

POPULARISATION OF SCIENCE PROGRAMME

State - Level science & Environmental fair - (SSEF)

A. Objectives:

- (1) To inculcate a scientific temper amongst the people of the State targeting mainly the school children.
- (2) To generate environmental consciousness amongst the people of the State, particularly the school children.

B. Description:

State-level Science & Environmental Fair will be organised at the State capital in which school children selected from the Block-level Science & Environmental Fairs will participate. The Fair will also be opened to the general public. The scheme will provide an opportunity to children from different parts of the State to come together and interact amongst themselves on topics, issues and problems pertaining the respective areas from which they belong to. It will also give them an opportunity to learn about the natural set-ups including bio-diversities prevailing in different parts of the State. Special interaction sessions will be arranged on these aspects. Lectures on various current scientific topics and environmental issues will be organised during the programme. Also, a local exposure trip to various places of scientific interest and environmental importance in and around the State Capital will be organised for the participants. Nature camp, exhibition of children's creative skills and environmental march will also be included in the programme. A session on explaining "science behind wonders" will also be arranged. A lecture by an eminent scientist of the Country will also be included in the programme.

Block-Level Science & Environmental Fairs - (BSEF)

A. Objectives :

1. To inculcate a scientific temper and an environmental consciousness amongst school children.
2. To popularise Science & Technology at the grass-root level.

B. Description :

The scheme will be implemented in all the C&RD Blocks of the State with the help of the Deputy Commissioners, District Planning Officers and Block Development Officers.

The programme will comprise of 2 (two) main topics i.e. - Science and Environment. Under the Science topic, the activities to be included will be the science quiz, science essay competition and science exhibition for school children. Under the Environment topic, the activities will be the environmental quiz, environmental essay competition, environmental march and environmental painting competition. Besides these activities, popular lectures on Science and Environment will be organised. Technology awareness session and a session on explanation of "science behind wonders" will be included in the programme. The programme will be of 2(two) day duration. The various events/competitions will be organised for two categories of school children viz. Group-A(Class-VIII to X) and Group-B(Class-V to VII).

National Children's Science Congress - (NCSC)

A. Objectives :

1. To generate scientific minded citizens targeting young children who are the future citizens of the Country.
2. To provide a forum for children to pursue their natural curiosity and quench their thirst of creativity.
3. To relate learning of science to the environment around.
4. To inculcate a scientific temper amongst children by practicing the method of science, i.e. observation, collection of data, experimentation, analysis and arriving at a conclusion.

B. Description :

National Children's Science Congress is a nation-wide programme being organised in the State by SCSTE, Meghalaya, the national organiser being the National Science & Technology Communication-Network (NSTC-Network), New Delhi. The programme was initiated and catalysed by NCSTC, Department of Science & Technology, Government of India. In this programme, young children are involved in scientific activities aimed at generating scientific minded citizens. Under this programme, school going and non-school going children in the age group of 10-17 years are asked to take up projects relating to the problems/ issues in their immediate surroundings. A particular theme is given each year, under which projects are taken up by children.

Science Awareness Camps

A. Objectives:

- (i) To popularise and communicate science amongst the people at the grass root-level, particularly amongst school children in rural areas.
- (ii) To inculcate a scientific temper amongst the people at the grass root-level.
- (iii) To create an inquisitiveness and fun in learning science amongst school children.
- (iv) To supplement classroom teachings.
- (v) To propagate scientific culture in rural areas of the State.

B. Description :

The proposed scheme is aimed at creating and enhancing scientific temperament amongst the people of the State, especially school children. The scheme will also play an important role in supplementing classroom teachings through practical demonstrations. Science exhibitions, explaining science behind wonders, fun-science demonstrations, science popular lectures, science debate, science quiz, etc would be the activities to be included in the proposed Camps.

During the current financial year it is proposed to conduct 40 Camps in the State i.e., 6 Nos each in districts of East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills, Jaintia Hills, West Garo Hills and East Garo Hills and 5nos each in Ri-Bhoi District and South Garo Hills District.

The programme will be implemented by SCSTE, Meghalaya in association with the concerned NGO's, educational institutions, local durbars, etc.

Science Exposure Trip

A. OBJECTIVE:

1. To provide exposure to school children to the latest scientific developments and achievements in the Country
2. To broaden the scientific outlook of children through the interaction with scientists from different scientific institutions.
3. To promote inculcation of scientific temper among school children.

B. Description:

In the proposed programme, selected school children from respective districts will be taken to places of scientific interest outside the State (i.e., Kolkata, Bangalore, etc.) for exposure and also interaction with working scientists. The programme will be implemented by the State S & T Council through the District Planning Officers. The travel plan and visit schedule will be prepared by the State Council in consultation with the concern scientific agencies to be visited. Questionnaires will be handed over to each participant to fill-up during the trip and the same alongwith the report will be re-submitted by them after returning from the trip.

Observation of The International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE)

A. Objectives :

1. To focus on the need for a healthy relationship between humankind and the planet earth for ensuring a sustainable future for both and to capacitate people to meet the challenges in ensuring a safer and more prosperous world.
2. To focus on the need to use the earth resources in an eco-friendly manner.
3. To create excitement amongst youngsters to take up Earth Sciences as career.

B. Description :

On the initiative of the "International Union of Geo-sciences (IUGS) and UNESCO, the year 2008 has been declared as the "International Year of Planet Earth" under the UN-system.

Various activities have been planned for the state during the year to celebrate the "International Year of Planet Earth" and to achieve the objectives of the Celebration as mentioned above. These activities, namely, State Level Training Programme and Awareness Camps (village level) would be organized to create general awareness on subjects like map learning and resource optimisation, disaster management, solid waste management, soil conservation, waste water management, conservation of natural resources and pollution control, and to equip teachers and community leaders with proper knowledge to understand these subjects in a better way.

The proposed 3(three) day training programme will be organized at Shillong for teachers and community leaders drawn from all the 39 blocks of the State.

In consultation with the participants of the State-level Training Programme, 10 potential spots will be selected across the entire state for organizing the proposed Awareness Camps.