

Report on Earth day Celebration on 22nd April 2016 by the IITM-Pune

Background:

Earth Day is an annual event, celebrated on April 22. It was first celebrated in 1970, and is now coordinated globally by the Earth-Day-Network and being celebrated in more than 193 countries each year. In India Ministry of Earth Sciences and its Institutes are celebrating Earth Day on 22nd April every year. The Theme of this Earth Day during 2016 was “Caring Mother Earth”. This year on behalf of Ministry of Earth Sciences and Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) Swachh and Green IITM Campus Committee (SGICC) has celebrated earth day on 22 April. This was celebrated as a part of the Swachh Pakhawada observed at IITM Pune from 13th to 27th April 2016. The IITM Research Students (M.Sc./M.Tech./Project/RF/RA, more than 25) were encouraged to volunteer for this task and closely work with the (SGIC) Committee. More than fifty schools were individually visited by the student-volunteers to promote this activity and ensure active participation of different age groups and make this event a grand success. Also more than fifty schools were approached by the email for the Earth Day celebration. Brochure of A3 size was prepared and printed to display more than 50 schools/colleges/Institutes/public places for the advertisement. Media and press were informed about this event well in advance. More than 150 students from different schools participated in various competitions. The social activists from SWACHH-NGO, Health Department of Pune Municipal cooperation (PMC) were also invited for this program. Also a few documentaries were shown about the caring mother earth.

Program Venue

Meghdoot Hall, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pashan, Pune 411008 Time: 10.00 hrs to 16.00 hrs. Date: 22nd April 2016.

The IITM student-volunteers started registration of participants by 09.00 hrs on 22 April 2016 and provided all the desired information and instructions about the program of the day. Most of the schools intimated the number of participant students in advance. Dr. O. N. Shukla, Hindi Officer, offered his valuable services for compeering, engaging and energizing the participants. Dr. O.N. Shukla, Hindi Officer also delivered a popular HINDI lecture emphasizing the

importance of 'Earth Day'. The SWACHH activist Ms. Priya addressed the gathering and engaged an interactive session on 'Cleanliness drive'. Also few documentaries were shown about to generate curiosity on theme of the event "Caring Mother Earth". Various competitions for participants were coordinated by Maj Sheetal Deshmukh (Retd.), Assistant Manager with other members of SGICC and was generously supported by student-volunteers. Three member Judge Panels were formed to select winners for different competitions. All the participants were provided snacks and fruit juices during these competitions. After the finishing of the competitions Dr. Milind Mujumdar, Chairman SGICC, briefly presented overview of the IITM Research activities in response to the demand of participants and their accompanying teachers and parents. This forenoon session was followed by the lunch to all the participants, volunteers, committee members at IITM Canteen. A stage show of street-play was performed by PMC social activists to spread awareness among the school children about "Dry and Wet Garbage segregation". Also, three of our contractual SWACHH staff working for waste management in the campus were felicitated on this occasion.

The winners of the competitions conducted during the morning session were given 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes and consolation prizes. Following the SGICC members suggestion it was decided to felicitate the prize winners with Globes and consolation prizes with the saplings to spread the awareness for 'Caring Mother Earth'. All the participants were given the participation certificates. This program ended with the vote of thanks by Dr. Mahen Konwar, member SGICC and Organizing committee.

Enrollment of student participant:

1. Drawing/Poster Competition

Total 38 children in the age category, below 10 years (up to class V), participated in the drawing competition. The theme of the drawing competition was given as "Caring Mother Earth". Children showed their concern towards the climate change, air pollution, and water scarcity through their drawings. All the students gave an educational and informative message in their drawing like save water, plant trees etc. Winner, Runner up and second runner up were selected by the judges. Looking at the overwhelming response and enthusiasm of the children, three consolation prizes were also distributed to encourage the children.

The following students were the prize winners:

1st Prize: Khushi Amuvadia, RIMS, Undri

2nd Prize: Anushka, City International School

3rd Prize: Anaya Atul Hajare, City International School

The following members were the judges for the said competitions:

1. Smt. Sathy Nair
2. Maj. Sheetal Deshmukh (Retd.)
3. Shri S.N.Prasad

2. Quiz Competition

The quiz competition attracted a huge number of participants (Age Category: Between 10 to 15 years, Class VI to Class X) with the total number being 59. There were participants from various schools namely, RIMS International School, St. Mira's School, City International Aundh, Boston International, Loyola High School, Sanskriti School. The participants belonged to Class V to Class X. The students were given question papers which they had to answer in a time limit of 40 minutes. Most of the students did very well and completed the quiz well in time. We selected three winners for first, second and third positions out of the total number of participants.

