

# ***An opportune time to start a dialogue***



I am delighted to write this message for the inaugural issue of ***Shimla Eco Vibes*** that is to be launched during the *Navratras*. Today, when we are struggling with climate change, biodiversity loss and social inequality, and facing ecological and social challenges of diverse nature it has become imperative to recognize the interdependence of ecology, culture and society which is seminal for our collective well-being. A sound and thriving ecology provides the natural canvas for human expression – be it in art forms or writing or daily transactions. At the same time, cultural values and societal norms influence ecology, determining how we interact with and protect our environment. The need of the hour is to cultivate resilient ecosystems, preserve cultural heritage and foster equitable societies, to ensure harmonious coexistence that honors the diversity of this Earth. After all, ecological problems are real problems, they are not imaginary nor are they insubstantial.

Shimla Eco Vibes comes at an opportune time. We are sure, it would mark the beginning of a journey to inspire, educate and foster a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of our natural and cultural worlds. I am looking forward to gaining from the insightful articles, stunningly colorful visuals and thought-provoking perspectives, offering reading pleasure and celebrating the diversity of human experience and cultural expression.

I wish a grand success to this encouraging venture.

**Dr Usha Bande**  
**Patron**

