

PRESS RELEASE NO- 511

I want you to be 'eco warriors' governor to children

Itanagar, June 5: I want you to be 'Eco Warriors' said Arunachal Pradesh Governor Gen JJ Singh, while interacting with school children, who came to participate in the World Environment Day celebration at Raj Bhavan on June 5 last, reports PRO to Governor.

We want the world to be safe, clean and plastic free for you as you grow up and also for the future generations. The present generation must leave behind a better environment for the future. Good environment will result in better health, longer life span and all will have a better place to live, said the Governor as he appealed to all to take vows to do their best for the environment. He went on advising them against use of plastics and called for its proper disposal. Governor asked all of them to plant at least one sapling at their respective home today and look after it. While underling those teachers are the best messengers, Gen Singh urged upon them to spread consciousness amongst the students and guardians on environment protection and conservation. Reiterating his appeal for Clean, Green and Plastic Free Arunachal Pradesh, Governor said, we are fortunate to have such a nature bounty with green environment, clean water and natural beauty. Let us make Arunachal Pradesh more beautiful and cleaner place to live. Let us save our prized flora and fauna.

Reminding all that safe guarding the environment and reducing the loss of biodiversity is the duty of every citizen, Gen Singh called for optimum use of energy, water and natural resources. Recommending use of renewable energy and rain water harvesting methods, Governor urged upon people of State to commit themselves towards environmentally friendly practices, such as moving towards more energy efficient practices at home and office, recycling, better management of natural resources, supporting organic products and farming and use of solar energy.

Earlier, students from Niti Vihar Kidzee, Kids Angel School and Kids Angel Purvanchal School, Mowb II, presented cards on environment protection and conservation to the Governor. The ting tots of the schools in green attires to spread the 'Green' message also presented cultural items and action song on the theme on the occasion. Later, along with the children, Gen Singh took part in a plantation programme inside the Raj Bhavan compound, which was followed by another plantation programme in the Raj Bhavan complex.

To mark the special occasion of World Environment Day, Governor also took part in the plantation programme organized by State Environment and Forests department in collaboration with Muskan Welfare Society and Raj Bhavan in the Raj Bhavan complex. More than hundreds of saplings of important trees like Hilika, Bohera and Amla etc. were planted on the occasion. Secretary to Governor Ankur Garg, Capital Complex Deputy Commissioner Pawan Kumar Sain, Muskan Welfare Society members, Raj Bhavan officials and officers and staffs of Environment and Forest department joined the

Governor in the plantation drive. Gen Singh, who later inspected the saplings planted two years ago along with forest officials on the occasion and expressed happiness that the saplings are growing properly.

As part of celebration, the Environment and Forests Department organized another plantation programme in the campus of Sangay Lhaden Sports Academy, Chimpu in the morning. State Principle Chief Conservator of Forest BS Sajwan along with officers and officials of the department and the Sports Academy took part in it by planting more than two hundred and fifty saplings. While highlighting various programme like plantation drives, competitions, awareness campaigns which are being carried out in various forest divisions of the State on the day, PCCF Sajwan expressed his hope that the celebrations will go a long way in increasing the public awareness and in stimulating the people into adopting more environment friendly lifestyle and compassionate attitude towards the rich wildlife of the State. Divisional Forest Officer K. Rina informed that an intense public awareness campaign was started on 2nd June with messages related to environment, forest and wildlife conservation which were transmitted through Radio Oolala. A panel discussion on the theme of this year's celebration was also held on the Radio Oolala where senior officers of the department dealing with conservation, environment and research participated, where role of forests in environment conservation and sustainable development of Arunachal Pradesh were highlighted. Special thrust was given to the campaign today, which will run for a month. The discussion, in which State Principle Chief Conservator of Forest BS Sajwan, Environment Director P Subramaniam and representative of the World Wildlife Fund for India Piyush Kumar Dutta took part, was telecast through Doordarshan Kendra, Itanagar on 4th June last, Rina added.

Further providing the background of the day, DFO Rina said, World Environment Day is celebrated every year on 5th June with different themes. 2011 is the International Year of Forests and naturally this year's theme is 'Forests: Nature at your service'. It is also noteworthy that India has been chosen the global host for this year's celebration, adds the PRO.

Sd/- Ome Tayeng. Asst. PRO