



# Envis Nagaland



CENTRE FOR STATE  
ENVIRONMENT  
RELATED ISSUES

NAGALAND POLLUTION  
CONTROL BOARD



ENIS (Environmental  
Information System) is a  
project of the Ministry of  
Environment, Forests &  
Climate Change,  
Govt. of India

## Editorial

Humans rely on the environment for food, air, water and other resources and are in constant interaction with the environment. Most of the environmental problems that we face today whether it is air pollution, water pollution, improper waste disposal, deforestation etc are a result of anthropogenic activities. While natural processes are responsible for environmental degradation to some extent, human activities contribute greatly to the quality of the environment they live in. The issues pertaining to environmental degradation are due to negligence, lack of awareness and sometimes simply due to a careless attitude.

While policies are formulated and implemented by the government, public participation is a necessity in maintaining a clean and healthy environment. Environmental issues are best handled when citizens are involved in protection, conservation and maintaining the environment. Involvement of the community in working towards a clean and healthy environment promotes awareness among citizens and also provides a sense of responsibility among the citizens to maintain and preserve the environment they live in and interact with on a daily basis.

The present issue focuses on an initiative taken up by the Dimapur Municipal Council (DMC) under the leadership of Shri. Moa Sangtam, the then Administrator DMC, towards improving the overall environment in the city of Dimapur by involving the community. It highlights the action oriented process of creating a better environment in the city with the vision that other Municipalities or any other such organization may be informed about the practices which had successful results in improving the general environment of the city and replicate the methodologies applied wherever relevant.

## EDITORIAL TEAM

ENVIS COORDINATOR  
Dr. Keni Miachieo Member  
Secretary Nagaland Pollution  
Control Board

PROGRAMME OFFICER  
Ms Mhasizonuo Angami

IT OFFICER  
Ms Khiehnunuo Rutsa

INFORMATION OFFICER  
Mr. Limitsa S Sangtam

## A Better Dimapur initiative (Source: Dimapur municipal Council)

### introduction:

The city of Dimapur holds much prominence in many aspects and more so as the commercial hub of Nagaland. It has easier access to other parts of the country because of connectivity by road, rail and air. The city has seen much growth in population over the years with people migrating from various parts of the state as well as from outside in search of education, job opportunities, entrepreneurial ventures, health care etc. With modernization and change in lifestyle patterns, the number of vehicles and infrastructural developments taking place in the city is also increasing at a very fast pace. This has resulted in the city facing a lot of environmental problems in terms of air and water pollution, increase in the quantity and mismanagement of waste, urban deforestation and so on.

### SwACHh BhArAt ABhiyAn And "A Better Dimapur" initiative

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan or Clean India Mission is a campaign initiated by the Government of India with the objective of cleaning the cities and towns as well as the rural areas. This mission was officially launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and flagged off by the then President of

India Pranab Mukherjee on October 2, 2014 in New Delhi coinciding with the birthday of our Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi. This mission is considered as India's largest cleanliness drive.

Joining India's 'SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN' while recognizing the need to preserve the environment and thus making the city of Dimapur a clean, green and healthy city, the project called "A Better Dimapur" was initiated by the Dimapur Municipal Council with the theme "Cleaner, Greener and a Healthy Dimapur with Community Participation" and was officially launched by the then Dimapur District Deputy Commissioner Sri. Kesoryu Yhome, IAS with the aim of improving the condition of sanitation, environment and health through Community Participation and thereby improving the overall quality of life of the people of Dimapur.

### ObjectiveS of theproj ect:

The objective of the project "A Better Dimapur" is to achieve a cleaner and greener environment in the city of Dimapur with community participation. The key focus here being "community involvement" in bringing about a change. This project was conceived with the idea of installing civic sensibility among citizens and also to imbibe a sense of social responsibility in the efforts of keeping the city clean, green, healthy and hygienic.

### ABout theproj ect:

In pursuit of the objectives mentioned above, the Dimapur Municipal Council segmented the initiatives in a phase wise manner. The project which was launched on June 1, 2017 and therefore the first phase of the 'clean', 'green' and 'healthy' drive was





for six months ending November 2017 and the second phase also for another 6 months starting January 1 ending June 2018. The primary objective of having phase wise was to make assessments on the success as well as the shortcomings and apply accordingly in the second phase by ironing out all the grey areas and also refocusing on the achievements of the first phase.