The following students were the prize winners:

1st Prize: Aditya Rao, RIMS, Undri

2nd Prize: Srisha Rewatkar, Symbiosis School

3rd Prize: Parth Deshmukh, Sanskriti School

The following members were the judges for the said competitions:

1. Dr. Samir Pokharel
2. Shri Abhay S.D. Rajput
3. Dr. Anoop Mahajan

3. Essay Competition

The essay competition was conducted on the subjects named Global Warming, Draught in India, & Cleanliness Drive. Total seven students (Age Category: Above 15 years Class XI to graduate

level) from various schools & colleges participated in the Essay writing competition. The following students were the prize winners:

1st Prize: Gaurav Raghav Singh, NCL Jr. College

2nd Prize: Saurabh Kumar Singh, ISB&M SOT

3rd Prize: Anjali Kalte, Sanskriti School

The following members were the judges for the said competitions:

1. Dr. Omkar Nath Shukla
2. Dr. Hemant Chowdhari
3. Dr. Sachin Deshpande

4. Best Out of waste Competition on the theme of "Caring Mother Earth"

The Best of Waste competition was conducted on the themes Avoid use of Plastic, Plant the trees, Green Technology/Approach, Recyclability, Innovation etc. Total twenty six students (Age Category 7 year to 17 years: Class I to Class XII) from various schools & colleges participated in this competition. Some highlights of the competition are as follows:

- i. Dry cakes made from hygienic daily waste food or unused foods for the animals e.g. stray dogs and birds.
- ii. Carry bags made from unused or old cloths.
- iii. Solar heater to warm foods.
- iv. There was a model to replicate the deformed Earth due to human activities and suggestions how to stop this.

The following students were awarded with first to third prizes and also five consolation prizes were awarded as the participation was at large.

1st Prize: Ashlesha Bhate, Sanskriti School

2nd Prize: Aditi Khot, City International School

3rd Prize: Saukhya Shinde, Sanskriti School

The following members were the judges for the said competitions:

1. Shri Mahesh Dharua

2. Dr. Shivsai Dixit

3. Smt. Mercy Verghese

Over all, all the competition received overwhelming response from various school students.

The Documentaries displayed:

Two documentaries were displayed on this National celebration event. The first one was by the NGO SWACHH who is putting efforts to collect and segregate dry and wet garbage in and around Pune. The aim of this short documentary was to increase awareness in the segregation of dry and wet garbage. At the same time it also addresses the challenges and hardship faced by its workers from the society in day to day activities e.g., in collecting the garbage. The steps taken by SWACHH to meet the challenges and hardship were shown in this documentary.

The second documentary displayed to the invitee students was on the “Forest Man of India”, Padma Shri Jadav “Molai” Payeng who is an environmental activist and forestry worker from Jorhat, India. His title “Forest Man of India” was given by our beloved late president of India Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam. This documentary shows how single handedly one can convert a barren land into a deep forest from several years of effort. The deep forest created by Shri Payeng is now home to many one horned rhinos, tigers, wild elephants, birds and other animals. This documentary encouraged the students and other audiences to love and conserve the environment, stop deforestation and plant trees to save the mother Earth.

Cleanliness Drive message by NGO SWACHH:

The SWACHH activist Ms. Priya (engaged in garbage disposal management in western Pune region) addressed the gathering and described the theme of SWACHH Organization. This organization has its own force of manpower for maintaining cleanliness and segregating dry and wet garbage for its right disposal in Pune Municipal Corporation area. Ms. Priya also engaged an interactive session with the participants on ‘Cleanliness drive’. The address got positive response from students and others participants.

Involvement of local Municipal cooperation:

A street play on social awareness for 'Cleanliness-drive' was organized on this occasion. A group of artists, Lokshahir Annabhau Sathé Shramik Kala Pathak, from Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) workers association made an excellent and engrossing presentation on 'Cleanliness-drive'. The response from general audiences, particularly School children was overwhelming. This play was focused on general awareness about segregation of dry and wet garbage with an emphasis on maintaining the eco-friendly environment.

