

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

VOL . 11 ISSUE NO.11

January– June , 2006.

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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 -

#### The Director

Soil & Water Conservation,  
Addl. Secretariat Building,  
Shillong - 793 001  
☎ : 0364-2224551  
Fax : 0364-2224551  
Email: megsoil@rediffmail.com  
Website: megsoil@shillong.meg.nic.in.

Published by the  
**DIRECTORATE OF SOIL AND  
WATER CONSERVATION,  
Meghalaya, Shillong.**

### 21-DAY TRAINING PROGRAMME

A 21-day Training Programme on “Application of Remote Sensing and Geographical Information System to Soil Survey and Landuse Planning” was held at the Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat from 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2006.

The Training Programme was sponsored by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), NRMS Division, Bangalore and organized by the National Bureau of Soil Survey and Landuse Planning (NBSS&LUP, ICAR), North Eastern Regional Centre, Jorhat in collaboration with the Soil and Water Conservation Department, Meghalaya.

Dr. Donkumar Roy, Deputy Chief Minister of Meghalaya inaugurated the training programme as Chief Guest in which Shri J.D. Rymbai, Minister i/c. Taxation and Parliamentary Affairs and Shri M.N. Mukhim, Minister i/c. Soil & Water Conservation were also present. In his speech, Dr. Donkumar Roy exhorted the trainee officers to acquaint themselves with the new technologies that they would acquire at this training programme and to make use of these technologies and techniques in their day to day implementation of works in the field keeping in view the overall objective of environment regeneration.

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## **HARNESSING TECHNOLOGY**

One of the highlights in the functioning of the Soil & Water Conservation Department today is the opportunity that the Department gets to avail of the latest development in space technology and computer technology. The latest of such technology is in relation to resource data survey and inventory which would be introduced in the State of Meghalaya.

Over the years, the conventional soil mapping methods are used. Although, the old methods have served to provide data banks, they are however not as accurate and as refined as the data acquired through the new technology-based methods. Besides, they are slow, cumbersome and require prolonged process. Fortunately, the advent of the Geographical Information System using remote sensing and latest computer software have speeded up the process of data collection and mapping. Now high resolutions data could be obtained accurately, at a faster rate and at frequent intervals. Besides, a variety of data such as soil survey, landuse, soil cover, slopes and other associated parameters are easily available to suit the requirement of the users.

I am confident that the availability of reliable, accurate and sufficient number of relevant data could enhance the performances of the Department in its endeavours to conserve and proficiently manage the vital natural resources of the State.

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



**Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, Director, ICAR Complex for N.E. Region handing out Certificates at the 21-Day training programme at Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat.**

The Valedictory session of the training programme was held on 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2006 and presided over by Dr. D. Sarkar, Principal Scientist and Head, NBSS&LUP (ICAR) Regional Centre, Calcutta. Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, Director of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Complex for North Eastern Region who was the Chief Guest on the occasion said that "...generation of data base and building up of skilled manpower base in the application of GIS, GPS and remote sensing are requirements of the day." Other speakers include Shri K.C. Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya, Dr. A.K. Maji, Principal Scientist and Head, Division of Remote Sensing, NBSS&LUP, Nagpur and Dr. U. Baruah from the NBSS&LUP among others.

Altogether, 16 officers from Agriculture, Forest and Soil & Water Conservation Departments and the North Eastern Space Application Centre, Umiam participated in the training programme.

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## **WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2006 CELEBRATION**

### **[DSWCO-Nongpoh]**

1) Awareness Program – The Ri Bhoi Division, Nongpoh celebrated World Environment Day 2006 on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Srimanta Sankardev Higher Secondary School, Marngar where a large number of students, teachers, parents and Departmental staff participated. Speeches on the importance of environmental conservation were delivered by Shri A.B.S. Swer ASWCO. Others who spoke on the occasion were Sri Sisna Majong President, School MC, Smti Propha Devi Headmistress and Shri B. Syiem Headman. A tree planting program around the school compound was also organized on the day. The program was arranged by the Range Officer Marngar (CC) Range, Ri Bhoi Division, Nongpoh.

2) Distribution of Seedlings- As part of the World Environment Day campaign Ri Bhoi Division, Nongpoh organized a program where HYV Black Pepper seedlings developed by CPCRI, Govt. of India were distributed and planted by selected farmers of Upper Umdu Watershed (IWDP) in the presence of the village elders and members of watershed committee.

### **[DSWCO – Baghmara]**

As part of the Celebration of World Environment Day an Awareness Campaign was organized by the Baghmara Soil & Water Conservation (Cash Crop) Division on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2006 in the Range Office Complex, Ampanggre. The Chief Guest at the occasion was Shri I.D.Shira, MCS., District Planning Officer, South Garo Hills in which he stressed on the significance of the World Environment Day. Others who spoke on the occasion were Shri J.G.Momin, Agriculture Inspector and Shri K.Sangma, Fishery Officer. More than 100 farmers including women from the Watershed areas under IWDP & WDPSCA participated in the programme.

### **[CTI-Byrnihat]**

The Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat celebrated the World Environment Day Celebration with great enthusiasm. Amongst those who participated in the different programmes were the faculty members, staff, teachers and students of the Conservation Training Institute English school and trainees of the 11 months Field Assistant Training Course and 4 month advance Training course of Forester-I. The programme conducted to befit the occasion include (1) Cleaning drive of the Conservation Training Institute School compound (2) Planting of *Jatropha* in the institute campus (3) Awareness camp on environmental issues and natural resources management (4) Friendly football match between the trainees of the institute and a local team.

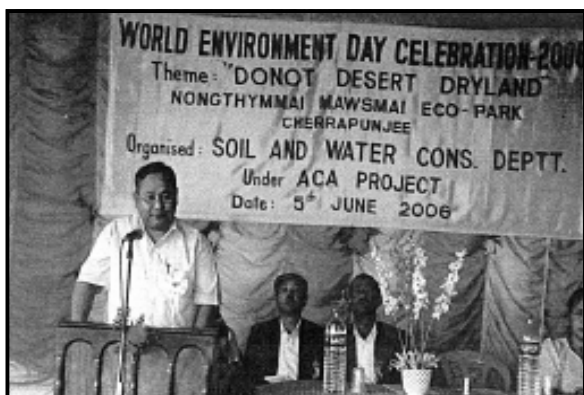
### **[DSWCO – Nongstoin]**

The Office of the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin observed the World Environment Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Rangblang, Laitjynrei in collaboration with Rangblang Area Development Council, Meghalaya Environment Protection Front, Forest and P.H.E. Department, in which the people as well as students from nearby villages attended the function



**Shri H.G. Momin, former Director of Soil Conservation speaking as Chief Guest at World Environment Day celebration at Digitanggre, West Garo Hills.**





**Shri K.C. Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation delivering address on the World Environment Day at Mawsmmai village.**

### **[ DSWCO – Jowai (T) & (CC)]**

On 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006, the Jowai Territorial and Cash Crops Divisions jointly celebrated the World Environment Day in which an Awareness Campaign-cum-tree planting programme was organized at Rymbai Pohskur Secondary School, Rymbai. The Chief Guest at the function was Shri J.R. Pyrtuh, MDC of Bataw Lakadong. Others present in the function were the Headmaster of the school including staff and officers of the Department. Large numbers of local community and school children participated in the programme. About 100 numbers of tree saplings were planted in the school premises.

### **[DSWCO – Simsanggre]**

The Office of the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Simsanggre observed the World Environment Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Trinity Secondary School premises, Williamnagar. Speaking on the occasion as Chief Guest, Shri B.Hajong, MCS., Additional Deputy Commissioner and Project Director, DRDA, East Garo Hills, Williamnagar expressed his happiness to be part of such a function and lamented the lack of respect and care to mother nature. The Keynote Address was delivered by Shri, Chisim, District Horticulture Officer, Williamnagar in which he emphasized on organic farming and the new methods of herbal control of pests which are eco-friendly.