### working teams & Activities Conducted under the project:

Under the project, a number of teams were involved in tackling various existing problems in the city of Dimapur. The teams involved in the project were Team Clean Dimapur, Dismantling Team, Team Green Dimapur, Team Healthy Dimapur, Act of Kindness Movement, Pro Rural and Life NGO.

The activities carried out under this project covered a variety of issues existing in the city of Dimapur and involved action-oriented programmes such as:

1. Cleanliness Drives & Installation of Dustbins along the streets
2. Donation of dustbins
3. Installation of Solar Lamps
4. Providing training in collaboration with Pro Rural NGO on kitchen waste management by adopting practices such as composting, plantation & cleanliness drives
5. Painting drives to enhance the look of the city
6. Poster campaigns
7. Door-to-door waste collection
8. Making the busy streets free of road side vendors to ease traffic congestion
9. Filling up of potholes
10. Closing dumping areas on the road sides,

declaring them “dumping free zones” and converting them into clean healthy spaces.

11. Making use of art and murals to give the town a “facelift.”
12. Construction of roads using plastic waste

All these activities were done under the guidance and supervision of the Dimapur Municipal Council by involving educational institutions, organizations, NGOs and concerned citizens who participated voluntarily and have contributed greatly in transforming Dimapur city.

### Cleanliness team of Dimapur

Team Clean Dimapur came into being in the month of March 2017. The team consists of like-minded individuals who provide free social service and strive towards making Dimapur a cleaner, healthier place to live in.

The initiative of the team started off with the distribution of portable dustbins around the commercial centre and it has attracted attention and created awareness among the public and also giving the city a major boost in terms of cleanliness. Further, seeing that the portable dustbins were not durable, the team in collaboration with the DMC fixed the durability measures by fabricating and installing metallic dustbins around the city, the funding of which was done by the DMC. The metallic dustbins being of high quality is much more durable.





One of the activities conducted by the team also included a "Cleanliness Walk" in collaboration with the Dimapur Municipal Council to commemorate its first foundation day. The event saw students from various educational institutions, civil societies and other organizations coming together for a common cause. Such activities have helped in carrying forward the message of the importance of keeping one's surroundings clean and healthy.

It is also worth mentioning that the team has done a commendable job in publicity by taking advantage of the current trend of usage of social media for creating awareness and reaching out to the public. The team frequently posts their activities and updates for conducting social work on the popular social media website Facebook and has inspired many to come forward and make a difference for the good of the community. Currently Team Clean Dimapur



has around 100 voluntary members and its works are totally voluntary and is open to any interested individual to join its fold. The team continues to spread awareness through its activities and initiatives and has gradually gained huge social media following as well.



### AeStheticS DiSmAntling teAm & teAm green DimApur:

An important aspect of achieving a healthy environment also includes maintaining the aesthetics of a place. Aesthetics undeniably forms one of the important aspects of urban experience and is a necessity to make a city a better place as it has a profound effect on the well-being of the people who live and work in it. Maintaining a good "image" of a city acts positively on population morale and also has a positive effect on visitors and tourists.

The Dismantling Team was inducted into the project by DMC on June 31, 2017 comprising of like-minded young men. Braving the various risks involved, this team has taken to the challenge of bringing down the out-dated advertisement boards, unpleasant posters and tattered signboards which were an eyesore and thus recreated a clean and smart image of the city. The resources, especially the financial, are provided by the DMC.





Another team involved with improving the aesthetics of Dimapur City is the Green Dimapur Team formed by a group of working women coming from different professions and has been actively engaged in supporting the DMC's 'A Better Dimapur' initiative. Their efforts were focused on



'cleaning and beautification drives

With challenges posed to the environment through global warming mostly caused by depletion of forest and green cover, the team's main agenda was not just to beautify the city but to increase green cover in and around the city through the plantation of tree saplings and other ornamental trees. Funded by the DMC, this team purchased golden pines and other trees and beginning with the dock tower garden they planted the saplings stretching along the road dividers. The team's aesthetic sense of planning involving planting as well as revamping old structures has given a major facelift to the image of the city.

**Citizen's Health and Welfare Team**  
**Healthy Dimapur**

'Team Healthy Dimapur' was formed through the collaboration of DMC, Chief Medical Officer's Office (CMO) and the National Vector Borne Diseases Control Programme. This team is composed of the staffs of DMC and also staffs from the medical department.

