

MoEFCC organises National Evaluation Workshop to Spotlight EIACP Scheme and Centre Achievements

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Inaugural ceremony- National Evaluation Workshop

ENVIRONMENT management has an important role in judiciously utilising natural resources and forms a backbone in maintaining sustainability in development. The aspect of environment management was strengthened by launching the Environmental Information System (ENVIS) as a planned programme in 1983. ENVIS is a widespread network setup across India for collection, collation, storage, retrieval and dissemination to different users (researchers, policy planners, research scientists, decision makers, academicians, and the public) of environmental information. India's efforts towards impactful environment management have been strengthened by forming the Environmental Information Awareness Capacity Building and Livelihood Programme (EIACP) (erstwhile ENVIS). Optimal management of the environment requires awareness, skilling, research and development in the green sector, which are considered essential components. The programme adopts its mandate from the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, wherein "Environment Research and Development, Education, Training, Information and Awareness" has been assigned to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC). The integration of nationwide efforts towards environmental conservation and management is achieved through EIACP, which uses a network of decentralised frameworks. It will

function as an inclusive platform for the dissemination of environmental information, assisting evidence-based policy formulation across varied environmental domains, and supporting alternative livelihoods through green skilling. It provides a revamped approach for MoEF&CC to create a pathway that enables stronger social connections, enhancing its effectiveness at the grassroots level.

The EIACP network consists of 54 Programme Centres, including 32 Resource Partners (RPs) working on various themes and 20 State-specific Programme Centre Hubs. The RPs focus on diverse thematic areas such as estuaries, mangroves, coral reefs and lagoons; eco-tourism; wildlife and protected area management; wildlife conservation (including species and habitats) using geospatial techniques; Himalayan ecology; climate change and public health; geo-diversity and its environmental impacts; renewable energy and climate change; avian ecology; conservation of ecological heritage and sacred sites in India, among many other fields. These RPs and hubs focus on conducting awareness campaigns, activities such as online/offline competitions, webinars, seminars, preparation of scientific publications and theme-based knowledge products under "Mission LiFE", "Ek Ped Maa ke Naam 2.0", "Sewa Parv", and on other important environment days, etc. The centres come up with various