James Sangma, student of class-IX in his address described the various ill-effects of abuse of the environment and appealed to all to plant more trees. Shri S. Mondal, a teacher of the school also spoke at length about the different components of environment, pollution and remedial measures.



**School children planting trees on World Environment Day**

### **[DSWCO – Tura (CC)]**

The Office of the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Tura (CC) Division celebrated the World Environment Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Digitanggre village under Thebronggre Soil & Water Conservation Range. The Programme was chaired by Shri R.W.Momin, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Shri H.G.Momin, Ex-Director of Soil Conservation graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The others who spoke on the occasion are Shri B.M.Sangma, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Tura (CC) Division, Shri P.R.Marak, D.F.O., Wildlife Division, Tura and Shri Areng, Chairman Eco-Development Society, Tura.

The main purpose of organizing this programme is to make the people aware of the importance of environment. More than 200 people including village elders, school children and officers & staff of Soil & Water Conservation attended the function.

27,000 nos of arecanut seedlings were planted as part of the programme under Digitang Watershed (IWDP) scheme.

## [DSWCO – Shillong (T)]

The Office of the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong Territorial Division organized World Environment Day Celebration, 2006 on the 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2006 at Mawsmi Eco-Park under the theme “Do not desert Day Land”. This programme was organized under Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for improvement of environment of Cherrapunjee and its surrounding areas. Shri K.W.Marbaniang, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T) presided over the function. The inaugural address was delivered by Shri K. Khriam, Ex-Sirdar of Mawsmi who lauded the works taken up by the Department. A welcome song was presented by the School Children of Larsing L.P. School, St. Eligius L.P. School Mawsmi, Ram Krishna Mission L.P. School and Mawsmi Presbyterian L.P. School. Shri Rijied Hynniewta, Sirdar of Mawsmi also spoke during the occasion in which he urged the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer to continue guiding them in future also. This was followed by a speech from Shri Bitlang Sohkhlet, Member of Mawsmi Youth Club, where he explained briefly about the World Environment Day which started in the year 1992 at Rio-de-Janeiro, Brazil. He also stressed about the importance of conservation of forest as well as water sources at Mawsmi Village and Sohra at large.

A speech was presented by Smti A.Khongwir, President of Seng Longkmie, who emphasized on the need of close relation with nature and said that nature is God’s gift to mankind. Others who spoke during the function included Shri A.Marbaniang, Range Officer, Forest Department.

The Chief Guest on the occasion, Shri K.C.Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation, expressed his happiness in

celebrating the “World Environment Day” and said that due to deforestation and misuse of natural vegetation, there is acute exploitation of nature. He also pointed out the need to take up *Jatropha* Plantation which can produce Bio-fuel (Diesel) for use in automobiles. He highlighted the structures and works of the Department and invites the co-operation of the villagers at the time of implementing the works.

Altogether 300 nos. seedlings of *Jatropha curcas*, *Toona cilita*, *Cryptomeria japonica*, Bottle brush, *x-Boglandae populnea*, cherry among others were planted on the day. The vote of thanks was offered by Shri Kenes Khongwar, Finance Secretary of Mawsmi village.

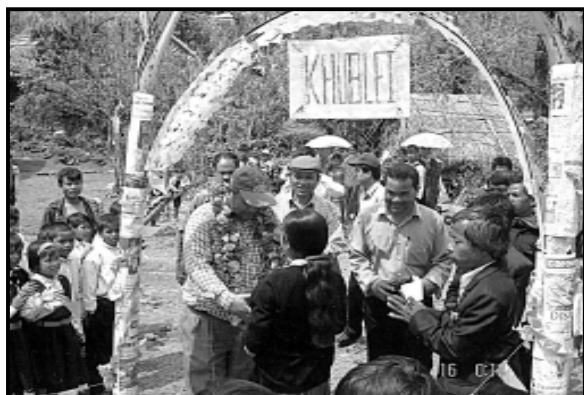
Another World Environment Day celebration was organized by the Shillong (T) Division at Khrang Village Park on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2006. The programme was chaired by Shri L. Shabong, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer and speakers include Smti. Farida Warjri, Project Officer, Meghalaya Rural Development Society, Dr. B. Wanswet, A.H. & Vety. Officer, Shri Tiplang Majaw, Headmaster, Upper Primary School, Kongthong besides Shri B.S. Rumnong, Faculty Member, SIRD who was also the Chief Guest. The programme was attended by the village communities of Khatarshnong besides the students of Upper Primary Schools of Khrang and Kongthong.

A tree planting drive was also held in which officers present, students and village elders planted 150 nos. of seedlings were planted inside the Khrang Village Park. The Celebration also include a two-day football tournament in which Khrang Youth Club and Kongthong Youth Club played in the final match. The Chief Guest, Shri B.S. Rumnong distributed cash prizes to the teams.

## INAUGURATION OF KHRANG VILLAGE PARK

Shri K.C. Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation Department inaugurated the Khrang Village Park at Khrang on March 16, 2006 and dedicated it to the people of KhatarShnong area.

The park which was constructed under the WDPSCA by the Shillong (T) Division is meant for recreational purposes. After the inauguration of the Park, a public meeting was held at the Dorbar Hall, Khrang. Shri Newson Shabong, Rangbah Shnong of Khrang presided over the meeting and warmly welcomes Shri K.C. Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation Department who was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Other speakers include the officers of the Department, Shri Plus Khongsit, President of the Watershed Association, Shri Brap Khongsit, Rangbah Shnong, Mawlongreng village and Shri Reachest Shabong, Secretary, 12-Raid. A brief report on the status of all the SHGs promoted under the 12-Shnong WDPSCA was highlighted by Shri Iatyllilang Khongsit, representative of the SHGs. Shri K.C. Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation expressed his great pleasure and urged upon the Watershed community to cooperate with the Department in order to achieve sustainable development. He also distributed the Beneficiaries Cards to the Watershed community members under the Rehabilitation component.



Welcoming the Chief Guest



Officials and public sharing a joyous moment at Khrang Village Park.

The meeting features cultural items from students of RCLP School, Khrang, a song from members of different SHGs of Kongthong village and a cultural dance of the Khatarshnong area.

## REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

### [DSWCO – Nongstoin]

The Office of the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin Division participated in the tableau parade during Republic Day celebration on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2006 at Nongstoin and bagged the first prize. The Tableau depicted the ill-effects of Jhum and Bun cultivation and the different remedial soil & water conservation measures that may be adopted by the farmers.

### [DSWCO – Jowai (T) & (CC)]

Both the Divisions at Jaintia Hills District participated in the Republic Day celebration, 2006 by presenting a Tableau depicting the various activities of the Department during a function held at Jrisalein playground.



Departmental tableau at Republic Day Celebration at Jowai.

### MEGHALAYA DAY EXCELLENCE AWARD 2006

Shri Emborson Shullai, Peon of Jaintia Hill Soil & Water Conservation (T) Division, Jowai had been selected for the Meghalaya Day Excellence Award 2006. He received the award at a function held at State Central Library Auditorium, Shillong on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2006.

### TRAINING PROGRAMME

#### 27<sup>th</sup> January 2006

Smti B.H.Syiem, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer participated as Resource Person at the One-day Training Programme organized by the Department of Agriculture, under NWDPRA at Wahlatngaw.

#### 30<sup>th</sup>–31<sup>st</sup> January, 2006

Two day workshop on Making Sustainable Development A Reality, Reality Checks attended by Shri K.C.Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation at Administrative Staff College, Khanapara, Guwahati.

#### 30<sup>th</sup> Jan-9<sup>th</sup> Feb., 2006

The Soil & Water Conservation, Nongstoin Division organized an off campus 10-day training on Livestock Management

(Piggery & Poultry) for the beneficiaries under NABARD – RIDF – IX and the training was held at Veterinary Vocational Training Centre, Kyrdemkulai, Ri-Bhoi District with participant strength of 21 nos.

