

NATIONAL GREEN CORPS

(ECO-CLUBS)



MANUAL



ENVIS Hub, Mizoram
On Status of Environment and Related Issues,
New Secretariat Complex, Khatla, Aizawl, Mizoram

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FORWARD

Over the years, National Green Corps' Programme, launched in the year, 2001 by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India has been shown to be one of the most successful novel green initiatives in bringing about a change in the environmental attitudes among school children and the society at large.

Even in the state of Mizoram, the NGC programme has been receiving a profound positive response, evidenced by the enthusiastic school eco-club members and their active participation in the environmental related activities. The NGC network in the state has been much strengthened over the years. Starting with 800 school eco clubs in 2002, there are now a total of 1890 no. of eco-clubs operating as of today. Upon the advice of the Ministry, the programme is further extended to colleges from the year 2017-18.

Mizoram ENVIS Hub, hosted by Mizoram Pollution Control Board, has been playing a vital role in ensuring the effective implementation of the programme in the state by way of motivating and coordinating the eco clubs in undertaking environmental protection programs, providing resource materials, compiling and disseminating eco club activities report and so on. As the NGC programme has been seeing new enrollment of schools and colleges, the ENVIS Hub feels the necessity to impart or revive the knowledge and understanding of the operations of the programme to the eco-clubs as well as other key implementers under the programme. With this thought, this NGC manual has been prepared based on the guidelines issued by the Ministry on NGC Programme.

I hope this manual serves as an effective tool for better implementation of the NGC programme in developing a Green Nation.



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1. OVERVIEW OF NATIONAL GREEN CORPS (NGC)

1.1. Introduction

It is a well established and recognized fact that the children can be catalyst in promoting a mass movement about the ensemble of the environmental issues. Being future citizens, inculcation of environment friendly attitudes and behavioral patterns amongst them can make a significant difference to the long term efforts for protection of environment.

National Green Corps, popularly known as NGC is a national programme conceptualized and initiated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Climate Change, Government of India. As the name suggests, it is a programme to sensitize school children about environment, its problems and conservation. Started in the year 2001, the programme is operational across the country through school eco-clubs established for this purpose. The programme with its network of more than 1,00,000 schools and about 35 lakh students has promoted awareness and action to solve local environmental problems.

1.2. Objectives:

- » To make children understand environment and environmental problems.
- » To provide environmental education opportunities for school children.
- » To utilize the unique position of school children as conduits for awareness of the society at large
- » To facilitate children's participation in decision making in areas related to environment & development.
- » To bring children into direct contact with the environmental problems facing the society they live in and make them think of solutions.
- » To involve children in action based programmes related to environment in their surroundings.

1.3. Coverage

The NGC programme will be implemented in all the States and Union Territories in the country.

1.4. Membership

- » 250 schools in every district
- » 100 colleges in every state (*2017-18 onwards*)

2. KEY IMPLEMENTERS AND THEIR ROLE

2.1. Eco Clubs

- » The scheme is to be operated through Eco-Clubs to be formed in member schools. Schools with prior experience in environmental related programmes or those who have shown interests to join the programme shall be given priorities.
- » Each eco club will have 30-50 children, who show interest in environmental related issues.
- » Each eco club will be supervised by a Teacher In-charge who is selected from among the teachers of the member schools on the basis of his/her interest in environmental related issues.
- » Among the eco club members, club leaders may be appointed for better coordination of the activities of the club. The eco club may be further divided into sub groups, each designated with special group name to create healthy competitions among the eco club members.
- » The eco club members should hold meeting regularly and make plan for activities to be taken up and prepare activities report on monthly basis.

Role of teacher-incharge/green teacher

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 follow-ing weeks and make a list of it. Make necessary preparations for their execution in consultation with the Headmaster/ Principal.

- » Send monthly activity report to the District Committee.
- » Coordinate with the District Committee for taking up district level common programmes.

