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SIKKIM STATE COUNCIL OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

ANNUAL REPORT 2011-12

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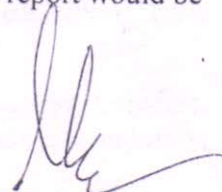
Foreword by Member Secretary

It is my privilege to reflect the activities of the Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology in the form of annual report for the year 2011-12. Having joined as Secretary, Department of Science & Technology and Climate Change recently in April 2012, I must agree that the activities taken up by this Council is worth appreciating as it encompasses the areas and activities which are need based and require focused attention for sustainable development of the State.

The mandate of the Council presents vast areas and opportunities of interventions and investment that suits the local developmental needs without compromising the overall goal of sustainable development, research and development, poverty alleviation as mandated in the bylaws of the Council. Diverse issues of paramount importance are being addressed such as biodiversity and biotechnology, remote sensing technology, transfer of appropriate technology for the benefit of rural as well as urban population and communication and popularization of science. Thus, we must acknowledge the Council's role of serving as a bridge between Science & Technology in one hand and society and state on the other working hand in hand with line departments, NGOs, VOs, and individuals

Recent initiatives on issues of climate change with the goal of strengthening adaptive capacities of the target (rural) communities to reduce their vulnerability to climate change through sustainable Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) measures will strengthen our outreach with diversity of stakeholders which includes NGOs, farmers, line departments, research institutes, students and teachers. The Council is concurrently working with GIZ (German Development Cooperation) and Kfw (German Development Bank) for technical cooperation and financial cooperation respectively to realize the above goals of climate change adaptation measures. While taking up various project and programmes, we have tried to incorporate, wherever possible, time tested vast indigenous knowledge base, so that technologies are easily accepted, adapted and appreciated by the beneficiaries.

All activities of the Council are in harmony with the science & technology related policies of the state government as well as government of India concurrently ensuring that we stay within the mandate of the Council. Any comments and critiques on the work presented in this report would be gratefully received.



(P.T.Euthenpa) IAS
MEMBER SECRETARY

Member Secretary
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Department of Science & Technology in the State has been created during 1996 mainly for Research and Development in various identified areas relevant to the state, generation of scientific awareness and also for transfer of appropriate technologies for economic upliftment of the weaker section of the society.

Further, Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology was also created keeping in view the importance of Science & Technology for overall development of the state and with a view to provide sufficient autonomy for implementation of various scientific programmes. The Council takes up various programmes funded by the State Government as well as projects funded by the Government of India agencies like the Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Department of Bio-technology and Department of Space as well. The Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology is the functional arm of State Science & Technology Department for implementation of various scientific programmes in the State.

The Department of Science and Technology has taken up through the Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology various scientific programmes related to (i) Bio-Technology (Bioinformatics & Tissue Culture, Medicinal Plants, Scientific programme on Planting Stock Improvement; Establishment of Sikkim Biotechnology Research and Application Centre) (ii) Glaciers and Climate Studies (iii) Environmental Information System; (iv) Patent Information Centre; (v) Remote Sensing and GIS; and (vi) Technology Transfer and Scientific Awareness, Capacity Building and Skill Development programmes.

The broad objectives of the Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology are as under:

- To increase the Science & Technology infrastructure for meeting the challenging demands in basic research, technological development and scientific services.
- To identify the areas where Science & Technology intervention could significantly improve the existing socio-economic conditions.
- To identify areas of long term development of the State by ensuring application of science and technology developed so far.
- Pilot scale demonstration projects.
- Replication of success models and undertaking pilot scale demonstrations projects.
- Develop appropriate mechanisms for reducing the time lag between an invention and its commercialization.
- To supplement the efforts of the State Government in implementing various projects whenever and wherever called for.
- To popularize technologies and initiate scientific attitude and temperament amongst the people of the State through awareness and training programmes.
- To facilitate the scientists and the entrepreneurs in promoting technology transfers, establishing a strong relationship among the academics, research institutes and industry, guidance for developing entrepreneurship.

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ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE SIKKIM STATE COUNCIL OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY.

