

## Preface

*This era has been observing and experiencing several global efforts towards the key facet of Environment, and that is **Protection**, in whatever small or big way possible. One such effort by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India is to bring out State of Environment Report (SoER) for all States and Union Territories of the country on a regular basis, under which, the Sikkim State Department of Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management is proud to issue first of its kind for the state of Sikkim.*

*This report focuses on providing information on key issues of environment, such as, Wildlife & Biodiversity, Water Resources, Soils, Wetlands, Forest Cover, Medicinal Plant Resources, Farm Resources, Environmental Pollution, and several Government Initiatives on Environment. It tries to bring forth the need for adopting the path of sustainable development rigorously by both, the people and the Government. It hopes to break the inertia inherent in societies by raising their information level about the current state of their Environment. This report highlights issues that warrant immediate remedial measures and prompt towards positive action.*

*In today's world, information is a key for any developmental activities. Sound, reliable and timely information can ensure comprehensive environmental management and promote sound development. Keeping these issues in mind, this report has been prepared to enhance our noble thought towards safer and prosperous future.*

**Team**