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Annual Report 2010-11

**Department of Science & Technology and Climate Change
Government of Sikkim, Gangtok
&
Sikkim State Council of Science and Technology
Development area ,Gangtok**

Science & Technology Department in the State was created in the year 1996 mainly for generation of scientific awareness and for transfer of appropriate technologies for economic up-liftment of weaker sections of the society.

Keeping in view the importance of Science & Technology for overall development of the State and to provide sufficient autonomy for implementation of various scientific programmes, the Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology was also created.

The Department of Science & Technology through Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology has implemented various scientific programmes related to (i) Bio-Technology (Bioinformatics & Tissue Culture, Medicinal Plants, Scientific programmes on bio-fertilizers and biopesticides related to Organic farming; 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 details of work carried out under the different projects are as under:

Science Awareness, Communication and Science Popularization Programme:

DBT-Natural Resources Awareness (DNA) Clubs programme in Sikkim State:

The Department of Biotechnology, Government of India has sanctioned a project DNA Clubs project in Sikkim as a part of major project for entire North Eastern States.

The objectives of the project are as follows:

- To enhance understanding among students about the immense value of biological diversity of our country, the importance of locally available bioresources, their sustainable use and conservation;
- To equip them with relevant skills for bioresource conservation;
- To familiarize students with scientific and technological issues related to biotechnology;
- To provide students with an experimental learning opportunity;
- To create opportunities for hands on experiments in the field at the school level;
- To organize field trips to National Institutes and National Biological parks of the country;
- To facilitate interaction with leading experts in the field including the core and visiting faculty at the Institutions.

In Sikkim 35 schools has been identified for taking up DNA club programme. The programme was formally launched by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim on 14th October 2009 during Platinum Jubilee celebration of Namchi Senior Secondary School at Namchi, South Sikkim.

The Sensitization Meeting of teachers of DNA CLUB of Sikkim was organized on 22.10.2010 at Sikkim Science Centre, Marchak, Ranipool, Gangtok.

The Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology have identified 35 schools for DNA Club and invited all the schools. Out of which 25 schools attended the meeting. Mr. D.T.Bhutia, Senior Scientific Officer, State Coordinator of DNA Club had explained about the DNA Club, its terms &

