

Name of the Centre : **ENVIS Centre on “Environmental Education”**

Host Organisation : **Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Ahmedabad, Gujarat**

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Year of Establishment : **1991-92**

About Host Organisation

Centre for Environment Education (CEE), is a national institute established in 1984 at Ahmedabad to develop programs and materials to create awareness about the environment. The Centre is supported by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India and associated with Nehru Foundation for Development. CEE's primary objective is to improve public awareness and understanding of environmental issues with a view to promote the conservation and wide use of nature and natural resources.

Activities of the Centre

The main activities of the Centre are to select, collect, organize and disseminate authentic information on Environment Education (EE). The Centre supports environmental educators and communicators to develop and deliver more effective, innovative, scientific and locale-specific EE programmes. It promotes information exchange among ENVIS Centres. CEE-Library and Documentation Centre (LDC) plays a significant role in the selection, acquisition, organisation and dissemination of materials pertaining to EE and related areas. It provides information services to CEE staff, participants in CEE's national and international training programmes, professionals/researchers involved in EE from Government Organizations, NGOs, and other institutions. As an important ENVIS function, CEE-LDC also conducts a six-month "Internship Programme in Librarianship and Documentation (TLD)" for postgraduates in Library and Information Science, to enhance their capacities for functioning professionally in specialized library environments.

ENVIS Publications

○ ENVIS Newsletter

- ◆ **NEWS EE** is a bimonthly ENVIS newsletter of CEE published since 1994, on EE initiatives and on websites relevant to EE. It goes to all ENVIS centres and currently to over 2,000



individuals and agencies working in environmental education, communication and sustainable development. Two special Hindi issues were brought out with ENVIS support in 1999-2000.

○ **Publications**

- ◆ CEE develops books and other print and non-print material for a wide variety of audiences, ranging from schoolchildren to decision makers.
- ◆ As part of its ENVIS activities CEE has developed a number of information products. These are:
 - ◆ Environmental Education Initiatives in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra: A Directory (1999)
 - ◆ NGOs in Environmental Education in Northeast India: A Directory (1997).
 - ◆ Environmental Education Initiatives in South India: A Directory (1997).
 - ◆ Northeast India — The Environment: A Bibliography (1996).

Services

○ **Query Answer Services**

- ◆ The areas in which queries are received frequently are Environmental Education/ Education for Sustainable Development, Solid Waste Management, Rainwater Harvesting, Biomedical Waste Management, Industrial Waste Management and Cleaner Production, and Biodiversity. During 2002, the Centre responded to nearly 600 Indian and over 50 international queries.

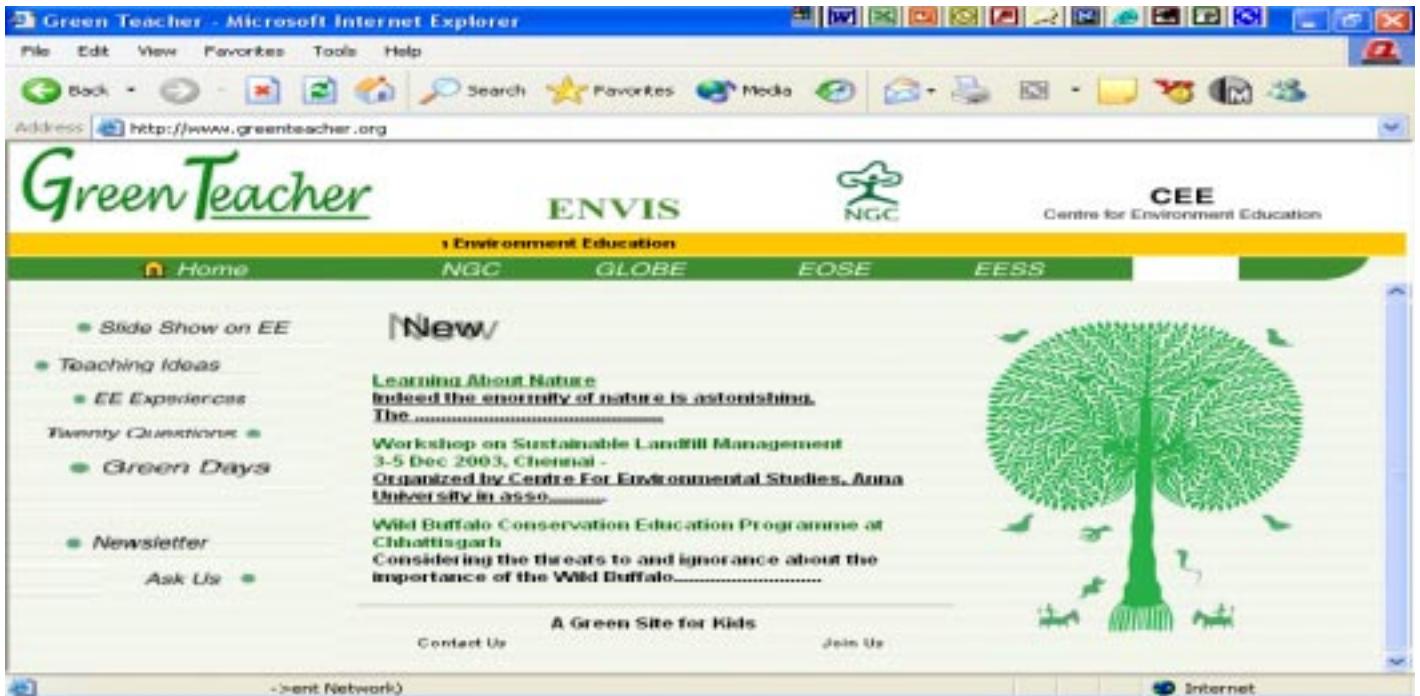
○ **Library and Documentation Centre (LDC)**

- ◆ The Centre has a collection of about 15,000 books, maps, charts, posters, bound volumes of periodicals and other print material, as well as AV and other non-print materials, on EE and related subjects. It subscribes to 135 journals. CEE-LDC receives environmental news from various agencies which it compiles and forwards electronically to CEE staff members, and to others who are interested. Information products such as bibliographies on specific subject areas, and directories in anticipation of as well as in response to demands from users, are also compiled. Besides serving in-house needs, CEE-LDC also caters to outside institutions and individuals. It is an institutional member of ADINET (Ahmedabad Library Network). With ENVIS grants and support from other sources, it is computerizing its functions. Several databases have been created and maintained over the years with the help of WINISIS, a bibliographic DBMS developed by UNESCO.

CEE's Website (<http://www.greenteacher.org>)

- The website contains information on National Green Corps (NGC), Global Learning and Observations

to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE), Scheme for Environmental Orientation to School Education (EOSE), Environmental Education in School System (EESS), National Environment Education Programme in Schools (NEEPS), slide show on Environmental Education: What, why and How..., EE experiences and teaching ideas, listing of green days of the year, a database of environmental videos etc.



Future Plans

- To progressively integrate the Query-Answer Service into a web-based mode.
- To develop a special website of CEE-LDC and link it to the CEE's ENVIS website to enable it to serve a wider user base.
- To explore the potential of the ENVIS Centre for EE through distance-learning.
- To network with other ENVIS centres to form a wider constituency for EE.