Green Wave initiative involving schools to celebrate International Day for Conservation of Biological Diversity

RCE Chandigarh mobilized more than 5500 schools other institutions to participate in the Green wave programme on the occasion of celebration of International Day for Conservation of Biological Diversity. Green Wave is a global biodiversity campaign to educate children and youth about biodiversity through a tree planting event. Punjab State Council for Science & Technology (PSCST) took initiative to plant medicinal saplings in its office complex on this occasion involving other RCE Partners. Entire staff of the organization actively participated to plant five saplings of *Emblica officinalis* - an important medicinal plant known for its rich vitamin-C contents. An awareness lecture on the importance of biodiversity, significance of plants in terms of medicinal values, the green wave initiative and need of plantation to green the mother earth was organized on this occasion. Participants appreciated the efforts of the Council and pledged to plant trees and conserve biodiversity. It was a unique and motivational experience.

Dr. Neelima Jerath, Executive Director, PSCST planting *Emblica officinalis* in the office complex along with the PSCST staff during the Green Wave campaign on 22.05.14.
A large number of schools covered under National Green Corps & National Environment Awareness Campaign programmes actively participated in the ‘Green Wave’ campaign at the instance of PSCST where students, teachers took initiative to plant the native trees in their respective schools at sharp 10:00 am on 22nd May' 2014 and posted photographs of the event on the website [www.greenwave.cbd.int](http://www.greenwave.cbd.int). The website map reveals that maximum participation in ‘Green Wave’ in India was by Punjab as compared to other states. Snapshots of the same are as under: