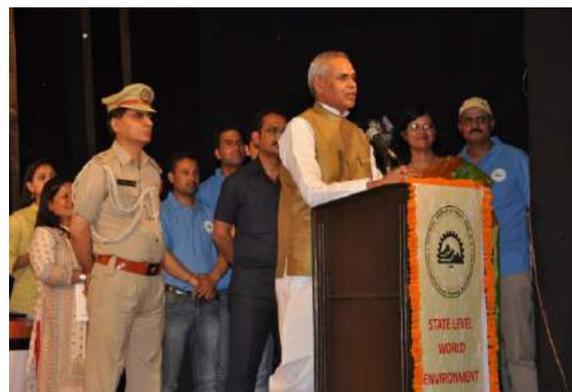


REPORT ON THE STATE LEVEL FUNCTION OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY-2017



Organised by:

**State Council for Science, Technology and
Environment, H.P.**

Vigyan Bhawan, Bemloe, Shimla-1

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5th June is being celebrated as World Environment Day (WED) world over. World Environment Day is being celebrated on the inaugural day of the historic **United Nations conference on Human Environment** (also known as the **Stockholm Conference**) was an International Conference convened under United Nations auspices held in Stockholm, Sweden from June 5-16,1972. Theme selected by **UNEP for WED 2017 “Connecting with Nature”**.

State level World Environment Day (WED) was celebrated at the Gaiety theatre, Shimla with splendour and galore. His Excellency, Governor Himachal Pradesh Acharya Devvrat was the Chief Guest. About 450-students from various schools of the Shimla took out rally in the town from Lakkar bazaar, Chauramaidan, Panchayat maidan, Auckland House School and Chota Shimla side and converged at Gaiety Theatre, The Mall, Shimla. They were holding placards to spread awareness



about the cleanliness, optimal use, reuse and recycle and conservation of nature for future generation etc. This years' United Nations theme for World Environment day is **“Connecting with Nature”**.

The State Council for Science, Technology and Environment in order to have a greater impact in the mind and soul of children, had celebrated Environment week from 29th May to 5th June with school, college students, teachers and community. During Environment week number of activities like 'Swachta Abhiyan' in School premises, Nature walk of school students and teachers to Shimla water catchment area



appx. 120 students and teachers participated in the nature visit activity. The painting competition was also organised by the State council for school students. The Students and teachers also visited the premises of Eco task force, Kufri to know the plantation activities of Army. The Clean and Green school campus competition was also organised for Shimla town schools, the team of judges visited each school to evaluate the environment status of the school and interacted with the school children during their visit, The Popular lecture series by Eminent Scientist and Environment activities were also organized by State Council in Gaiety Theatre. The prominent personality Sh. Rajinder Singh, Founder of Tarun Bharat Sangh, Magsaysay Award winner interacted with the students during his talk on water management.

The students of GSSS Lakkar bazaar and DAV Senior Secondary School, New Shimla enthralled the audience with their skits. They also depicted how man's greed had depleted the earth of its resources and it's high time we take cognizance otherwise life on earth would be terrible not only for other creatures but also for the human beings.

Sh. Tarun Kapoor-cum-Chairman, Additional Chief Secretary, Forests, Environment, Science and Technology also addressed the students and emphasised on minimal and optimal use of environmental resources. He



stressed that during his lifetime in Shimla from childhood to now he has observed Shimla changing from good to bad. Now, it is high time that during the lifetime of these young children they should change it to the best again. He also emphasised on the need of Solid Waste Management so that the pure Himalayan Water do not

get polluted. He also said that concerted efforts to be made for transforming of technology in motor cars and other machines to renewable energy sources, so that solar, wind and tidal energy could be harnessed to the maximum.

Dr. G.S Goraya, PCCF (Wild Life) addressed the participants by making them aware about the depleting natural water resources in and around Himachal and also early flowering of Rhododendron and change in rain cycle indicates

that the environment has been adversely affected due to human indulgence. In order to conserve nature uncompromising nature friendly action by one and all to be taken throughout the year and it should become a habit.