#### 16<sup>th</sup>–17<sup>th</sup> February, 2006

National Seminar on Land Resources Management For Sustainable Development attended by Shri K.C.Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation at Administrative Staff College, Khanapara, Guwahati.

#### 6<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup> March 2006

Computer course at NIRD Guwahati attended by Smti S.Pohsnem, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Project Formulation Cell Division and Smti I.Rynjah, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer (Extension) Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Shillong.

#### 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2006

Training Programme on “Jatropha Curcas” was organized by the Baghmara Soil & Water Conservation Cash Crops Division at Bandapara Village in which more than 80 nos. of farmers participated in the training programme. Shri R.W.Momin, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Tura inaugurated the training session and lectures on Jatropha cultivation and its importance including interculture operations were deliberated by Shri B.M.Sangma, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Tura (CC) Division and Shri R.W. Momin, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Tura.

#### 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2006

A two-day training on Capacity Building of members of different Self Help Groups (SHG) under Khatarshnong was held at SIRD, Nongsder in which five members from three SHGs attended.



**24<sup>th</sup> March, 2006**

A one day Farmer's Training on cultivation of *Jatropha curcas* was held at the Shillong (T) Division Auditorium. The training was organized by the Shillong Cash Crops Division in which eight participants from Khatarshnong WDPSCA attended.

The Office of the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin Division organized a one day Training Programme under the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) on PRA Exercises for all the officers and field functionaries of the Division at the Division Training Hall, Nongstoin in which the Resource person was Dr. A.K.Nongkynrih, Faculty Member, Department of Sociology, N.E.H.U. Altogether 34 nos. of Trainees participated in the programme.

**30<sup>th</sup> March 2006**

the Soil & Water Conservation, Nongstoin Division organized a one-day District Level Farmers Training Programme on *Jatropha* at Sonapahar in which the Resource persons were officers of the Department namely, Shri D.S.Kharsyntiew, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation (HQ); Smti B.H.Syiem, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin Division; Shri R.V.Jyrwa, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin Division. Altogether 42 nos. of farmers participated in the Training Programme.

**11<sup>th</sup> April, 2006**

The Shillong (T) Division organized an Awareness Programme on Livelihood Improvement Project for the Himalayas as well as WDPSCA at Khrang. Shri E.P. Kharbhih, IAS, State Co-ordinator, Meghalaya Rural Development Society, Smti. Angela Rangad, Co-ordinator, MRDS and Shri Teilang Khyriem, Project Manager, MRDS, DMU Shillong delivered speeches at the programme.

**13<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

The Office of the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Jowai (T) Division, organized a one day farmers training programme at Niriang Village. Farmers drawn from Niriang, Moodymmai, Umnulong, Madur, Lumkhudung villages participated in the training as all the above mentioned villages fall under the Litang River Valley Project of the scheme RIDF-IX NABARD (Loan). Altogether 120 nos. of farmers attended the training in which the objective of the training is to provide technical know-how in order that the farmers can enhance the productivity of their land.

**18<sup>th</sup> April – 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2006**

21-day training programme on Application of Remote Sensing and Geographical Information system at Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat attended by Shri J.Swer, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Office, Jowai (Cash Crop), Shri W.A.Sangma, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Tura (T), Shri A.Lamare, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Jowai (T), Shri G.Chakravarty, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Simsanggre, Smti B.H. Syiem, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (CC), Shri Emlang Laloo, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Jowai (T), Shri R.V. Jywar, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin, Smti M.Diengdoh, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer (Cartography) Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Shillong and Shri P.Ch.Rabha, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Simsanggre Division.

**1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2006**

Training programme on e-governance - Trends and Practices attended by Shri K.C.Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation at NIC Building Secretariat, Shillong.



#### 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2006

Workshop on National Level Monitors (NLMS) of Different Regions at NIRD, Guwahati attended by Shri A. Syiem, Additional Director of Soil & Water Conservation and Shri D.S. Kharsyntiew, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation (HQ).

#### 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2006

An awareness-cum-training programme was held at Jatah Lakadong under Jatah Pashang Watershed (IWDP, 2004-05) on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2006. Shri Drim Bina, Sordar and President of Jatah Nonglyer Watershed Association presided over the function in which Shri M.N. Mukhim, Minister, incharge Soil & Water Conservation, etc., was the Chief Guest. The main objective of this programme is to acquaint farmers of the area of the benefits of improved agricultural production in the wastelands.

Shri K.W. Marbaniang, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T) Division presented a report on the project. Speakers at the programme include Dr. C.O. Rangad, District Agriculture Officer, Shri F. Kharmujai, Block Development Officer, Mawkynrew C&RD Block, Dr. D. Lywait, Vety. & A.H. Officer and Shri A. Syiem, Additional Director of Soil & Water Conservation who was the Guest of Honour. In his speech, the Chief Guest exhorted the farmers to take part in the decision making process and to co-operate with each other in order that they could reap of the benefits of the projects undertaken in their area while on the other hand, he also praised the efforts of the officers who have been working hard in different projects.

#### 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2006

Regional workshop on "Soil & Water Conservation" at NERIWALM Tezpur attended by Shri A. Syiem, Additional Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya.

An awareness-cum-training programme was held at Jatah Lakadong under Jatah Pashang Watershed (IWDP, 2004-05) on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2006. Shri Drim Bina, Sordar and President of Jatah Nonglyer Watershed Association presided over the function in which Shri M.N. Mukhim, Minister, incharge Soil & Water Conservation, etc., was the Chief Guest. The main objective of this programme is to acquaint farmers of the area of the benefits of improved agricultural production in the wastelands.

Shri K.W. Marbaniang, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T) Division presented a report on the project. Speakers at the programme include Dr. C.O. Rangad, District Agriculture Officer, Shri F. Kharmujai, Block Development Officer, Mawkynrew C&RD Block, Dr. D. Lywait, Vety. & A.H. Officer and Shri A. Syiem, Additional Director of Soil & Water Conservation who was the Guest of Honour. In his speech, the Chief Guest exhorted the farmers to take part in the decision making process and to co-operate with each other in order that they could reap of the benefits of the projects undertaken in their area while on the other hand, he also praised the efforts of the officers who have been working hard in different projects.

#### 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2006

An Awareness-cum-training programme of Wahtyrkhang Micro-Watershed (IWDP, 2005-06, Project-IV) was held at Laitsdad village in which Shri J.A. Lyngdoh, MLA and Parliamentary Secretary, Law and Social Welfare was the Chief Guest and Shri D.S. Kharsyntiew, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation, (Hq) the Guest of Honour.

Shri Hitral Lyngdoh Nonglait, Chairman, Wahtyrkhang Watershed Committee presided over the programme in which speakers also include Dr. C.O. Rangad, District Agriculture Officer, East Khasi Hills and Shri P.S. Syiemiong, Syiem

of Hima Nongspung. The Resource Persons at the training programme are Smti. A. Dohling, Faculty Member from the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD) and Shri B. Majaw from the State Fishery Department. The programme was attended by villagers from the Watershed area including teachers and school children.



**Farmers attending Awareness-cum-Training Programme at Laitsad under Wahtyrkhang Micro-Watershed.**

The Shillong(T) Division organized another Awareness-cum-Training programme at Wahlyngkut under the Wahlyngkut Micro Watershed (IWDP), 2004-05, Project-III in which Shri H.D.R. Lyngdoh, M.L.A. and Minister of Home, etc., was the Chief Guest and Shri K.C. Momin, Director of Soil & Water Conservation Department the Guest of Honour.

Shri Thror Kharkrang, Chairman, Wahlyngkut Watershed Committee presided over the function in which an Introductory speech was given by Shri K.W. Marbaniang, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T) Division and a brief report of the Watershed was presented by Shri F. Lamin, Range Officer. The Resource Persons at the training programme include Dr. D.C. Sanglyne, District Horticulture Officer, East Khasi Hills, Dr. E. Bareh, Divisional Veterinary & Animal Husbandry Officer, East Khasi Hills and Shri B.S. Rumnong, Faculty Member, State Institute of Rural Development.

