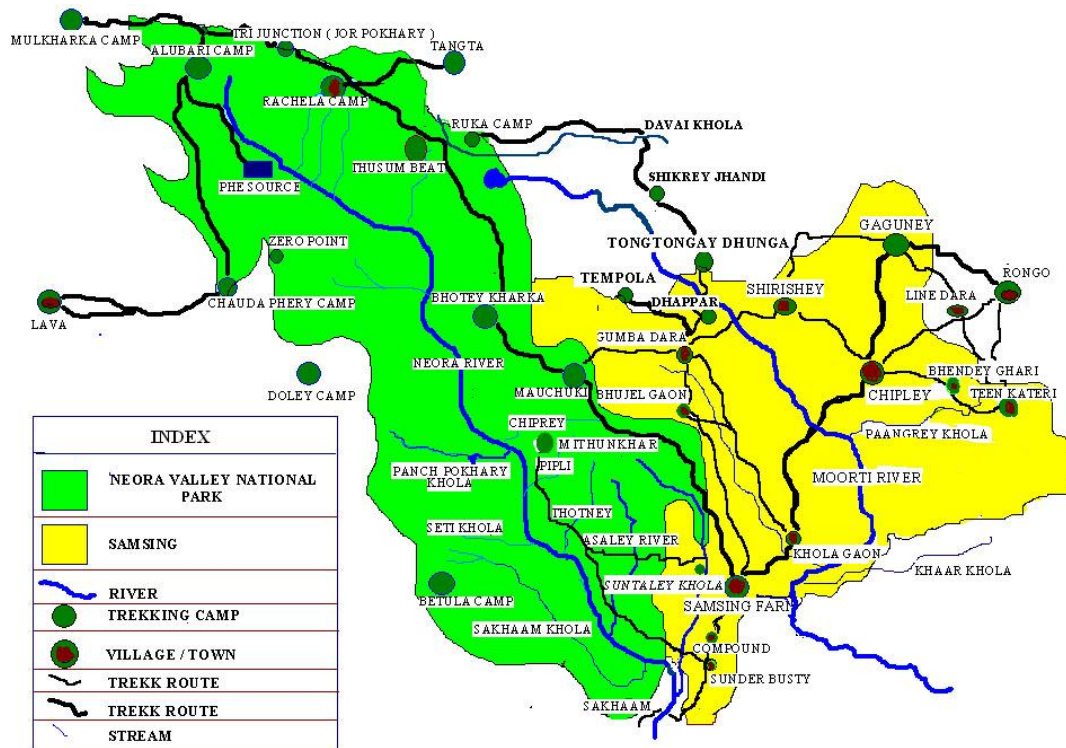


# Field trip to Neora River

Neora River originates in the mountains between Sikkim and Bhutan and flows through Kalimpong where the gorgeous valley has been developed by the Government of West Bengal as a tourist destination. The same river flows down to the plains into the district of Jalpaiguri.

Department of Computer Science and Applications conducted a picnic cum EVS field trip for the students on 8<sup>th</sup> of April 2017. The spot chosen was close to the small Hydro Power project at Sakhaam Basti, Kalimpong district, West Bengal, India, developed by Neora Hydro Limited (NHL). It produces 3 MW electricity.



The place is reachable via Gorubathan or Samsing Tea estate via Chalsa. First route is about 80 Km and second route is about 90 Km distance from Siliguri.

We started the trip with prayer and blessings by Fr. (Dr.) C. J. George, Vice Principal, Siliguri Campus.

On the way, we stopped at Bagrakot junction for breakfast. This was the same place where we stopped by last year also... just because the food is too good... what we call value for money. Then proceeded via Chalsa- Samsing route to the destination. We reached there around 11:30 am. Being a fairly hot day, all of us immediately headed for the river.







Fortunately, we had our accountant Mr. Manoj Tirkey, who hails from the same place with us as our local guide. With his help we got permission to visit the mini hydro project nearby. Most of us, leaving out a few who didn't want to leave the waters, had the opportunity to check the machines – though they were not operational at the time due to maintenance going on.



Then we headed for a small trek to the source of the water that feeds the power plant. Locally, this place is known as “intake”. On the way there were noticeable flora and fauna.





The cook we had taken along prepared very good food for us. Post lunch, boys who were not satisfied with swimming in the shallow river were informed that they could move to the “intake” where water was 8 feet deep at places. They enjoyed the most. However, for the girls, there was some disappointment as the sound system had some technical problem. Nevertheless, they compensated by going on a second round of trekking to nearby places. Faculties enjoyed equally... being in the lap of nature, away from the demanding daily works, having fun with students, leaning together with students about nature, working of hydro power, treks and the bus rides. It was indeed a fun filled day of outing and learning!



We thank the College management who encourage us and support us in every event. Along with many academic and co-curricular activities that fill our calendar, we are given space for outing and fun also.

All expenses were shared by the students and faculties.