



**DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
ST. EDMUND'S COLLEGE, SHILLONG**

BRIEF HISTORY AND CURRENT STATUS OF THE DEPARTMENT

Environmental Science is an integral part of learning. The protection of the environment today is the concern of people all around the world. Ecological challenges are growing in every part of the earth, whether regions are developed or developing. In different regions around the world, deforestation, land degradation, pollution of water bodies etc. are some of the central features of environmental crisis. Therefore, our future generation should be geared towards environmental protection and be exposed to greater awareness to face these challenges.

Environmental Science today is a growing discipline and has emerged as an important field of study. The Department of Environmental Science, St. Edmund's College, was established in the year 2006 by the then Principal Bro. E.V. Miranda. The department started with two faculty members including Dr. Jasmine T. Sawian, who taught Environmental Studies to the third year degree students of the college. In the following year, the Department was approved by the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong to start an Honours course and was then formally inaugurated in June 2007, with Prof. P.R. Dutta (from the Geography Dept.) becoming the first HOD; and Ms. I. Rynjah also joining the department on that year.

The department was established keeping in mind the following aims and objectives.

- To acquire awareness and sensitivity to the total environment and its allied problems. To consider environment in its totality (natural, artificial, technological, ecological, moral and aesthetics)
- To acquire skills for identifying environmental problems; and discover the symptoms and root cause of environmental degradation.
- To attain knowledge on the conservation and management of natural resources.
- To evaluate environmental measures and education programmes in terms of social, ecological and aesthetic factors.
- To foster attitudes and participation in various environmental issues; to promote cooperation in solving problems.

Presently the department is headed by Dr. Jasmine T. Sawian, along with a qualified and experienced staff of five members comprising of Ms. Iasylloklang Rynjah, Ms. Larihun Jeengaph, Ms. Michelle Khongwir, Mr. Damewanmi Suchiang and Mr. Emidaoopaya Sumer. The Department was established with the aim of imparting, to the students of the region, awareness and knowledge about the environment, skills to identify the problems associated with it and to foster attitudes and participation in various environmental issues.

Besides the conventional mode of teaching via lecture, assignment method, field trips, guest lecturers, etc., the department is also involved in other modern methods of teaching using the latest technology. The department encourages the use of LCD – PowerPoint, OHP, screening of documentaries, exposure trips, project work all of which will give the student a more in depth understanding of the subject.

STAFF PROFILE

Sl.No.	Name	Qualification	Specialization	Year of Joining
1	Dr. Jasmine T. Sawian	M.Sc. (Ecology and Environmental Science), NET, Ph.D.	Pollution Ecology	2006
2	Ms. Iasyloklang Rynjah	M.Sc. (Ecology and Environmental Science), NET	Environmental Pollution	2007
3	Ms. Larihun Jeengaph	M.Sc. (Ecology and Environmental Science)	Ecology and Management of Forest and Agricultural Biodiversity	2008
4	Ms. Michelle Khongwir	M.Sc. (Biochemistry), B.Ed, NET	Environmental Biochemistry	2009
5	Mr. Damewanmi Suchiang	M.Sc. (Ecology and Environmental Science), NET	Forest Management and Agricultural Management	2010
6	Mr. Emida-oo-paya Sumer	M.Sc. (Environmental Science), NET	Remote Sensing and G.I.S.	2011

MEMORIAL LECTURE

The memorial lecture is held every alternate year by the Department in Memory of (L) Valentine Richard Miranda and (L) Marjorie Miranda, the parents of our former Principal, Bro. E.V. Miranda.

1st Memorial Lecture delivered by Prof. B.K. Tiwari, HOD, Department of Environmental Studies, NEHU on the Topic “Forest and the People of Meghalaya” on 8th December, 2010.

3rd Memorial Lecture delivered by Dr. R. Gurung, Asst. Engineer, Central Pollution Control Board, Shillong on the topic “Solid Waste Management in Meghalaya” on 31st July, 2012.

5th Memorial Lecture delivered by Mr. Brain Daly Kharpran, Founder, Meghalaya Adventurer’s Association on the topic “Caves and their mysterious secrets” on 26th August, 2014.

7th Memorial Lecture delivered by Dr. Andrew C. Lyngdoh, Director, Indian Meteorological Department, Government of India on the topic “Understanding Earthquakes” on 3rd December, 2016.

List of eminent academicians and scientists/visitors to the Department:

Name	Date	Activity
Mr. Carmo Naronha, Bethany Society	20 th July 2009	Lecture on ‘Vermicomposting’ organized by the Department of Environmental Science.
Prof. B.K. Tiwari, Department of Environmental Studies, NEHU	8 th December 2010	Memorial lecture on ‘Forest and the People of Meghalaya’ organized by the Department of Environmental Science.
CMS Vatavaran Awardee Shri S. Khongsit	5 th June 2011	World Environment Day lecture on ‘Ecological services of forests’ organized by the Department of Environmental Science.
Dr. R. Gurung, Asst. Engineer, Central Pollution Control Board, Shillong	31 st July 2012	Memorial lecture on ‘Solid Waste Management in Meghalaya’ organized by the Department of Environmental Science.
Mr. Brain Daly Kharpran, Founder, Meghalaya Adventurer’s Association, Shillong	26 th August 2014	5 th “Memorial Lecture in Memory of (L) Valentine Richard Miranda and Marjorie Miranda” on the topic “ Caves and their mysterious secrets. ”
Prof.SARPV Chaturvedi, Founder and Managing Trustee, Sri Ramanujan Mission Trust, Chennai	22 nd April 2016	Presidential address and introduction on the theme “ Healing Our Planet – Eco-sensitivity and Remediation ” of the International Workshop organized by the Department of Environmental Science in collaboration with Ramanujan Mission Trust, Chennai and Indian Association of Health, research and Welfare
Ms. Souheavy Srey, Director of the Alliance for Conflict Transformation (ACT), Cambodia,	22 nd April 2016	Lecture on the social issues, conflicts and environmental problems in Cambodia at the International Workshop on the theme “ Healing Our Planet – Eco-sensitivity and Remediation ” organized by the Department of Environmental Science in collaboration with Ramanujan Mission Trust, Chennai and Indian Association of Health, research and Welfare
Cynthia Carvajal, founder, Ocean Lifetime, Texas, USA	22 nd April 2016	Presentation on “Reclamation of Corals in the Oceans” at the