The officers of the Soil & Water Conservation Department and around 300 nos. of farmers from seven villages which falls under the Watershed attended the programme.

**22<sup>nd</sup>–27<sup>th</sup> May, 2006**

A Course In Office Management For R.D. Functionaries Through Interventions of NIRD Guwahati was attended by Shri C.Sen, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Instructor, Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat.

**25<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

Shri P.Rapthap, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin Division participated as one of the judges at the Inter School District Level Science Exhibition organized by the Office of the Inspector of Schools, West Khasi Hills District, Nongstoin.

**5<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> June, 2006**

A Course on “Watershed Based Perspective Plan Under Hariyali” at NIRD, NERC, Guwahati was attended by Shri K.S.Nongkynrih, Soil & Water Conservation Officer (Monitoring & Evaluation Unit), Shillong, Shri G.Kharmujai, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (Cash Crop) Division and Shri D.Challam, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Soil Survey Division.

Another Training programme on piggery farming was held at the Vocational Training Centre, Kyrdem Kulai for members of SHGs from Khatarshnong WDPSCA whose income generating activities include piggery.

**6<sup>th</sup>–7<sup>th</sup> June, 2006**

Inception workshop for project on Comprehensive Assessment Of Watershed Programmes In India at National Academy

at Agriculture Science (NASS), NASC complex Dev. Prakash Sastry Marg, at New Delhi attended by Shri D.S. Kharsyntiew, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation (HQ) and Shri R.R.B.R. Thabab, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation (R&T), Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat.

**28<sup>th</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> June, 2006**

Regional workshop on Social and Institutional Framework For Female Participation In Agriculture at NIPCCD, Regional Centre, Guwahati attended by Shri K.W. Marbaniang, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T) Division.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF SEEDLINGS**

**[DSWCO – Tura (CC)]**

The Office of the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Tura Cash Crop Division, distributed Arecanut seedlings to the farmers. Prior to distribution of seedlings, Shri B.M.Sangma, Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Tura (CC) Division briefed the gatherings on the importance of cash & horticultural crops plantation as regards to soil & water conservation and for uplifting the economic status of the farmers.



**Distribution of arecanut seedlings at Dichinnggre, West Garo Hills.**

### **Danakgre Soil & Water Conservation** **Cash Crop Beat**

- (a) Date of Distribution – 20-06-2006.
- (b) Name of Nursery Centre – Gonchudare
- (c) Polybag nursery seedlings raised – 6,785 nos.
- (d) Nos. of Seedlings distributed – 6,321 nos.
- (e) Casualty – 464 nos.
- (f) Nos. of beneficiary households – 147 households.

### **Ampati Soil & Water Conservation Cash** **Crop Beat**

- (a) Date of Distribution – 21-06-2006.
- (b) Name of Nursery Centre – Dengnakpara
- (c) Poly bag nursery seedlings raised – 8,000 nos.
- (d) Nos. of Seedlings distributed – 7,500 nos.
- (e) Casualty – 500 nos.
- (f) Nos. of beneficiaries households – 134 households.

### **Dadenggre Soil & Water Conservation** **Cash Crop Beat**

- (a) Date of Distribution – 22-06-2006.
- (b) Name of Nursery Centre – Dichinggre
- (c) Poly bag nursery seedlings raised – 6,600 nos.
- (d) Nos. of Seedlings distributed – 6,204 nos.
- (e) Casualty – 396 nos.
- (f) Nos. of beneficiaries households – 41 households.

## VISITS AND INSPECTION

### [DSWCO – Nongstoin]

The Office of the Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin Division arranged a field trip for the Field Assistant Trainees of Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat to different Soil & Water Conservation Works under NABARD at Umyiap and Kynhiew River Valley Projects and also works implemented under the scheme SGRY of DRDA.

### NIRD Officer trainees visit IWDP Project, Ri Bhoi District.

A select group of Officer trainees from NIRD, Guwahati visited the Upper Umdu Watershed under IWDP 2003-04 Ri Bhoi District for a first hand knowledge on the various activities under the project and style of functioning of the Soil and Water Conservation Department, Meghalaya. During the day long interaction, various views were exchanged between the visiting officers and the watershed community. The group comprised of officers from NIRD and all NE states as well as DSWCO of all seven Districts of Meghalaya. Resource person on the day was Shri. A.B.S. Swer, ASWCO, Ri Bhoi District. The team was led by Smti. Devi, Course Director, NIRD Guwahati.

### Karbi Anglong Officers visit Ri Bhoi projects of SWC Dept.

A group of Officers drawn from different developmental departments of Karbi Anglong, Assam and led by Dr. Holloi made a one day exposure trip to Ri Bhoi District, Meghalaya to see the various developmental activities under different schemes under WDPSCA and IWDP. The group inspected many works and had a fruitful interaction with watershed community members of Umshyrku Watershed. A PRA exercise at Umtrew village followed by lunch helped to bring the visiting officers and village

community closer. A visit to Dewlieh Farm, Umsning exposed them to the vast potential for commercial cultivation of roses, strawberry, passion fruit, lilioms and others. The Resource Persons on the day were Shri S.R. Nonghuloo, DSWCO, Ri-Bhoi Division, Shri A.B.S. Swer ASWCO and Shri B. Sohliya of Horticulture Department.

## THE PRESENT CONDITION OF CITRUS CULTIVATION IN JAINTIA HILLS DISTRICT

*By Smt. V.Papang, DS&WCO, Jowai (Cash Crop Division), Jaintia Hills.*

### Introduction :

Citrus reticulate of the Mandarin group and of the cultivar known as Khasi mandarin is the District's leading commercial tree-fruit crop which is solely grown as a cash crop and area under its cultivation is increasing from year to year. The citrus fruit or orange as it is commonly called finds its principal market in the domestic consumption in the State and is also exported to neighbouring States and to Bangladesh.

Citrus plants are usually propagated from seeds. Most of the farmers under Laskein and Thadlaskein Blocks raise citrus either as a backyard plant in homestead gardens or in orchard gardens, the plants are very closely spaced some are found to be even 2 – 3m apart and in an irregular way and are usually intercropped with maize, turmeric, beans and vegetables. The farmers of War Jaintia, under Amlarem and Khliehriat Blocks usually raise citrus plantations on difficult sloping terrains with no soil conservation practices and far from their habitations.

### Orchard care and maintenance :

Citrus is a nutrient-loving plant and about 15 elements have been found to have important roles to play for its proper growth



and development. It has also been found that inadequate plant nutrition causes serious disorder in citrus and may eventually lead to decline of the orchard. Besides, large numbers of pests, diseases and parasites have been reported to attack citrus. Therefore, for sustained production and for proper maintenance of orchard health, it is essential to adopt proper soil and water conservation practices on sloping lands, to regularly apply manure and fertilizers, to adopt regular inter-culture practices and effective pests and diseases control.

In Jaintia Hills citrus orchards are the most neglected, with little care and maintenance such as weeding and in few case white washing with lime and cleaning of trunks. Manure and fertilizers are not regularly applied in most cases and intercropping of orchards with nutrient exhaustive crops like maize and turmeric with no soil and water conservation practices adopted leads to soil deterioration and unhealthy plants. Because of these various reasons the orchard plantations do not produce to their full potential and are attacked by a host of pests and diseases.

### The common pests and diseases which attack the citrus orchards and nurseries in the District and their control measures are as follows :

Citrus Bark Borers : The bark and shoot borers are serious pests of citrus in the district, especially in neglected and old orchards. The caterpillars feed on bark and thus destroy the translocating tissues of the bark. Since they feed at night, they generally escape notice but their presence on an infested tree is indicated by the presence of hanging loose mass of fine pieces of woods and pellets of excreta, mixed silky adhesive materials on the branches and stem of the tree.