2.2. District Implementation and Monitoring Committee (DIMC)

District Implementation and Monitoring Committee (*DIMC*) is to be formed in each district to oversee the implementation of the Programme at district level having the following compositions:

i. District Collector / DM	Chairman
ii. Conservator of Forests / DFO	Member
iii. District Level Officials of Department of Environment / State Pollution Control Boards and Department of Health	Members
iv. Two eminent NGOs working on environmental issues	Member
v. Heads of 5 schools from among the member Schools	Member
vi. Representative of the Resource Agency	Member
vii. District Education Officer / District Sc. Officer	Member Secretary

Role of DIMC

- » To identify the member schools in consultation with the State Nodal Agency and Resource Agency.
- » To motivate Heads of schools to initiate participation in the scheme.
- » To organize training for In-charge teachers in collaboration with Nodal Agency and Resource Agency.
- » To select best eco-club in the district and give awards to the best performing eco clubs
- » To identify the activities to be taken at the District level and organize them.
- » To coordinate, supervise and monitor periodically the implementation of the scheme by all the eco-clubs in the district.
- » To submit the activities report of the individual schools to the State Nodal Agency as per the schedule.

2.3. State Steering Committee (SSC)

State Steering Committee is to be formed to oversee the implementation of the scheme at the State Level having the following composition:

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| i. Principal Secretary, Environment & Forests
(Or an Officer of equivalent rank) | Chairman |
| ii. Secretaries or their representatives from
State Departments of Education, Health
and other concerned departments | Members |
| iii. Representative of Resource Agency | Member |
| iv. Head of the Nodal Agency | Member |
| v. Two eminent NGOs working on
environmental Issues | Member |
| vi. State Nodal Officer | Member Secretary |

Role of SSC:

- » To oversee the implementation of the scheme in the State.
- » To encourage the different government departments to actively help the Eco-clubs
- » To review periodically the implementation of the scheme and suggest activities to be taken up at District Level
- » To select the best district, best Eco-Club and give publicity to their activities so that other districts and Eco-Clubs can adopt them.

2.4. State Nodal Agency

State Govt. is to appoint State Nodal Agency (SNA) who will coordinate the implementation of the scheme in the state.

Role of SNA

- » To nominate a Nodal Officer.
- » To ensure identification of member schools by the District Committee in consultation with the Resource Agency.
- » To select locally relevant resource material in consultation with the Resource Agency and get it printed.
- » To ensure identification of Master Trainers by District

Committees and organise training for them with the help of Resource Agency.

- » To ensure training programme for In-charge Teachers in Districts.
- » To ensure distribution of grants and resource material to 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 publicity to the programme to encourage more schools and students to join Eco-clubs.

2.5. The National Steering Committee

The National Steering Committee at the Central Government will give overall direction to the programme and ensure linkages at all levels.

2.6. Resource Agency (RA)

Each State/UT is being provided with the services of one Resource Agency for the better implementation of the scheme.

Role of RA

- » The main role of the RA is that of a consultant and a facilitator.
- » To assist the State Nodal Agency/District Committees in the identification of schools in each district
- » To help the Nodal Agency in selecting locally relevant resource material
- » Help the Nodal Agency in organizing training programme for Master Trainers by providing technical inputs and resource persons
- » Assist District Committees in drawing up action plans and in organizing District level training programme for In-Charge teachers by providing resource persons as well as in drawing up training schedule
- » To advise the State Nodal Agency in all the aspects of implementation of the Scheme.

3. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- » Each Eco-Club receives an annual financial assistance of ₹ 2500/- per annum which has been increased to ₹ 5000/- per annum from the year 2017-18
- » Each DIMC is also given annual financial assistance of ₹ 25,000/- per annum.
- » The annual financial assistance is released by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India to the Nodal Agency who, in turn directly disburses the amount to the accounts of each eco-club and DIMCs through bank transfer.
- » Each eco club has to open separate bank account in any bank operable by the teacher in charge and head of the institution jointly or separately solely for the purposes of the implementation of the programme.
- » The eco club members and the in-charge teachers would decide on using the fund for their activities in consultation with the Head of school.
- » A separate Cashbook/register is to be maintained for eco-club
- » At the end of the Financial Year, Eco Club has to submit U.C & E.S to the Nodal Agency for onward submission to the Ministry.

4. ACTIVITIES

4.1 List of suggested activities for eco-clubs

Eco-club may take up any activity of their choice within the premises of their institution and local area for protecting the environment and creating mass awareness among the public.

