall not have died in vain – that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom – and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

They Say

"An invasion of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come."

- Victor Hugo.

"You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do."

- Henry Ford.

"One of the most dangerous forms of human error is forgetting what one is trying to achieve."

- Paul Nitze.

"Rank does not confer privilege or give power. It imposes responsibility."

- Peter Drucker.

"Smooth seas do not make skillful sailors."

- African Proverb.

HUMOUR

1st woman : Working full time and trying to do the housework really get to me. After work, I came home and washed the clothes and the dishes. Tomorrow, I have to wash the kitchen floor and the front windows...

2nd woman : What about your husband?

1st woman : Absolutely not! he can wash himself.

Judge : Well, I have reviewed this case and I've decided to give your wife Rs. 5000/- a month.

Husband : That's fair, your Honour. I'll try to send her a few rupees myself.

Tired of the cold blustery climate in his hometown, a man left for a vacation to a warm city down south. When he reached his hotel, he decided to send his wife a quick e-mail. Unable to find the scrap of paper on which he had written her e-mail address, he did his best to type it from memory. Unfortunately, he missed one letter in the address and his note was directed to an elderly preacher's wife whose husband had passed away only the day before. When the grieving widow checked the monitor, she let out a piercing scream and fell to the floor in a dead faint. At the sound, her family rushed into the room and saw this note on the screen:

Dearest wife,
Just got checked in. Everything prepared for your arrival tomorrow.
Your loving husband.
P.S. Sure is hot down here.

Sergeant : How's the meat?
Recruit : It sure tastes funny.
Sergeant : Well then, laugh.