The caterpillars can be controlled by inserting kerosene, petrol, carbon disulphide into their holes and plugging the holes with mud. Removal of webbing,

followed by painting or spraying of bark all around the damaged portion with BHC (0.5%) suspension or Paris green has also been found to be effective in controlling the insect.

Citrus Trunk Borer : This is a very damaging and common pest. The grub bores into the trunk near the tree base and makes tunnels near the pith. The tree dies eventually due to infection. The insect can be controlled by injecting petrol or carbon disulphide into the bored holes and plugging them with wet soil. Pruning and burning of severely infested branches along with the grub will help in checking the population built-up of the insect.

Minor Pests : the larvae of lemon butterflies mostly damage the nursery plants. Spray of 0.1% Endrin or spraying with Sevin 0.1% and hand picking of larvae are helpful in controlling the insect. The leaf miners, mealy bugs, citrus psylla are also found all of which can be controlled with 0.1% parathion spray.

Fungal diseases : Pythophthora rot, Powdery Mildew, Scab and Felt diseases are some of the common Fungal diseases of Citrus. Proper Orchard management, removal of infected leaves, twigs, fruits, clean cultivation and spraying of fungicides like Bordeaux mixture, applying of Bordeaux paste and dusting of Sulphur powder may keep most of these diseases under control.

Besides, parasites like Lichens and Loranthus are usually found in Citrus Plantations which are full of bushes and weeds and which are never cultivated or manures. Clean cultivation including manuring and cleaning of affected trunks and application of lime help in control of these parasites.

## **SUCCESS STORIES**

Smti. Shit Talang of Khliehnsniriang village has a plot of land measuring 1.50 hectare located at longkasna Laphiang. Though the land was suitable for agriculture but due to lack of irrigation facilities the owner could not utilize it properly. The fallow land was left uncultivated for many years except by growing rainfed crops like maize, beans, chillies etc.

With the implementation of the Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas at the Umladoh Watershed area from 2000-2001 onwards, the Department has been able to provide the poor land owner with the much needed irrigation facilities by constructing a C.C. Dam, irrigation canal and aquaduct. As such, the abandoned plot of land had been fully utilized for agricultural purposes, such as paddy cultivation during Kharif season and vegetable cultivation during Rabi season. Since then, Smti. Talang has earned a good profit from the land through paddy cultivation and other miscellaneous crops. The average yield of paddy is about 200 quintals per hectare. The land has now been permanently utilized because of assured irrigation facilities.

One of the beneficiaries from Mynkre village under Wah Danglun Watershed, Shri Hermon Lamin, was provided with a dug-out pond during 2001-2002. The farmer took keen interest to utilize the pond not only for agricultural purposes but he has also been able to rear a good number of fingerlings (fishes) in the pond. Since then, the pond has produced about 50 Kgs of fishes annually. The farmer has enjoyed good profit by selling the fish production in the market. Through the profit he earned, he has been able to set up a piggery farm near the pond. This has immensely improved the quality of fishes in the pond because fishes can feed on the dungs of the pigs. Through this scheme, the farmer's economic condition has improved in a big way.

## **RUBBER PLANTATION IN MEGHALAYA**

***By Shri A.Syiem,  
Additional Director of Soil & Water  
Conservation,  
Meghalaya, Shillong.***

Hevea brasiliensis is the most important commercial source of natural rubber. It is a native of the Amazon River Basin of South America. It was introduced to tropical Asia in 1876 with the seeds brought from Brazil by Sir Henry Wickham.

The rubber tree is sturdy, quick growing and tall. It grows on many types of soils, provided they are deep and well drained. A warm humid equable climate (21 ° c to 35 ° c) and rainfall not less than 200cm are necessary for optimum growth of the rubber plant. The bark on tapping yields latex. The fruits mature in about five months after pollination. They are three seeded and burst when mature, scattering the seeds 15 to 18 meters.

In Meghalaya, rubber seeds normally ripen in August/September and during these months they are collected and seedlings are raised. Rubber plantations created in Meghalaya during the earlier times were raised from unselected seeds. The yield potential of these rubber trees being low, the production was poor. In the later years, rubber plantations are raised through rubber bud-grafting.

### **NURSERY RAISING TECHNIQUES:**

Rubber seedlings are to be raised first in the Nursery before they are transplanted to the field. Nursery raising involves two stages, namely;

- (i) Pre Germination Bed Nursery and
  - (ii) Secondary Bed Nursery.
- (i) Pre Germination Bed Nursery: After collection rubber seeds should be sown in pre-germination beds. The seeds should be sown in the pre-germination beds as soon as they are obtained as the viability of the rubber seeds are short.

Pregermination beds of 90cm width and any convenient length are prepared. A layer of river sand of about 5cm thickness should be spread over the soil mixed with cowdung. The beds should be raised to 10-15cm height to avoid water logging. The seeds are sown in a single layer touching one another and pressed firmly with the surface of the seed first visible above. The germination beds are then covered with gunny bags and watering is done in the morning and evening. The seeds start to germinate within seven days after sowing and the gunny bags are to be removed when the seeds begin to germinate. Seeds sprouted each day should be picked and planted in the secondary bed nursery.

- (ii) Secondary Bed Nursery: The first step in the preparation of the secondary bed nursery is to dig the soil to a depth of 30cm by removing all the stumps and stones. Beds size of 120cm width and any convenient length should be prepared and raised to 15cm to avoid - water logging. Footpaths in between the beds should be provided to facilitate watering, manuring, weeding and other cultural operations.

The sprouted rubber seedlings uprooted from the pre-germination beds are planted with a spacing of 30cmx30cm. Watering, weeding, manuring operations are carried out regularly. Mulching with dried thatch grass or paddy straw will be required when the seedlings attained the height of about 30cm for moisture conservation. When the seedlings attained the size of the thumb, (7.5cm girth) they are ready for budding operation.

Brown Budding Operation: Brown budding is carried out by grafting buds taken from budwood of about one year's growth onto stock plants (raised in the secondary beds) when they reach the thumb size (7.5 girth) of about one year or more growth. Budwood is collected from plants maintained in the budwood nurseries. Budding operation is done during April and May.

After budding operation has been done, the budded stumps are planted in the polythene bags.

Budded plants are regarded as tappable when they attain a girth of 50cm at a height of 125cm from the bud union. Tapping can be started when 70% of the trees attained the standard girth. In Meghalaya, it takes an average of seven to eight years to reach this State. The best period to open new areas for tapping is March-April.

The tapping cut of budded trees should have a slope of about 30° to the horizontal. The best yield is obtained by tapping to a depth of less than one millimeter close to the cambium.

It is necessary to commence tapping early in the morning as late tapping reduces the exudation of latex. The Michie Golledge Knife is well adopted for a high standard of tapping. The knives, cups, buckets etc., should be cleaned well to prevent bacterial contamination and spoilage of latex. About 200-250 Nos. trees can be tapped by one tapper on a day in Meghalaya as compared to 300 Nos. trees tapped in South India

Budded trees are tapped on half spiral alternate daily (Y2 S d/2) system.

Rubber trees shed leaves during December to March and refoilate soon, along with production of flowers. Hence, during the above period, no tapping is done as the yield is un-economic.

## PROCESSING OF THE CROP:

The main crop from the rubber tree is latex. Latex are collected in cups and then transferred to clean buckets, two or three hours after tapping.

The Latex which gets dried up on the tapping panel and the collection cups are collected by the tapper in a basket just before tapping.

Fresh latex is slightly alkaline or neutral. It becomes acidic rapidly due to bacterial action. Therefore, fresh latex cannot be kept for long without coagulation.

Anti coagulation chemical is therefore added to the latex to prevent pre-coagulation before it is processed. Anti coagulation generally used are ammonia, sodium sulphite and formalin. Ammonia is recommended when the latex or latex concentrates. For sheet processing sodium sulphite is preferred.