Mr. Kunal Satyarthi, Joint member Secretary welcomed the Chief Guest, His Excellency Governor, Himachal Pradesh, Acharya Devvrat, Sh. Tarun Kapoor, cum Chairman, Additional Chief Secretary, Forests, Environment, Science and Technology, Dr. G.S Goraya, PCCF (Wild Life), media and participants. He



addressed the audience by introducing the theme of World Environment Day, 2017, 'Connecting People to Nature'. He said H.P is the only State in the country to celebrate **World Environment Week** instead of **World Environment Day**. He further elaborated on the activities

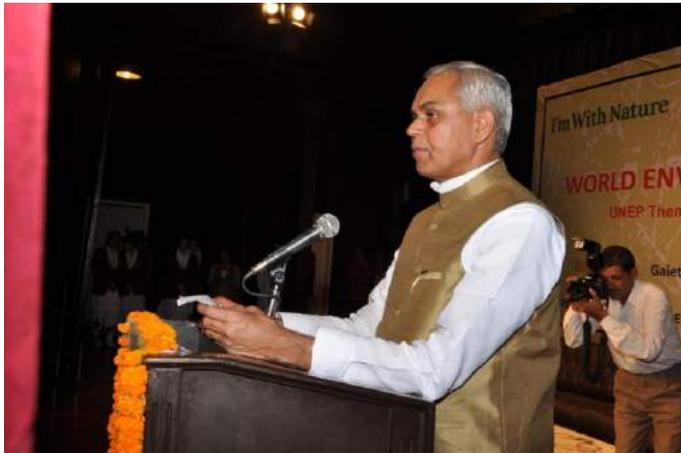
conducted during the week which included participation of 450 students from various schools of the State through SwatchtaAbhiyan and cleanliness rally. Nature walk supporting the theme of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was organised from 30th May to 3rd June, in which students were introduced to the floral and faunal diversity of Shimla Water Catchment Reserve Sanctuary. Students were also given edification and guidance of nursery practices and plantation by Eco Task Force, 133 Dogra Infantry Battalion (Territorial Army). Popular Lecture Series was also initiated where eminent environmentalists, scientists such as Dr.Rajendra Singh(Waterman of India) and Dr.Devender Sharma and Dr.Vikram



Soni delivered lectures on Water conservation, traditional farming and replenishment of Aravali Hills and cleaning of Yamuna river.

His Excellency, Governor, Himachal Pradesh, Acharya Devvrat addressed the children. In his humble, modest and polite words he lay emphasis on that we have inherited nature from our ancestors and one day we will have to hand it

over to our children neither had we created the environment nor we own it. We are here for a short time, we must preserve it and hand it over to the next generation. He emphasised that natural resources should be used judiciously not extravagantly so that plenty of natural resources are available for others. He asked the children to pledge that from now onwards they will plant a tree



on their own birthday, birthdays of their parents and in memory of their grandparents. They will also take care of their planted trees so as to ensure maximum survival and greenery all around. At the end he said all these activities should not get restricted to celebrations but it

is the time we take right action and corrective measures to see positive results in our life time.

Exhibition of paintings made by the students for Environment Day was displayed at Gaiety and also works of NCC Group Headquarter, WWF,133 BTN, Eco Dogra Kufri, Forest Deptt. Publicity Wing and National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), Shimla have also displayed their activities in the form of exhibition at Gaiety. All the schools who participated in the World Environment Day celebration were given a wooden bird house. This would be kept in school premises for the nestling of birds. These bird houses provide a snug and secure place for roosting and nesting for house sparrows.

The New Website of the State Council for Science, Technology and Environment was launched by His Excellency Governor Himachal Pradesh, Acharya Devvrat. The winners of all the week long activities were given prizes by Hon'ble Governor of Himachal Pradesh.



Glimpses of the World Environment Day-2017