The health of the city is a major concern and especially with the growth of population and expansion of the city it has posed various challenges to the





health sector. Malaria and dengue are very common in Dimapur and this team has put themselves to the task of prevention measure through chemical control by spraying chemicals to ensure the prevention of vector borne diseases. This team brings a new dimension to the objective of 'A Better Dimapur' by giving focus to the health and well-being of the citizens.

Added to this, the team has been organizing various medical camps especially for the people who are homeless as well as for the 'less privileged' sections of the society.



### Waste Management: Ward Sanitation Committees

Beginning with August 1, 2017, the DMC has earmarked 12 vehicles exclusively for the purpose of door to door collection of household waste and in the process

ensures that not a single household is left out. To monitor and also to ensure this work is carried out effectively, the DMC formed a Ward Sanitation Committee in each ward entrusting them with the responsibility of formulating plans and also supervise the collection of waste from each household.

This household waste collection is a very relieving service for the residents. With no nearby dumping places in the colony, many residents are forced to dump their household garbage by the roadside to be picked up by the DMC garbage disposal truck. The sight of the garbage collected in poly bags and dumped by the roadside so also the nauseating stench emanating from it is not only unpleasant but also unhealthy, polluting the air and causing different kinds of diseases which only make the people vulnerable to all kinds of air and water borne diseases. Now with the door to door waste collection, the garbage is dumped in proper dumping areas thereby ensuring that the colony stays clean, hygienic and healthy.

### Act of Kindness Movement

This team was formed in 2015 through some like minded individuals with the objective of becoming responsible and to do something good for the society. Their efforts have given a clear message about building and having a sense of ownership, and at the same time encourage social responsibility and dignity of labour among the Dimapur citizens.

One of the major contributors to air pollution in Dimapur is the bad road conditions which also enhances traffic congestion. The numerous potholes and the worn out roads generates a huge amount of dust during the dry season while making it





difficult for pedestrians and motor vehicles to ply during the rainy season

Now, in collaboration with DMC, the team is continuously offering voluntary service and filling up of potholes has been a regular feature of the Act of Kindness team taking up the challenge to cover all potholes in the main city area of Dimapur. To this end, the project 'Smooth Ride for Dimapur' was launched on June 16, 2017. In this connection, DMC is offering all help through the sponsoring of all the materials and machineries while the 'Act of Kindness' team provides free social service in the form of labour. The efforts of this team has not only ensured a smooth ride in the city of Dimapur but has also eased traffic congestion. The team starts their work around 8:00 PM which mostly stretches to the wee hours of the morning around 2:30 AM.

Other activities done by this team includes the renovation of the labour room at the District Hospital Dimapur creating a cleaner and a more peaceful atmosphere. The team has also installed a Solar Plant for Govt. Primary School, Kevijau Colony and have conducted various outreach programmes and with due concern for the less privileged sections, they have conducted medical camps at orphanages

## Life (Living for environment) ngo

LiFE (Living for Environment) NGO is a Dimapur based NGO for managing the problems of recyclable and plastic waste in Dimapur. In collaboration with the Dimapur Municipal Council, it has been addressing the problems arising out of waste and the challenges of its disposal. It strives



towards bringing about a better solution for creating a 'Cleaner, Greener and Zero Waste Dimapur'. In this strain, the DMC and LiFE have implemented a waste segregation-at-source and door-to-door collection of waste from a defined location. The wastes are segregated into three categories— Dry (inorganic waste), Wet (organic waste), and Sanitary/ Bio waste (sanitary pads, diapers, hair, cotton, etc).



## pro rural ngo

Pro Rural is an NGO that focuses on environment sustainability and climatic change issues. Collaborating with the DMC under 'A Better Dimapur' initiative, a project called 'Garbage to Gold' was undertaken which is a waste management project with the objective of turning kitchen waste into fertilizer. Under this, Pro Rural has been imparting training and distributing materials.



## participation of educational institutions

The project with the core idea of community participation and to reach out to different sections of people took stock of the need to engage students in the project and so collaborated with educational institutions in the city. Christian Higher Secondary School was the first educational institute to join 'A Better Dimapur' project and also in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary since the inception of the school, the school launched the 'Clean Your Neighbourhood' initiative on August 19, 2017. On every working Saturdays the school embarks on a mission of cleaning their locality as well as the main city area.