The details of anti coagulants and their preparation are as follows:-

Anti coagulant	Commercial available forum	Preparation of stock solution	Dosage
1. Sodium Sulphite	White solid of 90-98% purity should lie kept in tightly closed container.	Prepared by dissolving 5000gms solid in 10 lits of water	1 Lit of stock solution is required for every 100 lits of field, latex, (0.05% in latex).
2. Ammonia	Either as gas in cylinder of 20% solution	1 Kg of gas is passed into 100 lits of water or 50ml of the 20% solution is diluted to 1 lit with water.	1 lit. of solution is required for 100 lits of latex (0.01%).
3. Formalin	40% formal dehyde in water	250ml formalin is diluted to 10 lits water. Formalin has to be first neutralized with a solution of sodium carbonate before dilution.	2 lits of the solution is required for 100 lits. Of field latex (0.02%).

Polythene bags of size dimension 55cm length, 25cm width and 400 gauge thickness are filled with soil mixed with cowdung. Rock Phosphate at the rate of 25gms per bag is incorporated after filling of the soil.

The filled bags are placed in trenches of 30cm depth and soil removed from trenches is put around the bags to hold them in position. The soil in the bags is allowed to settle and budded stumps are planted. Monthly manuring with 10-10-4-1.5 Nitrogen (N) Phosphorus (P), Potassium (Ks) and Magnesium (Mg) mixture should be done. During the first months 10 gm per plant is applied which can be gradually increased to 30 gm in the fourth month. Regular watering, weeding and plant protection measures are essential. If necessary partial shading should be provided.

### PLANTING OF RUBBER STUMPS IN THE FIELD:

Planting of Rubber in the field will involve the following operations:

- Jungle clearance during December - March.
- Contour lining and pits digging with spacing of 3.70m x 6.10m (450Nos. pits per hectare) are done during March-April. In slopes, box terraces should also be provided. Pit size of 75cm x 75cm x 75cm are recommended.
- Rubber Budded Stumps are planted during May to July.



## MANURING:

Manuring	Application Time	Dose of mixture NPK per plant gm (12:12:6)
1 <sup>st</sup> Year (2 times)	(i) April-May (ii) September – October	280 gms. 500 gms
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year (2 times)	(i) April-May (ii) September – October	500 gms 500 gms
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year (2 times)	(i) April-May (ii) September – October	600 gms 600 gms
4 <sup>th</sup> Year (2 times)	(i) April-May (ii) September – October	475 gms 475 gms
5 <sup>th</sup> Year onward	(i) April-May (ii) September – October	(10:10:10 Mixture) 400 gms 400 gms

## HARVESTING:

### Weeding Operations:

1<sup>st</sup> Year of Planting - 2 times

(i) July/August

(ii) October/November

2<sup>nd</sup> Year up to 5<sup>th</sup> year of Planting – 3 times.

(i) May/June

(ii) August/September

(iii) October/November

6<sup>th</sup> Year of Planting onwards

(i) May/June

(ii) September/October

**MULCHING:** Dried grass and weeds are spread around the base of the rubber plants to conserve moisture in situ. Mulching is done during October/November.

**Tapping:** Latex is obtained from the bark of the Rubber Tree by tapping.

### Processing into Sheet Rubbers:

For processing into sheet rubbers, the latex collected is brought to the processing factory before pre-coagulation sets in. Latex brought to the factory is strained through 40 and 60 mesh stainless steel sieves. The dry rubber content (drc) is estimated with a metrolac.

Latex is diluted in bulking tanks to a standard consistency of 12.5% drc. The diluted latex is allowed to stand in the bulking tank for a fixed time (usually 15-20 minutes) to sediment the heavy dirt particles.

The table below gives the quantity of water required to dilute field latex before coagulation.

## VOLUME OF WATER TO BE ADDED FOR DILUTING LATEX FOR PAN COAGULATION

(in litres).

### VOLUME OF FIELD LATEX (in lits)

drc %	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
25	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00
26	1.08	2.16	3.24	4.32	5.40	6.48	7.56	8.64	9.72	10.80
27	1.16	2.32	3.48	4.64	5.80	6.96	8.12	9.28	10.44	11.60
28	1.24	2.48	3.72	4.96	6.20	7.44	8.68	9.92	11.16	12.40
29	1.32	2.64	3.96	5.28	6.60	7.92	9.24	10.56	11.88	13.20
30	1.40	2.80	4.20	5.60	7.00	8.40	9.80	11.20	12.60	14.00
31	1.48	2.96	4.44	5.92	7.40	8.88	10.36	11.84	13.32	14.80
32	1.56	3.12	4.68	6.24	7.80	9.36	10.92	12.48	14.04	15.60
33	1.64	3.28	4.92	6.56	8.20	9.84	11.48	13.12	14.76	16.40
34	1.72	3.44	5.16	6.88	8.60	10.32	12.04	13.76	15.48	17.20
35	1.80	3.60	5.40	7.20	9.00	10.80	12.60	14.40	16.20	18.00
36	1.88	3.76	5.64	7.52	9.40	11.28	13.16	15.04	16.92	18.80
37	1.96	3.92	5.88	7.84	9.80	11.76	13.72	15.68	17.64	19.60
38	2.04	4.08	6.12	8.16	10.20	12.24	14.28	16.32	18.36	20.40
39	2.12	4.24	6.36	8.48	10.60	12.72	14.88	16.96	19.08	21.20
40	2.20	4.40	6.60	8.80	11.00	13.20	15.40	17.60	19.80	22.00

**Example:** If the field Latex of 38% drc and the volume of Latex is 8 litres. The Volume of water to be added to the Latex for dilution to a standard consistency of Y2 Kg per 4 litres of diluted Latex will be 16.32 litres. Thus the total volume of diluted Latex would be 24.32 litres (8 litres of field Latex plus 16.32 litres of water).

The diluted Latex is drawn out from the bulking tank without disturbing the sediment impurities into the coagulation pans. Four litres of Latex is usually transferred to each pan.

**Coagulation:** Formic Acid or Acetic Acid is used for coagulations. Only diluted acid should be used for coagulations and it should be thoroughly mixed with Latex.

The acid required for coagulation is given below:-

### ACID REQUIREMENT FOR COAGULATION OF 4 FITS OF DILUTED LATEX CONTAINING ½ KG RUBBER.

	Acetic Acid	Formic Acid
1. For the next day sheeting	3 ml diluted to 300 ml with water	1.5 ml diluted to 300 ml with water
2. For the same day sheeting	4 ml diluted to 400 ml with water	2 ml diluted to 400 ml with water.

After coagulation, the coagulum is removed from the pans and thoroughly washed in running water. They are sheeted in smooth rollers to a thickness of 3mm and finally passed through a grooved roller.

Mould growth on sheets can be prevented by treating the freshly machined sheet in a dilute solution of paranitrophenol (PNP). The concentration of paranitrophenol is 0.05 to 0.1 % in water. 100 litres of the solution will be sufficient for treating 100 sheets.

The wet sheets are allowed to drip on reapers arranged in a well ventilated dripping shed. Sheets should not be exposed to direct sunlight to avoid development of tackiness.

Smoking: The sheets after two or three hours of dripping in shade, are put in a smokehouse where the temperature is maintained between 40 to 60°C. The sheets are to be turned on the reapers everyday for uniform smoking. Four days of smoking is generally sufficient, but during the rainy season 5 - 6 days are required for satisfactory drying.

Grading: The completely dried sheets are removed to the packing shed where they are graded as - (I) RSS IX, (II) RSS 1, (III) RSS 2, (IV) RSS 3, (V) RSS 4 and (VI) RSS 5.

The sheets after grading are packed in bales of 50 kg.

