

# **Earth Day 2017 Campaign Launched**

**14<sup>th</sup> March-2017**

Earth Day 2017 campaign was launched today at North East Diocesan Social Service Society at a function participated by Directors and key functionaries of 15 NGOs of North East. The Campaign was jointly organised by the Earth Day Network India, a Global NGO, North East Diocesan Social Service Society (NEDSSS) and Centre for Environment Education (CEE).

Speaking on the theme of Earth Day 2017, Environmental and Climate Literacy, the Director of NEDSSS, Fr. Varghese Velickakam said that the Institution plans to organise activities such as round table discussions, rallies, school level competitions and orientation seminars in all the North Eastern states during the months of March and April to spread awareness regarding the human actions that cause destruction of environment and the need to adopt environment friendly life style. The two months programme will target mainly school children, youth, women, environmental actors and policy makers.

Chief Guest, Mr. Romanus Horo IAS, cited various examples of deforestation in large areas of North East and urged the civil society and policy makers to curb such actions at the earliest as they are making earth a heap of filth.

Associate Programme Coordinator of CEE, Mr. Jaison Varghese led input session on Handprint Actions towards Sustainable Development and introduced Handprint for Action calling people of all walks to make commitments to take up activities to promote environmental regeneration. Apart from the NGO representatives, youth and students engaged in the handprint actions.

On the occasion, NEDSSS organised a one day workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation facilitated by Mr. Bibhuti Bhushan Gadanayak, State DRR Coordinator, UNICEF, Guwahati, Assam, India.