Some activities suggested for eco-clubs are highlighted below:-

- » Conduct Cleanliness campaigns (*Swatchh Bharat*) in schools and outside
- » Grow living gardens, flowers, vegetables and native plants in school and outside
- » Create awareness and educate fellow students on Waste material management
- » Provide learning resources for members and fellow students
- » Practice recycling project by collecting cans, bottles, paper or cloth
- » Organise seminars, debates, lectures and popular talks on environmental issues in the school
- » Field visits to environmentally important sites including polluted and degraded sites, sanctuaries, wildlife parks etc.
- » Organise rallies, marches, human chains and street theater at public places with a view to spread environmental awareness.
- » Action based activities like tree plantation, cleanliness drives both within and outside the school campus
- » Grow kitchen gardens, maintain vermi-composting pits, construct water-harvesting structures in school, practice paper re-cycling etc.
- » Prepare inventories of polluting sources and forward to enforcement agencies
- » Organise awareness programmes against defecation in public places, pasting posters in public places and to propagate personal hygiene habits like washing hands before meals etc.

- » Maintenance of public places like parks, gardens both within and outside the school campus
- » Mobilise action against environmentally unsound practices like garbage disposal in unauthorized places, unsafe disposal of hospital waste etc.
- » Undertake environmental management plan for schools and community.

4.2. Activities Report

- » Eco Club should prepare Activities report with photographs on monthly basis and submit to the Nodal Agency / DIMC
- » The Nodal Agency should compile Annual Activities Report for all the eco-clubs and submit to the MoEF&CC along with the U.C received from the Eco-Clubs.

5. IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF NGC IN MIZORAM

- » National Green Corps' Programme (Eco-Club), was launched in the state of Mizoram in the year 2002 with a total of 800 nos. of eco clubs initially established in Mizoram @ 100 per district.
- » Mizoram Pollution Control Board was appointed as the State Nodal Agency with its Member Secretary as the Nodal Officer to implement the scheme of NGC Programme in the state. State Steering Committee and District Committees were formed in the state.
- » Since the year of inception, the implementation of NGC program was taken up in full swing and enthusiastically by the Nodal Agency, MPCB. Trainings for Master Trainers and in-charge teachers were conducted by the Nodal Agency in partnership with the Resource Agency, CEE North East in the initial years.
- » The eco-clubs were motivated and guided to take up various environmental related activities in their schools and local areas. As a result, the program had been successfully implemented with highly positive responses from the school children in Mizoram for a number of years, since inception till date.
- » ENVIS Hub, Mizoram, hosted by MPCB has been playing a key role for ensuring the successful implementation of the NGC programme by way of coordinating with Eco-clubs in undertaking joint activities and compiling their annual activities report.
- » With the increase of upper ceiling for the formation of eco-clubs per district and with the interests shown by schools to join the programme, NGC network in the state of Mizoram has been strengthened with a total of 1890 eco clubs established as on November, 2017. Districtwise no. of eco clubs is shown in the following table.
- » As MoEF&CC has extended the programme to colleges from the year, 2017-18 @ 100 per state, 23 nos. of colleges in Mizoram have been identified for the formation of eco clubs within the year, 2017-18.

6. TABLE : NO. OF ECO-CLUBS IN MIZORAM

SI. No.	District	No. of Eco-Clubs
1	Aizawl	250
2	Lunglei	238
3	Lawngtlai	245
4	Saiha	234
5	Champhai	250
6	Serchhip	199
7	Mamit	232
8	Kolasib	242
No. of School Eco-Clubs		1890
No. of Colleges identified		23
Total		1913

7. CONTACT PERSONS IN THE NODAL AGENCY, MIZORAM

Nodal Agency	Contact Persons
<p>Mizoram Pollution Control Board, New Secretariat Complex, Thlanmual Peng, Khatla, Aizawl, Mizoram website: mpcb.mizoram.gov.in / mizervis.nic.in email: mpcb@mizoram.gov.in</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. C. Lalduhawma, Member Secretary, State Nodal Officer, NGC Ph.: 0389-2326173 email: duhawma15@yahoo.com 2. Dr. Lalrammngnaki Pachuau, Scientist 'B' i/c Officer, NGC Ph. : 9436146946 email: ramteii.mpcb@mizoram.gov.in 4. R. Zoramsangi D.E.O Assistant, NGC Ph.: 9862306823 email: asangiralte30@gmail.com