### **RUBBER PLANTATION IN MEGHALAYA**

The Soil Conservation Department, Meghalaya originated as the Jhum Control Wing under the Forest Department in the erstwhile composite State of Assam, laid out trial Rubber plantations in Ri Bhoi District as early as 1957. The aim is to combat and mitigate soil erosion problems in Jhum areas and other degraded lands. The main thrust is also to provide an effective supporting base for permanent settlement of Jhumia families. The rubber plantations created as trials/pilot projects during the early days are as follows:-

SI No.	District	Name of Centre	Year	Area in Ha
1.	Ri Bhoi	Paham	1957 – 58	1.60
2.	Ri Bhoi	Umling	1957 - 58	0.99
3.	South Garo Hills	Amphanggre	1962 - 63	14.16
4.	South Garo Hills	Dumnikura	1965 - 66	8.10
5.	East Garo Hills.	Wageasi	1970-71	3.80
6.	East Khasi Hills	Ichamati	1970 -71	5.50
7.	Jaintia Hills	Muktapur	1974 - 75	5.00

Rubber plantations raised in the past are through seedlings plants. Hence the yield from these plantations are low. In the late 80's, rubber plantations in Meghalaya are raised by budded stumps clones recommended by the Rubber Board.

The area under the rubber plantations in Meghalaya is as indicated below:

• Total area created	- 3214.00 Hectares.
• Area handed over back to the Beneficiaries	- 2169.00 Hectares.

The Rubber production and Revenue collected during the last 4 years as follows:

Year	Production of Rubber sheets etc.	Revenue
2000 - 01	46183 Kg	Rs.10,09,052
2001 - 02	55866 Kg	Rs.15,29,319
2002 - 03	67782 Kg	Rs.22,29,694
2003 - 04	81868 Kg	Rs.31, 14,541

### EXPANSION PROGRAMME OF RUBBER PLANTATION IN MEGHALAYA

The Meghalaya Commercial Crops Development Board (MCCDB) during the year 2005 - 06 has taken up the scheme on "Group Rubber Planting Scheme" extended by the Rubber Board, Govt. of India.

The objective of the scheme is to provide benefits to small and marginal growers: under the banner of Rubber Grower's Society/Rubber Producer's Society. It also aimed for promoting rubber planting in a scientific manner, adapting the recommended package of practices.

#### Eligibility:

- Growers who owns up to 2 hectares will be eligible. The growers should form a group to be called as "Rubber Grower's Society" and the membership should not be less than 10 and not more than 50. Approval for the group will be accorded by the Rubber Production Commissioner on the recommendation of the Officer in charge of the Regional Offices and the *Joint* Rubber Production Commissioner, 'Zonal Office, Guwahati.
- The growers should have obtained new Planting Permit.

#### Financial Assistance:

The cost of cultivation will be shared between the Rubber Board, Meghalaya Commercial Crops Development Board (MCCDS) and the farmers.

Year	Rubber Board	MCCDB	Farmer
1 <sup>st</sup> year	Rs.14,000	Rs.2,500	Rs.13,000/- (In the form of labour Component)
2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Rs.5,000	Rs.1,250	
3 <sup>rd</sup> year	Rs.5,000	Rs.1,250	
4 <sup>th</sup> year	Rs.5,000	Rs.1,250	
5 <sup>th</sup> year	Rs.6,000	Rs.1,500	
6 <sup>th</sup> year	Rs.9,000	Rs.2,250	
Total:	Rs.44,000	Rs.10,000	



The activities has to be taken up jointly by all the members in their own plots and payments will be paid by the Rubber Board after satisfactory completion of stipulated items of work as detailed in the Schedule. Raising of seedlings and bud grafting of rubbers plants in the Nursery has to be raised by the Beneficiaries themselves after training is imparted before commencement of the work.

For further informations the following Address may be contacted:-

Chief Executive Officer  
Meghalaya Commercial Crops Development Board,  
Laitumkhrah, Opposite Police Beat House,  
Shillong 793003. Post Box No. 54.  
Ph. No. 0364-2505512  
[e-mail-mccdb@sancharnet.in](mailto:e-mail-mccdb@sancharnet.in)

Reference: RUBBER GROWERS CAMPAIGN 2002  
PROJECT REPORT ON GROUP PLANTING BY RUBBER BOARD.

### PROMOTION

1. Shri H.Ch. Marak, Superintendent, Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat promoted as Registrar, Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya, Shillong.
2. Shri R.V. Dkhar, Upper Division Assistant, Promoted as Superintendent, Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya, Shillong.
3. Shri T. Kharkongor, Lower Division Assistant, Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya, Shillong, promoted as Upper Division Assistant and posted in the Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat.
4. Smti B. Pariat, Lower Division Assistant, Engineering Division Temporarily officiates as Upper Division Assistant and posted at Nongstoin Soil & Water Conservation Division.
5. Shri T.K. Bani, Upper Division Assistant, Nongstoin is temporarily officiating as Accountant and posted in the same Division.
6. Smti R. Mawlong, Upper Division Assistant, Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya, Shillong, promoted as Superintendent of Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat.
7. Shri R.E. Lapasam, Accountant, Project Formulation Cell Division temporarily officiates as Head Assistant, Jowai (T) Division.
8. Shri R. Broose Marak, Lower Division Assistant, Simsanggre officiates as Upper Division Assistant.

## TRANSFER AND POSTING

1. Shri A. Syiem, Additional Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya, Shillong in addition to his normal duties took over as Chief Executive Officer, Meghalaya Commercial Crops Development Board, Shillong.
2. Shri J. Swer, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T) Division to Jowai (CC) Soil & Water Conservation Division.
3. Shri L. Shabong, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin Division to Shillong (T) Division.
4. Shri H. Thubru, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Jowai (CC) Division to Jowai (T) Division.
5. Shri S.S. Kharsyntiew, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Nongstoin Division to Ri-Bhoi Division.
6. Shri R.V. Jyrwa, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Ri-Bhoi Division to Nongstoin Division.
7. Shri G. Chakravarty, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat to Simsanggre Division.
8. Smti M.Ch. Momin, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Tura (CC) Division to Simsanggre Division.
9. Smti I. Nongkhlaw, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Project Formation Cell to Shillong (T) Division.
10. Shri H.R. Sangma, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Tura (T) Division to Simsanggre Division.
11. Shri K.K. Riahtam, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Shillong (T) Division to Soil Survey Division.
12. Shri K.Ch. Marak, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Simsanggre Division to Tura (CC) Division.
13. Shri A. Lamare, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Soil Survey Division to Jowai (T) Division.
14. Shri N. Das, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat to Monitoring & Evaluation Unit (Attached to the Office of the Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Tura).
15. Shri W.R. Marak, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Monitoring & Evaluation Unit, Joint Director of Soil & Water Conservation, Tura to Tura (T) Division.
16. Shri Z.D. Shira, Assistant Soil & Water Conservation Officer, Project Formulation Cell to Shillong (CC) Division.
17. Shri C.D. Sangma, Soil & Water Conservation Ranger, Ranikor Soil & Water Conservation Range to Sonapahar Soil & Water Conservation Range.
18. Shri D.R. Tariang, Soil & Water Conservation Ranger, Sonapahar Soil & Water Conservation Range to Mairang Soil & Water Conservation Range.

19. Shri J. Diengdoh, Soil & Water Conservation Ranger, Mairang Soil & Water Conservation Range to Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat.
20. Shri M. Kharbani, Soil & Water Conservation Ranger, Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat to Ranikor Soil & Water Conservation Range.
21. Shri A.M. Kharmutee, Soil & Water Conservation Ranger, Nongpoh Soil & Water Conservation Range (HQ) to **Nongpoh** Soil & Water Conservation Range (HQ).
22. Shri E. Kharbhih, Soil & Water Conservation Ranger, Nongpoh Soil & Water Conservation Range(HQ) to Sonidan Soil & Water Conservation Range (HQ).
23. Shri K.K. Syiem, Upper Division Assistant, Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat to Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya, Shillong.
24. Shri Jim Reeves A.Sangma, Range Assistant, Tura (T) to Simsanggre Division.
25. Shri Jenkins S.Momin, Accountant, Nongstoin Division to Project Formulation Cell Division.
26. Shri R.L. Massar, Head Assistant, Ri-Bhoi Division, Nongpoh to Shillong (CC) Division as Head Assistant–cum–Accountant.