		International Workshop on the theme “ Healing Our Planet – Eco-sensitivity and Remediation ” organized by the Department of Environmental Science in collaboration with Ramanujan Mission Trust, Chennai and Indian Association of Health, research and Welfare.
Shri Ranjan Chatterjee, IAS (Retd.), Expert Member, National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi	23 rd May, 2016	A Popular Lecture on “ Clean and Green India-North East perspective ” jointly organized by the Department of Chemistry and Department of Environmental Science, St. Edmund’s College under the sponsorship of the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. Of India, New Delhi
Dr. Z. Changsan, Zonal Officer, CPCB, Shillong	7 th June 2016	Keynote address on the occasion of World Environment Day celebration with a theme “ Zero tolerance for illegal wildlife trade ”
Dr. S. K. Dutta, Scientist D, CPCB	7 th June 2016	Presentation on poaching of wildlife and issues with rat hole mining in Meghalaya on the occasion of World Environment Day celebration with a theme “ Zero tolerance for illegal wildlife trade ”
Mr. W.R. Kharkrang, MSBCB, Shillong	7 th June 2016	Presented a thought provoking speech on civic sense on the occasion of World Environment Day celebration with a theme “ Zero tolerance for illegal wildlife trade ”.
Dr. Andrew .C. Lyngdoh, Director, Indian Meteorological Department, Government of India	3 rd December 2016	Guest Speaker on the topic “ Understanding Earthquakes ” on the occasion of the 7 th Memorial Lecture in memory of (L) Valentine Richard Miranda and (L) Marjorie Miranda
Mr. Phrang Roy, Chairman NESFAS, Shillong	3 rd April 2017	Talk on the topic “ <i>Rethinking on the future we want</i> ” organized by the Department of Environmental Science, St. Edmund’s College, Shillong
Dr. D. Paul, Professor, NEHU	22 nd March, 2017	Chief Guest Speaker on the occasion of World Water Day, 2017, organized by Walk for Water in collaboration Department of Environmental Science, St.

		Edmund's College, RED FM, Meghalaya Futurity Society.
Ritu Raj Phukan, Walk for Water	22 nd March, 2017	Presentation on the occasion of World Water Day, 2017, organized by Walk for Water in collaboration Department of Environmental Science, St. Edmund's College, RED FM, Meghalaya Futurity Society.

AWARDS

Each year, two awards are given to the students of the Department of Environmental Science, St. Edmund's College, Shillong, instituted in the memory of Late Mr. Valentine Richard Miranda. The first is an award, which is given to the topper in Environmental Science from the college in the Degree (Honours) University Examination. The second award is given to a final year student of the college who has been most environmentally friendly.

The “**(L) Valentine Richard Miranda Award**” for the topper (over 60 %) in Environmental Science

Year	Recipient	Percentage
2010	Chingiasiam	73.88
2011	Lydia Charrisa Lapang	75.00
2012	Reuben M. Shabong	75.63
2013	Phrankupar Langstieh	76.38
2014	Ibahunshisha Nongphud	74.88
2015	Anuradha Rai	84.00
2016	Saghamitra Nidhi Dutta	73.33

The “**Most Environmentally Friendly**” Award exhibiting care and concern to the environment around

Year	Recipient
2010	Damutskhem Nongkynrih
2011	AlbinusLamo
2012	Auspicious Lyngdoh Knight Marbaniang

2013	Wanbanri Dolloi
2014	Blessa Ch Momin
2015	Kerlang Khonglam
2016	Arbanki Sungoh



Ms. Dayomika Rhoda Kharsyntiew (B.Sc. Env. Science; Batch of 2014) receiving the NSS President's Gold medal Volunteer ship award on 19th November, 2013

- **Ms. Dayomika Rhoda Kharsyntiew** received the **State Level NSS best volunteer award** on 24th September, 2012.
 - **Ms. Dayomika Rhoda Kharsyntiew** received the **IGNSS (Indira Gandhi NSS) President's Gold medal Volunteership award** on 19th November, 2013.
 - **Ms. Dayomika Rhoda Kharsyntiew** received the "**Parmeshwari Devi Bajaj award for all round excellence 2013**".

 - **Arundeeep Singha** and **Adizo Khezha** (B.Sc. 2nd yr.) secured the 3rd position in the Model Exhibition (Life Science) in the "Science Mela EdScientia-2014" on 21st and 22nd October, 2014.
 - **Jagamesa Ch. Momin** and **Anushri Paul** (B.Sc. 3rd yr.) secured 1st Runner-up in the Inter-College Quiz Competition during the World Environment Day Celebration organized by Department of Botany, Lady Keane College on 4th June, 2016.
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