

## **1. OVERVIEW:**

### **1.1. BACK GROUND:**

Environmental legislation and its implementation alone cannot address the very complicated environmental issues. It is, therefore, very important to involve the school students in large scales along with Government machineries to improve the complicated environmental status. Hence, generation of environmental awareness is one of the key elements which will help in implementation of the environmental laws and rules in a much better way.

National Green Corps programme had been introduced by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India with aim of spreading awareness about environment among school children by involving them in various environment related programmes through the Eco-Clubs constituted in their respective schools. The members of these Eco-Clubs constitute the National Green Corps.

### **1.2. OBJECTIVE:**

The scheme proposes to raise National Green Army in the Schools all over the country to spread environmental awareness and carry out action based programmes for protection and improvement of environment.

1. To make children understand about environment & environmental problems.
2. To provide environmental education opportunities for school children.
3. To facilitate children's participation in decision making in area related to environment & development.
4. To involve children in action based programmes related to environment in their surroundings.
5. To bring the school children in to direct contact with the various environmental issues.

### **1.3. COVERAGE:**

The scheme will cover all states of the country including Tripura State.

### **1.4. INSTITUTIONS TO BE COVERED:**

The scheme will include educational institutions from Class V to Class XII. All Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas and Schools affiliated to CBSE and ICSE systems shall be covered. Schools under the respective State Boards will be the main focus of the programme. On an average 100 schools per District are expected to be covered with a ceiling of maximum 250 schools per Districts and total 850 Schools in the State .

## **1.5. METHODOLOGY:**

- The Scheme will be operated through Eco-Clubs to be formed in member Schools.
- Each such club will have 30-50 children, who show interest on environment related issues.
- Each Eco-Club will be supervised by a Teacher in Charge/ Coordinator, who is selected from among the Teachers of the member school on the basis of his/her interest in environment related issues.
- Each Eco-Club will be provided a token monetary grant of Rs.2500/- per annum subject revision of grants by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change time to time apart from a kit of resource materials.
- There will be District Implementation & Monitoring Committee (DIMC) to supervise, organize training for Teacher in Charge/ Coordinator of Eco-Club Schools and monitor periodically the implementation of scheme at the District level.
- There will be a Steering Committee to oversee the implementation of scheme.
- Tripura State Pollution Control Board is the State Nodal Agency for the Tripura State. Being the State Nodal Agency, the Tripura State Pollution Control Board will coordinate the implementation of scheme in the State and organize related activities.
- The National Steering Committee will give overall direction to the programme and ensure linkage at all level.

## **2. SELECTION PROCEDURE**

### **2.1. CRITERION FOR SELECTION OF SCHOOLS:**

- All Government Schools, Government aided Schools, Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas and Schools affiliated under CBSE, ICSE, TBSE. The schools under the respective State Board will be the main focus of the programme.
- Schools must be preferably Secondary & Higher Secondary level. In the district, where it is difficult to find Secondary & Higher Secondary level schools, upper primary/ senior basic schools can be selected.
- On an average 100 schools per District are expected to be covered with a ceiling of maximum 250 schools per Districts.
- Those Schools who have prior experience in running environment related programme would be given preference.

### **2.2. SELECTION OF MASTER TRAINERS:**

District Implementation & Monitoring Committee (DIMC) of respective district would select one or two Master Trainers from their respective district. They can be from among the Teacher in Charge/ Coordinator. They would be first trained at the state Capital. They in turn would train Teacher in Charge/ Coordinator in their respective district jurisdiction.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

- (i) Financial assistance for an amount Rs.2500/- would be given to every School as annual grant. The student members & Teacher In-Charge of Eco-Club School would decide to utilize the grant for their environmental activities in consultation with the Headmaster/Principal.
- (ii) Administrative charges for Nodal Agency would be 5% of the total annual expenditure on the Scheme. The money given for administrative charges to the State Nodal Agency may be used towards stationery, postage & other expenses.
- (iii) For strengthening the implementation & Monitoring at district level, an amount of Rs.50,000/- would be given under the scheme to the State Nodal Agency.
- (iv) All funds would be routed through the State Nodal Agency except the the fund meat for Resource Agency.
- (v) For speedy disbursement of grants to all Eco-Club Schools, the State Nodal Agency introduced electronically fund transfer system through the Tripura Gramin Bank.