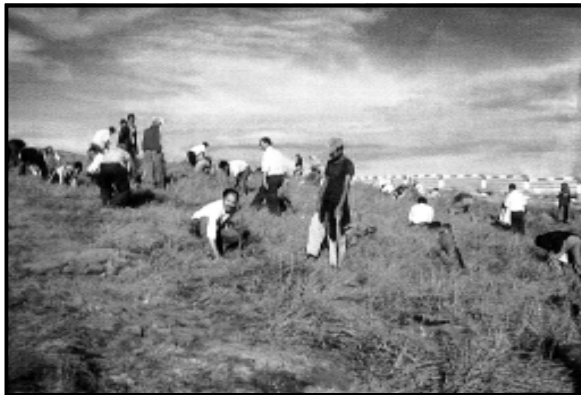
### **RETIREMENT FROM GOVERNMENT SERVICE**

1. Shri DhiresH Hajong, Soil & Water Conservation Demonstrator (Jr.II), Tura (CC) Division on 31.1.2006.
2. Shri Sushil Kumar Bhagabati, Soil & Water Conservation Demonstrator (Jr.II), Shillong (T) Division on 31.1.2006.
3. Smti A. Kharshiing, Registrar, Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya, Shillong on 28.2.2006.
4. Shri H. Khonglah, Soil & Water Conservation Demonstrator (Senior), Jowai (CC) Division on 28.2.2006.
5. Shri B.S. Lahon, Head Assistant-cum-accountant, Shillong (CC) Division on 30.4.2006.
6. Shri Chin Bahadur, Chowkidar, Engineering Division on 1.5.2006.
7. Smti T.Swer, Registrar, Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya, Shillong. on 31.5.2006.
8. Shri Kordor Singh Mawthoh, Cinema Operator Helper, Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, Meghalaya, Shillong on 30.6.2006.

### **LEST WE FORGET**

1. Shri Phronilson K.Sangma, Head Assistant, Jowai (T) Division expired on 5.1.2006
2. Shri Besta Sanglyne, Jeep Driver, Nongstoin expired on 8.4.2006.
3. Shri Edward Kharkongor, Power Tiller Operator, Jowai (T) expired on 8.5.2006.

## PHOTO FEATURES



**Planting trees for posterity**



**Director of Soil & Water Conservation:  
leading from the front**



**Schoolchildren: future environmentalists**



**A lighter moment: striving for the goal**



**Learning the trade: training at SCSTE, Laitkor**



**Community Hall at Umrynjah:  
savouring the moment.**

MISCELLANEOUS:

**THE WORLD PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS,  
CHICAGO**

*Welcome address of Swami Vivekananda,  
September 11, 1893.*

Sisters and Brothers of America,

It fills my heart with joy unspeakable to rise in response to the warm and cordial welcome which you have given us. I thank you in the name of the most ancient order of monks in the world; I thank you in the name of the mother of religions, and I thank you in the name of millions and millions of Hindu people of all classes and sects.



My thanks, also, to some of the speakers on this platform who, referring to the delegates from the Orient, have told you that these men from far-off nations may well claim the honor of bearing to different lands the idea of toleration. I am proud to belong to a religion which has taught the world both tolerance and universal acceptance. We believe not only in universal toleration, but we accept all religions as true. I am proud to belong to a nation which has sheltered the persecuted and the refugees of all religions and all nations of the earth. I am proud to tell you that we have gathered in our bosom the purest remnant of the Israelites, who came to Southern India and took refuge with us in the very year in which their holy temple was shattered to pieces by Roman tyranny. I am proud to belong to the religion which has sheltered and is still fostering the remnant of the grand Zoroastrian nation. I will quote to you, brethren, a few lines from a hymn which I remember to have repeated from my earliest boyhood, which is every day repeated by millions of human beings: "As the different streams having their sources in different paths which men take through different tendencies, various though they appear, crooked or straight, all lead to Thee."

The present convention, which is one of the most august assemblies ever held, is in itself a vindication, a declaration to the world of the wonderful doctrine preached in the Gita: "Whosoever comes to Me, through whatsoever form, I reach him; all men are struggling through paths which in the end lead to me." Sectarianism, bigotry, and its horrible descendant, fanaticism, have long possessed this beautiful earth. They have filled the earth with violence, drenched it often and often with human blood, destroyed civilization and sent whole nations to despair. Had it not been for these horrible demons, human society would be far more advanced than it is now. But their time is come; and I fervently hope that the bell that tolled this morning in honor of this convention may be the death-knell of all fanaticism, of all persecutions with the sword or with the pen, and of all uncharitable feelings between persons wending their way to the same goal.



## TESTIMONIALS

Once a friend of the famous Russian writer, Tolstoy asked him, "My dear Tolstoy, I sent a man to you. He had innumerable testimonials but you did not select him. I have learnt that the candidate who was selected, had no certificate or recommendatory letter, what quality he had that ignoring my words you had to select him".

Tolstoy replied, "Friend, the man whom I selected had valuable testimonials. He asked for my permission before entering the room and cleaned his feet on the mat kept at the door. His clothes were, though simple, but clean. He dusted the chair before sitting on that. He had self confidence. He gave correct and balanced answer to every question. At the end of my questions he went quietly after seeking permission. He did not try to flatter or persuade in any way. These were such testimonials which few persons possess. It does not matter, if persons having such qualities have no written testimonials.

And you know my friend "I have wanted to select the man you recommended. He possesses your recommendations no doubt but his testimonials are not up to my choice".

- Leo N. Tolstoy.

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### THEY SAY:

Work keeps us from three evils: boredom, vice and need.

- Voltaire.

Faith is believing in things when common sense tells you not to.

- George Seaton.

Life affords no greater responsibility, no greater privilege, than the raising of the next generation.

- C. Everett Koop.

If you risk nothing, then you risk everything.

- Geena Davies.

Patriotism is not a short and frenzied outburst of emotion but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime.

- Adlai E. Stevenson.

A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm.

- Henrik Ibsen.

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### HUMOUR:

A man was admiring an attractive woman sitting alone in a restaurant. He finally walked over to her table and tried his very best line: "Bond, James Bond."

She looked up, smiled and replied: "Lost, get lost."

\*\*\*\*\*

Bob was having trouble getting to sleep at night. He went to see a doctor, who prescribed some extra strong sleeping pills.

Sunday night Bob took the pills, slept well and was awake before he heard the alarm. He took his time getting to the office, strolled in and said to his boss: "I didn't have a bit of trouble getting up this morning."

"That's fine," roared the boss, "but where were you on Monday and Tuesday?"

\*\*\*\*\*

After marrying a much younger woman, a 93-year old man visited his doctor and announced they were expecting a baby.

"Let me tell you a story," said the doctor. "An absent-minded fellow went hunting, but instead of a gun, he picked up an umbrella. Suddenly a lion charged him. Pointing his umbrella at the lion, he shot and killed the animal on the spot."

"Impossible!" exclaimed the old man. "Somebody must have shot from the side!"

"Exactly," replied the doctor.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sitting in a bar, a man looked at his glass in a hesitant manner. Then a bully approached him, snatched his glass from him and drank the contents. The man looked at the bully, shook his head and said: "That's what I call bad luck."

"What do you mean by bad luck?" asked the bully angrily.

"Two weeks ago, my parents died in an accident. Then I lost my job. My wife was unfaithful to me. And when I finally decide to poison myself, you come and drink my poison. Isn't that just back luck?"

\*\*\*\*\*

Stalking into a police station late one night, a man demands to speak to the burglar who broke into his home. "Sorry, that's against the rules," says the desk sergeant.

"You don't get it," says the man. "I need to know how he got in without waking my wife."

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