

Name of the Centre : **ENVIS Center on “Panjayati Raj and Environment”**

Host Organisation : **Indian Environmental Society (IES), Delhi**

Contact Person :

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Year of establishment : **1997**

About Host Organisation

Indian Environment Society (IES) was established in 1972. IES works in close collaboration with national and state level government department as well as a host of voluntary and non-governmental agencies. The goal is to provide developmental frameworks that are ecologically sound, self sustaining and equitable in their distribution of resources and opportunity. IES has set up five Regional Nodes in three states of the country.

Activities of the Centre

IES collects, collates, compiles, processes and analyzes information on Panchayati Raj and Environment for the purpose of dissemination. A number of reports, documents and monographs are published by the Society. The reports of conferences, workshops, follow up activities and research studies are published and distributed among interested Organizastions.

ENVIS Publications

ENVIS Newsletter

- IES has been publishing ENVIS Newsletter, ‘Panchayat’, since 1997. It is a quarterly publication and has articles on current topics, success stories, news from print media.

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- ◆ Our Environment, 2002, Indian Environment Society, Vikas Marg, Shakarpur – Delhi, Ms. Reena Ahuja, Ms. Arti Kaushik, Ms. Sunita Sharma.
- ◆ Jal hi Jeevan, 2002, Indian Environment Society, Vikas Marg, Shakarpur – Delhi, Ms. Ansuiya Gautam, Ms. Reena Ahuja
- ◆ Hamara Paryavaran, 2001, Indian Environment Society, Vikas Marg, Shakarpur – Delhi, Dr. R.K Garg, Dr. Desh Bandhu
- ◆ Wetland Conservation, 2001, Indian Environment Society, Vikas Marg, Shakarpur – Delhi, Dr. Desh Bandhu, Mr. K. Guha

Services

○ **Abstracting Services**

- ◆ The service is provided and will be continued. The information selection and storage are ideally suited to meet demands of user group.

○ **NEWS Retrieval Services**

- ◆ The Centre collects latest reviews, articles, related to the initiatives taken by government, ministers' etc. through the newspapers, internet, magazines etc. The information collected can be accessed from the centre by filling up the query form and specifying the requirement.

○ **Query Answer Services**

- ◆ The ENVIS centre responds to various requests for information from several user groups on the subject of "Panchayati Raj and Environment". The centre also responds to a number of queries from users of outside countries through its query form. During the year, on an average 250-300 queries are answered. Major subjects in the queries are environmental awareness, pollution and waste, environment and development.

IES Website (<http://www.iespanchayat.org>)

- The society has developed a website on "Panchayati Raj and Environment" for providing a quick access to its various stakeholders to the information on the theme. The website of the centre on Panchayati Raj and environment contains information collected from various primary and secondary sources on diverse subjects such as status of Panchayati Raj and environment, elections, powers, finance, profile of Panchayats, watershed management, rainwater harvesting, joint forest management etc.



Future Plans

- The Center will regularly update the website with the required information and continuously develop the comprehensive database on various panchayat bodies in all the states/Union Territories of the country.
- Information exchange network with NGOs, Rural Development Agencies, Ministry etc. will be strengthened
- The resource repository with latest publications, databases and journals on the thematic area will be regularly updated...
- "Panchayat", Newsletter of the Centre will continue. The centre plans to focus on specific issues of "Panchayati Raj and Environment" in its each volume. Some of the issues decided to be taken up this year are water scarcity in Panchayats, social forestry and forest management.
- Book on Women and Panchayat & Success Stories of Panchayat (Under preparation)