

## Seminar on Contemporary Environment Issues and Concerns

12<sup>th</sup> March, 2018

North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong

This Seminar was organised by ENVIS RP Centre, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong and National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit, NEHU, Shillong at Science Seminar Hall, NEHU, Shillong at 10.00 A.M. to 4:30 p.m. 124 participants attended the programme which includes Faculty, Students and Research Scholars from NEHU and other colleges in Shillong. List of participants enclosed.

In the Inaugural Programme, **Dr. M. M. Khymdeit** welcomes all participants, which was followed by Felicitation of Dignitaries. He expressed his heartfelt thanks to the dignitaries for their support and co-operation.

The programme was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, **Prof. (Dr.) R. Khongsdier**, Dean, School of Human and Environmental Sciences North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong followed by a Welcome song from Debojeet Nag.

The introductory address was presented by **Prof. (Dr.) D. Paul**, Co-coordinator of ENVIS RP Centre, Department of Environmental Studies, NEHU, Shillong and the ENVIS RP Centre, NEHU, Shillong was introduced by **Dr. Dinesh Bhatia**, Head, Department of Biomedical Engineering and Coordinator of ENVIS RP Centre, NEHU, Shillong.

During the programme, NSS Unit, NEHU presented an NSS Song.

A Documentary on “*Environmental Issues & Concerns: Opinion of NEHU*” directed by **Vivek Kumar**, Research Scholar, Department of Environmental Studies, was released by the Chief Guest, **Prof. (Dr.) R. Khongsdier**.

In Technical Session I, **Prof. (Dr.) B. K. Tiwari**, Dept. of Environmental Studies, NEHU, was the Chairperson.

In this session, **Dr. M. M. Khymdeit**, Program Officer, NSS Unit, NEHU, Shillong delivered a talk entitled “Role of National Service Scheme (NSS) in Environment Richness and Protection”. He presented few slides on the activities done by NSS, NEHU, like plantation of trees, their presentation and up keep, creation of tree consciousness among the community, construction of village roads, streets, drains etc. so as to keep the environment clean, popularisation and construction of Gobar Gas, plants, cleaning of village ponds and wells and work for soil conservation.

**Prof. (Dr.) D. Paul**, delivered a talk on “Our Biosphere: Contemporary Issues And Interventions”. He provided a brief account on the population problems, energy, bio-resources, the diminishing of natural resources, pollution and climate change and the potential effects on humans and environment as a whole.

**Dr. Dinesh Bhatia** delivered a presentation on “Bio-Medical Waste (BMW) Management and it’s Awareness In India”. He explained it’s definition, sources, the BMW Rules 2016 framed by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India, the importance of management of medical waste and the effects of BMW due to improper management of BMW that will leads to serious environmental problems in terms of Air, Water, Land and Soil Pollution.

During this session, **Dr. K. Upadhaya**, Department of Basic Sciences and Social Sciences, NEHU, Shillong, also delivered a talk on “Environmental Issues and Concerns with Special Reference to

North-East India”. He presented slides on the root causes of all the environmental problems and issues such as Population Increase, Deforestation, Biodiversity Loss, Shifting Cultivation, Mining, Water Scarcity and Climate Change. He concluded that the north east India being the Himalayan and Indo-Burma hotspots are vulnerable to climate change because they are rich in endemic species with restricted distribution. Such species are likely to be more affected than other.

The first session was closed by the Chairperson, **Prof. (Dr.) B. K. Tiwari**.

The Technical session II was started with an Opening address by Chairperson, **Prof. (Dr.) D. Paul**.

It was followed by a presentation of slides on “Role of Society with Regards to Environmental Concerns” by **Prof. (Dr.) A. K. Nongkynrih**, Department of Sociology, NEHU, Shillong.

**Dr. N. Amareshwaran**, Department of Education, NEHU, Shillong also delivered a talk on “Attitude, Knowledge and Skills towards Healthy Environment”.

Discussion and closing remarks of Session II were done by the Chairperson, **Prof. (Dr.) D. Paul**.

This was followed by a panel discussion, with interactions and recommendations on the topic “*Contemporary Environmental Issues and Concerns*”, with the College Professors, Head of Department, NEHU and all participants present during the session.

Certificates were distributed to all the participants.

The programme ended with a Vote of Thanks by **Dr. D. Bhatia**.

## Photos