Livingstone Foundation Higher Secondary School also joined the project understanding the need to keep the city clean so also sensitizing the students about the need to become active participants in the project of making a better Dimapur. This school has been actively engaged in clearing the city. Knowing that it is easier to litter than to clean, the school donated about one thousand dustbins to help the DMC project of 'A Better Dimapur'.

Slowly other schools and colleges also came forward with the understanding that clearing the city is the responsibility of everyone which requires a collective responsibility and at the end it is for the good of the individual as well as the community.

Further, some of the notable activities under "A Better Dimapur" Initiative are highlighted below in detail:

### **Cleanest Colony Competition:**

One of the unique features of "A Better Dimapur" initiative is the cleanest colony competition. Being a community based project and in order to create a sense of

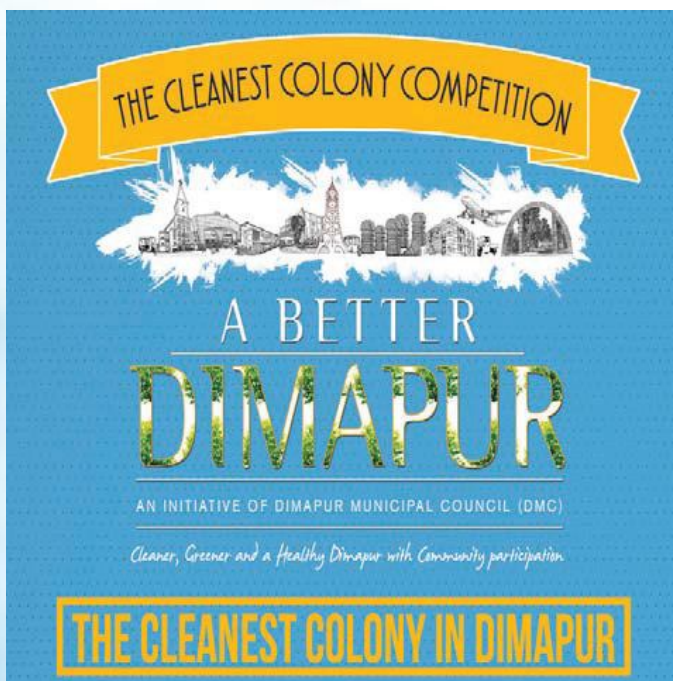
civic responsibility among the community towards this project, the municipal council initiated a competition called the 'Cleanest Colony Competition'. This competition which started in the month of July 2017 has generated a lot of responsible interest among the residents of the colonies. This competition was basically started with the objective of encouraging community participation in the efforts to keep one's surroundings clean and healthy.

The city of Dimapur has around 90 colonies spreading across 23 wards and this competition is being judged by a panel comprising of 5 members – One member from the District Administration and four from among the civil societies. The judgement is based on six criteria: Garbage management, drainage management, stagnant water, road maintenance, sanitation, and colony community participation. The competition is being held each month and the winner is declared subsequently and is awarded a cash prize of Rs One Lakh while the 1st and 2nd Runners Up are awarded Rs 30,000/- and Rs 20,000/- respectively.

Since the start of this competition, members of the various colonies have been greatly encouraged and have participated well in their efforts towards 'A Better Dimapur'. More so, it has also instilled not only a sense of competitive spirit but also the need to keep one's surroundings clean and healthy.

### **Conversion of Dump Sites**

One of the initiatives under the "A Better Dimapur" project is the closing of ugly garbage dumping areas and converting them into pleasant looking environment friendly spaces. Colourful paintings,





murals and sculptures done by talented local artists adorn the walls of these spaces thus transforming the sites and giving an aesthetic appeal to the entire look of the city.

To cite a few examples of transformation of public spaces, the area near along the main road in Duncan Basi used to be filled with garbage but has now been converted into a beautiful space with murals of Naga shawls painted along its walls. A symbolic tree called “existence” constructed out of metal scraps and made by a local artist also stands in the middle adding to the beauty of the place. Another example of such transformation of landscape has been done at supply colony which consists of a waiting shed and two gigantic hands sculpted out of metal.