### **4. LIST OF SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR ECO-CLUBS:**

- (a) Organize seminars, discussions, lectures and popular talks on specific environmental issues in the schools.
- (b) Organization of awareness camps through field visits to sites of environmental importance, including polluted/ degraded sites, wild life parks, sanctuaries etc.
- (c) Spreading environmental awareness by organizing rallies, marches, human chains, street theatre, speeches and debates at the public places such as railway stations, bus stands, agriculture markets and other crowded public areas.
- (d) Action based programmes such as tree plantation both within and outside schools, maintenance of such plantations, cleanliness drives in schools, colonies, public places, neighborhood areas etc.
- (e) Prepare inventories of polluting sources and forward the same to the regulatory authorities in enforcement.
- (f) Organize awareness programmes against defecation in public places, posting poster in public places, propagate personal hygiene habits like washing hands before taking meal etc.
- (g) Maintenance of public areas such as parks, gardens both within and outside school campus.
- (h) Mobilize action against environmentally unsound practices in public places such as garbage disposal in unauthorized places, unhygienic and unscientific disposal of hospital wastes etc.

### **5. ROLE OF VARIOUS PARTNERS:**



## 5.1. STATE NODAL AGENCY:

- Tripura State Pollution Control Board is the Nodal Agency for the Tripura State.
- To nominate a Nodal Officer for the State & District Level Nodal Officer for the Campaign.
- To ensure identification of member Schools by the District Committee in consultation with the Resource Agency. To motivate Principals/ Head of the selected schools for participation of their schools in the campaign and identify teachers for nomination as teachers in-charge for Eco Club.
- To select locally relevant resource materials in consultation with the Resource Agency & got it printed.
- To ensure identification of master trainers by District Committee and organize training for them with the help of Resource Agency.
- To ensure training programme for Teacher In-Charge in districts.
- To ensure distribution of grants and resource materials to all eco-clubs.
- To receive quarterly reports from District Committees and compile them in the form of reports and send them to central Nodal Officer in the given format.
- To organise State Level activities and coordinate them.
- To organise publicly to the programme to encourage more schools and students to join Eco-Clubs.

## 5.2. ROLE OF RESOURCE AGENCY

Each State/UT is being provided with the services of one Resource Agency for the better implementation of the scheme. The main Role of the Resource Agency is that of a consultant and of a facilitator. The Agency is expected to perform the following functions:

- (i) Assist the State Nodal Agency/District Committees in the identification of Schools in each district.
- (ii) Help the Nodal Agency in selecting locally relevant resource material.
- (iii) Help the Nodal Agency in organising training programme for Master Trainers by providing technical inputs and resource persons.
- (iv) Assist Districts Committees in drawing up action plans and in organising District level training programmes for In-Charge teachers by providing resource persons as well as in drawing up training schedule.
- (v) To advise the State Nodal Agency in all the aspects of implementation of the Scheme.

### **5.3. ROLE OF STATE STEERING COMMITTEE**

- a) To coordinate implementation of the scheme.
- b) To encourage different government departments to actively help the Eco-Clubs
- c) To review periodically the implementation of the scheme and suggest activities to be taken up at District level.
- d) To select the best districts, best Eco-club and give publicity to their activities so that other districts and Eco-clubs can adopt them.

### **5.4. ROLE OF DISTRICTS IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING COMMITTEE**

- a) To identify the Member schools in consultation with State Nodal Agency and Resource Agency.
- b) To motivate Heads of schools to initiate participation in the scheme.
- c) To Select Master Trainers and send them for training organised by the state Nodal Agency.
- d) To identify In-charge Teachers in consultation with School Principals and organise training for In-charge Teachers.
- e) To distribute Resource Material to In-charge Teachers at the time of their training.
- f) To identify the activities to be taken up at the District level and organise them.
- g) Coordinate, supervise and monitor the implementation of the activities by all the Eco-Clubs in the district.
- h) To keep the State Nodal Agency informed of the activities undertaken by the individual schools and at the district level in the given format.
- i) To appoint the individual members as supervisors for a group of 10-15 schools and review their reports.
- j) To send the monitoring report to the state Nodal Agency as per the schedule.

