

involvement of school level children in the All India level essay competition on environmental issues is a step in the right direction.

The topics are: 1) Science, Society and Environment. 2) My view of world in 2000 A.D. if environment is not protected. 3) Role of water management in our life. 4) How students can propagate environment awareness. 5) Role of tree plantation in protection and 6) Wild life-our heritage.

'Role of tree plantation' seems to be the choice of many with 460 entries followed by 374 essays on 'Wildlife', 104 on 'Science, Society and Environment' and 98 on the topic 'My view of the world in 2000 A.D.'. Interestingly, only 24 have chosen to write on the 'Role of water management'. This reveals to a certain extent that this has something to do with the emphasis on the aspects of treeplanting and wildlife. The holistic approach to environment is still to be understood by a vast majority of the populace.

The majority have chosen to write in the English language (721) with 259 in Hindi. Marathi, Bengali and Urdu have only 8, 2 and 2 contributors respectively. Kashmiri, Assamese, Sanskrit and Sindhi languages are not represented.

Regionwise, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Tamilnadu, Delhi and Karnataka have the largest number of entries in that order. Tamilnadu has carried away the maximum number of prizes followed by Bihar and Andhra Pradesh. Whether this indicates a better con-

cern and awareness of the environment in these states is difficult to judge.

The contents of the essays indicate a considerable effort by young authors to get at interesting facts, like 'colonel Pollock, a military engineer, shot a rhino or buffalo for breakfast almost everyday'. 'Villagers of Jangira, South of Bombay went out and killed 200 cheetahs and paraded their kill to celebrate India's first Independence day'.

There are some amusing statements too, like 'The Kaziranga sanctuary shelters the one-horned rhinoceros, one of the world's rarest and *peculiar monsters*' and '*Four horned* antelope is the only antelope with, *four horns* in the world today'!

The Department of Environment is to be complemented in bringing out this volume which goes a long way in bringing out an awareness of the environment in children to think of a better tomorrow. Perhaps in the future years, children may be encouraged to take up specific case studies on environment aspects and present their findings. This would orient them towards the solutions to environmental problems.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

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Further information may be had from Dr Josef Wustelt, Editor-in-Chief, JENA REVIEW, VEB Carl Zeiss Jena, DDR-6900 Jena, Carl-Zeiss-Str. 1 German Democratic Republic.