

KOHIMA COLLEGE KOHIMA

PROJECT ON

A REPORT ON FOREST CONSERVATION

NAME = ATENLI THONGI

CLASS = 5TH SEMESTER

SUBJECT = EVS

ROLL NO = 23

SECTION = A

SUBMITTED TO:-

MEDOSENO GENEVIEVE THAPO
Environment Department

Report on forest conservation in Sendenyo village

By Atenli Thong

24th September, 2021

Kohima, Nagaland.

Sendenyo is a village in Tseminyu Tehsil in Kohima District of Nagaland state, India. It is located 28 km towards North from district headquarter Kohima. Sendenyo's pin code is 797109 and postal head office is Tseminyu. The total area of the village is 8059 km with about 70 percent of the inhabitants are farmers by occupation.

Sendenyo village has turned itself into a bio-diversity conservation and eco-tourism destination of Nagaland. The village is recognised not only in the state and the country as a tourism destination but it is also included in the world map of biodiversity conservation.

Alarmed by the rapidly disappearing floral and faunal populations within a span of a generation due to excessive hunting, logging and jhum cultivation, the villagers felt the need to take drastic steps to preserve and protect the biological diversity of the village.

Conservation efforts and enforcement of rules in the village protected area and other community land have today resulted in the return of a diversity of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and flora that had once disappeared.

The village conserves about 23 sq kms of the forest around the village. The village has imposed a ban on hunting, felling of trees or any other activities which harms the flora and fauna within this area. The village's avid efforts in conservation which spans for the last 15 years has reportedly seen visible migration and increase in the flora and fauna even in the neighbouring village areas where until the recent past, were almost thought to have gone extinct.

The Sendenyo village's community conservation efforts have caught attention from environmentalists outside the state as its community Biodiversity and wildlife conservation committee was honoured with the Annual Balipara Foundation Award 2016. The award was received by the Chairman of the committee, G. Thong, at a convention held under the aegis of Eastern Himalayan Naturenomics Forum 2016 in Guwahati.

All wildlife enthusiasts, environmentalists and photographers delight to enjoy a weekend without much trekking and easy to reach the Bio Reserve which is approximately 17km from National Highway 61. Community Forest guards are perfect guides to show the places around and identify the right spot for your indulgence.

Villagers have taken up plantation of trees to attract birds, and have fenced off part of the area to prevent grazing. The protection committee has taken up a number of activities which includes regular monitoring of the prohibitions, plantations of fruits and trees to attract birds, fencing of some vulnerable areas, erecting sign boards about the rules and regulations for the sanctuary.

It is also noted that within the perimeters of the Bio Reserve forest lays the almost forgotten Parashen wherein 60 years ago on March 22 1956, the Naga National Council president declared the formation of Federal Republic of Nagaland and hoisted the Naga National flag.

The most interesting feature of the whole trip is the Nsonji lake with its tall legends and the most magical view at sunset and this one can enjoy camping around the lake. Adding a new leaf to the village's feather, Nagaland's rural development department inaugurated the rejuvenated Nsonji Lake project under MGNREGS in the village recently, the credit was given for the success of the project to the patience and unity of the community.

According to the villagers, protection measures are quite strong because youth are involved in protection. The extent of protection is obvious from the fact that in normally silent surroundings, as soon as one enters the reserved area the ears are filled with a cacophony of birdcalls. In the absence of any assessments and studies either by the village community or outsiders, it is difficult to understand the exact impact of the conservation effort.

The success of the Sendeny Community Biodiversity Reserve in Nagaland as a model worthy of replication across India is due to the vision to preserve and protect the rich biological heritage of the community by the villagers.