

Environment and Community Outreach Committee Report (2019-20)

Environmentalism is an ideology that evokes the necessity and responsibility of humans to respect, protect and preserve the natural world from its anthropogenic (caused by humans) afflictions. Environmental awareness is an integral part of the movement's success.

To become environmentally conscious academic institute striving to achieve goal of 'Zero Waste Campus', college has started various initiatives which have been integrated in course curriculum as well as agenda of eco-club of the institute. Some of these initiatives are as follows:

- **Webinar on Webinar on 'COVID-19: Current Environmental Changes and Future Sustainability Opportunities'**: The committee organised a webinar on the mentioned theme on 18th May 2020, wherein Professor Wesam Al Madhoun from Micro-pollutant Research Centre (MPRC), Faculty of Civil Engineering and Built Environment, Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia, Malaysia addressed the session and helped students and staff broaden the knowledge horizon in the field of Environment and sustainability.
- **Plastic Strike on 17th September 2019 at 1:00 pm**: Students took out 'Plastic Strike' rally and become part of collection of plastic waste from different areas in college. They raised slogans on issues related to plastic pollution which helped in creating awareness on eliminating plastic from our everyday life.



- **Plantation Drive in College Premises**: Taking forward the long-standing tradition of college of preservation of our environment, the Environment Committee of IHE in collaboration with the Department of RMDA and Eco-club has initiated the '*Plantation Drive*' in the college campus. In order to sensitize students and staff towards the need to preserve environment and ecology, and taking ownership of their local environment and

surroundings, tree plantation drive was organized in college campus on the occasion of teacher's day i.e. on 5th September 2019. The Director of the institute, Dr. Geeta Trilok Kumar, faculty members of RMDA department, and members of ECO-Club and Environment committee along with undergraduate students participated in the drive and planted numerous trees like neem, curry leaves, ficus etc. which are instrumental in creating green buffer in college campus. The plantation drive was a huge success empowering students with substantial knowledge of environment and plants and simultaneously enhancing their social skills.



- **Environmental Awareness Week:** Environment Committee organised a week long Environmental Awareness Campaign from 2.09.2019 to 6.09.2019. The agenda of the campaign was to encourage students, teachers and staff to integrate environment friendly actions into their everyday lifestyle. Generating awareness on damages caused by climate change and catastrophic human actions, especially flash floods were also part of the agenda.



To spread awareness, various activities and competitions were organized by the students which are as follows:

- **Street Play on Flood, Crisis management and Water Conservation:** Nukkad Natak on the theme '*Flood, Crisis management and Water Conservation*' was conducted to portray the current situation of Indian cities which are devastated because of flood and lack of crisis management. The play also tried to convey the importance of conservation of water and various ways through which we can save water or reduce water consumption.
- **Poster Making Competition:** The poster making competition was organized on the following themes:

-Methods to Save Water

-Avoid Forest Fire

-Solid Waste Management

The competition was organized to make the participants aware about the on- going important environmental issues in our country ranging from forest fires occurred in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Kerala to the heaps of garbage mountain, like the one at Ghazipur, New Delhi.

- **Jingle Writing Competition:** The major motive behind this competition was to explore the students feeling and attitudes towards environmental degradation and need for protection of mother earth.
- **Waste to Wonder Competition:** The competition sensitized people regarding the awareness of the Solid Waste Management. Students had to make any creation using waste material.
- **Debate Competition:** The topic for the debate was “*Companies should/should not be tamed under the standards of carbon emission and other negative environmental impacts*”.
- **100% Segregation of waste at source- Paper, Organic, and Plastic Waste:** The committee takes pride in reducing waste generation at source by limiting usage of plastic on campus and encouraging 100% segregation of waste at source. Each department of the college given cartons and is instructed to segregate organic waste, paper waste and plastic waste at source. Training programmes and workshops have been conducted for the students and staff in collaboration with Indian Pollution Control Association (IPCA) regarding the same. Students’ volunteers have been assigned duties to look after and enforce 100% implementation of waste segregation at source in college campus.
- **Eliminating plastic covers, files and folders:** Students and teachers are being encouraged to limit use of plastic in their teaching-learning methodologies. Students are being instructed to submit assignments and other projects in either newspaper covers, newspaper bags or simply stapled. College has banned plastic covers, plastic files and plastic folders in campus.
- **Starting of organic waste composting in college campus:** Environment committee in collaboration with RMDA department has taken initiative to convert organic waste generated in college canteen and Food and Nutrition department into manure. Aerobins are used to convert organic waste into compost within 40 days in a hygienic and environment friendly way. Demonstration of the process is organized on monthly basis for the students, faculty members, lab-staff, college caretaker, waste-pickers etc. for the smooth functioning of Aerobins and for creating awareness on source segregation and waste management practices in college.