### **5.5. ROLE OF TEACHERS IN-CHARGE OF ECO-CLUB.**

The Teacher In-charge of Eco-Club plays a key role in the implementation of the scheme. He/She should encourage more and more students to join the club. He/ She should take up imaginative steps to implement the activities suggested in the scheme, which are relevant to that region. Main functions of In-charge Teacher are:

- To assemble the eco-club members every week for one hour at least and take up some activity.
- To encourage the students to suggest activities for the following weeks and make a list of it. Make necessary preparations for their execution in consultation with the headmaster/Principal.
- Send Monthly report to the District Committee.
- Coordinate with the district Committee for taking up district level common programmes.

## COMPOSITION STATE STEERING COMMITTEE

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| (1) Principal Secretary, Environment and Forest<br>(Or an Officer of equivalent rank)                                      | Chairman  |
| (2) Secretaries or their representatives from<br>State Departments of Education, Health and<br>other concerned departments | Member    |
| (3) Representative of Resource Agency  | Member    |
| (4) Head of the Nodal Agency   | Member    |
| (5) Two eminent NGOs working on environmental issues   | Member    |
| (6) State Nodal Officer  | Secretary |

State Government can nominate other officers and individuals considered relevant to this committee.

## COMPOSITION OF DIMC

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|--|----------|
| 1) District collector / DM   | Chairman |
| 2) Conservator of Forest / DFO   | Member   |
| 3) District level officials of department of Environment /<br>State pollution control board & Department of Health | Member   |
| 4) Two eminent NGOs working on Environmental issues  | Member   |
| 5) Heads of Five schools from among the selected schools   | Member   |
| 6) Representatives of the Resource Agency  | Member   |
| 7) Districts Education Officer / District Scientific Officer   | Member   |

The State Government can nominate any individual who is relevant to the Committee.

## THEMES TO BE ADDRESSED

Themes which are of immediate relevance and implementable by school students will be identified. Some of these themes are as follows:

- Disposal of house-hold waste (garbage)
- Disposal of hospital wastes
- Water shortage and pollution
- Air Pollution
- Absence of civil amenities
- City afforestation and plantation
- Maintenance of public parks and gardens
- Development of environmental friendly attitudes and behavior among people
- Study of Eco-systems and important role played by bio-diversity in our lives.

## **IMPLEMENTATION, SUPERVISION AND MONITORING OF THE PROGRAMMES**

- Responsibility for implementing the programmes in all schools at the District level will rest with the district implementation committee.
- All ECs will be free to prepare their work plan them within the grants available to them. The ECs may raise additional funds through their own efforts or sponsorship.
- District Implementation Committee may identify few specific issues on which combined efforts of all ECS will be organised. Such campaign activities will be overseen by the DIC.
- Direct responsibility of running the programme in the school will be with the school itself. However, responsibility to supervise the programme in a cluster of 15-20 schools will rest with one identified member of the DIC. Thus, some identified member of the committee will be given specific responsibility of supervising the programme in identified clusters.
- At the State level, the responsibility of supervising and monitoring the programme will rest with the identified nodal agency/department/officer.
- District can be divided among the members of the State Committee for supervision and monitoring.
- State Committee can also organise sponsorship through the efforts of NGOs and business and other social development organisations to augment resources and activities under the programme.
- State committee will be responsible for preparing and overall evaluation of the programme to be made available to the Govt. of India and to provide linkages with the programme at the State Govt. level and with the Central Govt.
- The Central Coordination Committee will be responsible for providing overall directions, ensuring coordination and linkage at the national level and reviewing the programme in all States so as to assess over all impact of the programme.
- The central Coordination Committee will also ensure timely release of grants and organisation of orientation programmes etc.