

# SIKKIM REPORTER

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*Sikkim a peaceful  
Himalayan State*

*Striving to become a  
model in the country*



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NEWS

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## **Picture of the week**



**Flower Show in Namchi  
Mahotsav**

## Climate change should couple with energy independence: Kalam

Mumbai: Former President A P J Abdul Kalam does not foresee any positive outcome from the Copenhagen climate change dialogue stating that nations should realise that energy security should be a part of the climate change policy for a meaningful result.

Speaking to newsmen on the sidelines of "Vishwa 2009", an international conference to promote eco-friendly business solutions, he said "Climate change should be an integral part of a energy policy framework." Every country should realise this, he said, adding that without energy independence one cannot tackle problems posed by climate change.

Dr Kalam said 30 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere through burning of fossil fuels through various modes including transportation.

Referring to India, Dr Kalam said the country should go in for nuclear power and other sources of alternate energy such as solar, wind and biofuel to cut carbon dioxide emissions.

He also said during the next two to three years the country should implement a massive tree plantation drive of planting one billion trees. This was a positive way to reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere as each tree absorbs 24 kg of carbon dioxide in a year and lets out 10 kg of oxygen. The three-day event, where various eco-friendly business solutions and sustainable solutions for a greener and cleaner tomorrow would be discussed, was started in a unique way with a Vyahrti homa. The former President, who was declared the first recipient of the Viswa Award, politely declined the offer and said it should be provided to a grassroot organisation which promoted eco-friendly solutions. (Agencies)