

NRCO team rescued orchids from cut down trees

Orchids are known for their fascinating and variegated life forms, peculiar floral character and colour. Sikkim has 560 orchid species with high orchid index and diversity of species. The trees in the forest region along NH710A homes several species of epiphytic orchids. The road widening project on the NH710A necessitated the cut down of trees aside of the road which forces the loss of orchids associated with those trees. ICAR-NRCO team lead by Dr. Rampal, Director, ICAR - NRC for Orchids, Pakyong rescued orchid plants from the trees cut down on NH710A from Pakyong to Andheri Bridge. 1200 plants of 18 orchid species comprising various genera, Cymbidium, Dendrobium, Aerides, Bulbophyllum, Agrostophyllum, Vanda, Eria and Coelogyne were collected from different spots along Pakyong to Andheri Bridge. These orchid species were made due entry in the passport proforma of the institute. Samples of each species were placed under conservation house and the excess plants were placed on different trees within the campus area for conservation.

