

Swachhta Hi Sewa* programme conducted at *Naya Basti, Pangthang, Sikkim

Swacchta Hi Sewa (Cleanliness is Service) campaign was conducted on 01 October 2017 at Nay Basti, Pangthang, Gangtok by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India in association with GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development (GBPNIHESD) and Botanical Survey of India (BSI). The programme initiated with the warm welcome of all participants. The importance of *Swachhta Hi Sewa* campaign for creating awareness about the cleanliness among the citizens was highlighted. The participants were briefed about the initiation of campaign at country level and the role of the Government of India in conducting the programme. The activities during the programme commenced with the Green Pledge administered by the villagers, Officials from Sikkim Armed Police, GBPNIHESD and BSI. Afterwards, cleanliness drive was conducted in and around the village *Naya Basti, Panthang, Sikkim* with great enthusiasm by the villagers, Government officials, students and researchers. Live demonstration of segregation procedure of the collected waste was given to the villagers. Collected waste was segregated into biodegradable and non-degradable portions. Mechanism was demonstrated to dispose the segregated waste into pits. Dustbins were also distributed to the villagers to segregate and collect the waste at the point of generation. Subsequently, plantation of *Rhododendron medinii*, tissue culturally grown in the laboratory of GBPNIHESD was done at the campus of Sikkim Armed Police. A total of about 70 participants actively took part in the campaign. At last, participants were thanked for showing the great enthusiasm for making the programme successful.