Before & After  
project Area:  
Duncan road



Before & After  
project Area:  
Supply Colony







Before & After  
project Area:  
Chakhe Sang Colony

### plASTiC roADS: An innovAtive methoD in mAnAgement of plASTiC wASTe



Plastics have become an integral part of our lives due to its easy availability, lightweight, durability besides other benefits. But due to its rampant usage and widespread littering and the fact that it is non-biodegradable, it has now become an environmental hazard worldwide. The Dimapur Municipal Council has been managing the plastic waste as per the Plastic waste management rules, 2016. However in order to further curb the plastic menace in Dimapur, the DMC addressed the issue of plastic waste along with LiFE NGO in

December 2017, to tackle the plastic waste by reusing them in road construction.

Earlier, the Nagaland Pollution Control Board had constructed a polymer bitumen road in its office premises by making use of plastic waste which was found to be more durable than others. Hence, with technical assistance from the Nagaland Pollution Control Board, the first DMC plastic road measuring 50X16ft was laid down at the DMC premises, in which 15 kgs of plastic waste were used, ranging from polybags, plastic sheets, multilayered plastics and thermocol. The plastic waste utilized for the road construction was collected by LiFE since 2016 which they had cleaned and stored it. The second plastic road was a joint venture between DMC and Vipe Enterprise, with LiFE as the implementing agency at Duncan Basti, Dimapur. It is the first plastic road in a National Highway in Nagaland with 139X30ft and additional 15X10ft from 3rd-5th February, 2018.



## nAgAI AnDgovernment impoSeStotAl BAn on Singl euSepI AStiCS-A CruDAl Step towArDSABetter environment:

*In continuation to the State Government's Notification dated 29.11.2018 on the "Policy for Restricting the Use of Plastics in Nagaland", the Nagaland Government has imposed a total ban on single-use plastics in the entire state of Nagaland vide notification No.UDD/7-GEN/07-PWM/2018 dated Kohima the 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 with a view to eradicate the menace of plastic and the serious environmental and ecological challenges posed by the rampant use of plastics which is to come into effect after 3 (three) months from the date of publication in the Official Gazette. The notification was issued with the approval of the State cabinet in its meeting held on 10.06.2019 and communicated via OM No CAB-2/2013(Pt) dated 12.06.2019*

*The notification states that any individual, institution/commercial establishment (educational institutions of colleges, hotels, shops, restaurants, religious institutions, industrial establishments, banquet halls etc) shall abide by the total ban and any breach shall be liable for penalties. The District Administration/Local Bodies shall decide and levy penalties against defaulters in their jurisdiction. District Task Forces constituted in each district shall strictly monitor and function as squads for vigilance purpose and ensure total ban on stocking, distribution, selling and use of all single-use plastics, the notification also mentioned.*

## outComeSof theprojecT:

The various initiatives and activities done under "A Better Dimapur" Initiative through the administrative leadership of Dimapur Municipal Council (DMC) has brought about significant changes in Dimapur city. It has also given a clear message to the people about the importance of mass participation in the goal of keeping their city Clean, Green and Healthy.

A lot of transformation has happened under 'A Better Dimapur' project as it was not only awareness based but also action oriented. It saw the coming together of various teams, organizations and institutions and a greater awareness has been created among the masses that have come out with a sense of moral responsibility as a step towards community participation in the efforts to keep the city of Dimapur Clean, Green and Healthy. Community Participation based activities such as the Cleanest Colony competition has contributed greatly in spreading awareness among citizens about the importance of keeping their homes and their surroundings neat and clean. It has not only instilled a sense of competitive spirit but has also taken community participation to greater heights.

Another positive outcome of the project is that, various institutions and organizations have come forward to "adopt" and maintain the renovated sites and for the beautification of certain stretches of roads and streets in different areas of Dimapur. Overall, "A Better Dimapur" Initiative has shown exemplary results in terms of community participation and mass awareness which only needs to grow wider in order to combat the challenges ahead of keeping the city clean, green and healthy.



Officials of ENVIS Hub Nagaland with Shri.  
Moa Sangtam, Administrator, Dimapur  
Municipal Council on 04.09.2019

All queries and feedback regarding this Newsletter can be addressed to  
Dr. Kensi Miachieq, Member Secretary, Nagaland Pollution Control Board & ENVIS  
Coordinator, ENVIS Hub, Nagaland  
Address: Signal Point, Dimapur-797112, Nagaland  
Email: [ngcnagaland@yahoo.com](mailto:ngcnagaland@yahoo.com)