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## Environment and Community Outreach Committee

### Report (July 2021- June 2022)

The committee has embraced many green initiatives and sustainable practices to make and maintain the college campus as environmentally conscious and proactive academic institute. Following activities were continued, initiated and facilitated by the committee (members) during the year 2021-22

- 1. Coordinating and Maintaining Herbal garden:** Maintaining medicinal and herbal plant saplings planted in herbal garden.
- 2. Development of Seed Bank** using different vegetative propagation methods such as grafting, layering, stem cutting, and collecting and preserving seeds from past seasons.
- 3. Maintaining Organic and Vermi-composting Units:** Successfully harvested approximately 600 kg organic compost and around 30 kg of vermicompost through these two methods.
- 4. Management of Organic Waste through Aerobin:** Organic waste generated in college canteen and FN department was segregated, collected and converted into organic manure using the Aerobins with the help of Sulabh Cleanliness staff.
- 5. Participation in Swachata Sarthi Fellowship:** Committee members helped students in developing proposals, products and presentations. Around 45 volunteers of Eco-Warrior Club applied in the Swachata Sarthi Fellowship Scheme of Government of India under its 'Waste to Wealth Mission', wherein 4 students were selected in the final round in August 2021. Students are receiving a fellowship of Rs. 1000/- per month for the duration of one year for participation in the scheme by the ministry.
- 6. Inauguration of Organic Vegetable Garden 'Poshan Vaatika'** supported by IPCA on 6th September 2021. Approximately 25 NSS student volunteers donated vegetable, herbal and medicinal plants which were planted in Poshan Vatika.
- 7. Participation in 64th Annual Flower Show of University of Delhi:** Participated in approximately 15 categories of different flower species on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at Mughal Garden, University of Delhi.
- 8. Workshop on "Package of Practices in Home Gardening"** was conducted on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2021 in hybrid mode (offline as well as online) by the Department of Biology in Collaboration with the Environment Committee. Around 60 participants including students, and faculty members from different colleges participated in the event.
- 9. Coordinated Faculty and Students' participation in Nadi Ko Jaano Abhiyan** and also organized an online session on 'Nadi Ko Jano Abhiyan' on November 13th, 2021, wherein Mr. Aakash Upadhyay briefed students about the importance of the campaign. In total, around 496 students and faculty members participated in the campaign.
- 10. Awareness Drive on Energy Conservation:** In order to create awareness on energy conservation, Eco-Warriors students club made strips having quotes viz., "Turn off Lights and Fans When not in use" and pasted these on the switch boards of various rooms in the month of Nov-Dec 2021. Also, many posters (hand-made and digital posters), informing the reasons, benefits, and ways of conserving energy, were also made and pasted in college premises.
- 11. Webinar on Soil Health and Sustainability** was organized on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 11.30 am in collaboration with IQAC under the aegis of DBT Star college scheme. Around 235 students participated in the event. The speaker for this was Dr Shruti Pavagadhi, Research manager in Sustainability and Translation Flagship Programme, climate change and carbon mitigation at the National University of Singapore.

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12. **Webinar, Quiz and Poster Making Competition on ‘We the Energy Warrior’:** A webinar on ‘We the Energy Warriors’ was conducted on 18th December 2021. Keynote speaker, Dr V. Vijayalakshmi, enlightened the students on the role of solar energy in the energy conservation process at household level. A quiz and poster making competition were also conducted afterwards with around 70 students.
  13. **Workshop on Water Conservation: was organized in collaboration with NSS-IHE and eco-club PRAKRITIK** on 26th May 2022. The Keynote speaker fMr. Ramveer Tanwar , also referred to as PondMan India, an Environmentalist and TEDx Speaker briefed students about various techniques of conservation of water, and reviving our dying water bodies. The session was followed by a quiz on water conservation methods and techniques.
  14. **Poster Competition On Water Conservation** was organized on January 6th, 2022, wherein a total of 35 students participated in the event.
  15. **Conducting survey and analysis of ‘Fuel Consumption Pattern’ during commuting to college by staff and students** in the month of March 2022. The analysis of collected data highlighted that IHE is an energy and fuel conscious college.
  16. **Assessment of the Environmental Awareness Amongst Students through Environmental Awareness Webinars and Questionnaire Based Study:** Pre and post-intervention studies conducted to assess increase in knowledge and awareness:
    - **Awareness on *Plastic Waste Management* and Environmental awareness through webinar on ‘Solid, Hazardous, Electronic And Plastic Waste Management’** organized on 20th November 2021 by Prof Satish S. Patil along with questionnaire based pre and post-intervention awareness analysis. A total of 158 students participated in study.
    - **Awareness regarding *Bio-Waste Management* through** a webinar on ‘Bio waste and its management’ organized on 15th November 2021, by keynote speaker Prof. J.S. Viridi (Former Professor), Dept. of Microbiology, University of Delhi, South Campus. Pre and Post intervention data to study awareness regarding Bio-Waste Management was collected from Microbiology and Biochemistry students using this pre-validated Questionnaire (N=156). .

#### **Taks Under Progress but not complete:**

1. **Working on the Installation of Rooftop Solar Panels :** The college has initiated the process to move towards eco-friendly solar energy. Committee looked for various schemes available under government for installation of rooftop solar panels. The experts from IPGCL, REIL were approached. With due consent of authorities and with long deliberation rounds the project proposals from the approved L1 bidders were studied. The SoPs were followed and diligent efforts were made to confirm approved standards and legal technicalities for installation of solar panels on the college rooftop. However, GB has not approved the installation of solar panels due to some infrastructural concerns and 25 years bond clause and hence, the work has been stalled.
2. **Energy, Green and Environment Audit :** Committee has initiated the process of getting Energy, Environment and Green audits carried out for college. For these audits, tenders and bids were raised in the month of June-July 2022 on the college website inviting proposals from the recognised auditors.
3. **E- Waste Registration:** Due to non-availability of complete details/ data for e-waste items from administration, the registration on the portal of the metal scrap trading corporation for management of e-waste got delayed. Committee aims to get e-waste registration done in the near future once it receives all the required information from administration.