Cleaning of the garbage dump area in the IITM Colony:

During the SWACHH PAKHWADA from 14-27 April as mandated by MOES on the occasion of EARTH DAY various activities were carried out. One of the major activities was cleaning of the garbage dump area in the IITM Colony. The area was littered with debris, plastic garbage, used household items, stones which was even hard to approach. Few residents along with garden and housekeeping staff cleaned the area. The area behind Shishir complex was full of wild grass and bushes. Residents from Shishir volunteered to clean the area. All the waste materials were removed and ground was leveled to make the area usable.

Feedbacks from IITM student-volunteers:

- (1) From IITM **Student-volunteers:** We celebrated World Earth Day on 22 April 2016. This Earth Day helped us to inspire young generation to make our planet a better place to live. I thank IITM as an organization, in particular 'Swachh and Green IITM Campus Committee' (SGICC) to initiate such a stimulating, memorable and historic event - 'CARING MOTHER EARTH' on this day. This event made us to work together as a team and develop a healthy relation and respect among ourselves, which is rejoiced by each one of us. I also thank the organizers who initiated this amazing event. I hope all participants too enjoyed it as much as we did. I personally thank Dr. Milind Mujumdar, Chairman, SGICC on behalf of all my friends for giving us the opportunity to work as volunteers and expand our experience of methodizing an event. Initial fear of working as volunteers faded away gradually after receiving immense encouragement from the organizers. Every volunteer did a great job and took up responsibilities efficiently. None of this would have been possible without the members of our planning committee who were the main driving force behind the event. Every one of us had an absolutely fabulous

time and a memorable experience we will always cherish! Next, we like to thank all the other helping staff who supported this activity in numerous ways and were equally responsible for bringing it to a grand success.

Prithviraj Mali (M.Tech Student, Savitribai Phule Pune University)

Details of IITM Student-Volunteers:

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Ajinkya Thakur <mycrazyheart1@yahoo.in>

(2) From: **RIMSINT** - humera Shaikh humera@rimsint.in

To: mujum@tropmet.res.in

Sent: Wed, 27 Apr 2016 07:04:58 +0530 (IST)

Subject: Earth Day Celebration

Respected Sir,

It was a great pleasure to be a part of the “Swachh Pakhwada” organised by IITM and a mammoth effort to fight the damage of inappropriate waste disposal, climate change and environmental issues. It was indeed a commitment to help deal with greenhouse gases. We at RIMS Undri embarked on this journey on “International Earth day” on 22 nd April 2016 which was a fruitful one. The drawing competition, quiz, best out of waste and

essay writing on the Theme "Caring Mother Earth" were all well organised involving different age groups. Arrangements for food and water were excellent. Students enjoyed the delicious food which was served.

The skit by the PMC members and the documentary shown were all very informative.

We did like to thank Dr. Milind Mujumdar, Dr Naveen Gandhi, Mrs. Sheetal, and IITM Team for their hospitality and request you to keep us in mind for competitions in future also.

Thanking you

Mrs. Humera Shaikh, Mo. 9860700468, Art Faculty, RIMS Undri, International School
Pune 60

Swachh and Green IITM Campus committee (SGICC)

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|---|------------------|
| (1) Dr. Milind Mujumdar, Scientist D | -Chairman |
| (2) Dr. Anant Parekh, Scientist D | - Member |
| (3) Dr. Naveen Gandhi, Scientist D | -Member |
| (4) Shri S. S. Sabde, Scientist D | -Member |
| (5) Shri V. R. Patil, Senior Manager | -Member |
| (6) Shri R. M. Bankar, Mechanical Engineer | -Member |
| (7) Shri A. K. Saxena, Civil Engineer | -Member |
| (8) Shri Jnanesh S. P, Electrical Engineer | -Member |
| (9) Dr. Mahen Konwar, Scientist C | -Member |
| (10) Shri Prajeesh A. G. , Scientist B | -Member |
| (11) Shri S. A. Sayyed, Technical Grade C | -Member |
| (12) Smt. Sheetal Deshmukh, Assistant Manager | -Member Convener |

Brochure prepared for the Earth Day celebration



Earth Day
22 April 2016
“Caring Mother Earth”



Organized by
Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune

COMPETITIONS

Entries are invited for following events

Drawing / Poster (Age: below 10 years, up to Class V)

Quiz Competition (Age: 10-15 yr, Class VI - Class X)

Essay Competition (Age: above 15 yr, Class XI to Graduate level)

Best out of Waste (Age: Open, Class I to Class XII)

Date: Friday 22nd April 2016
Time: 10.00 am to 05.00 pm
Venue: Meghdoot Hall
Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology
Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pashan, Pune- 411008

Contact for Registration
Call us: 020-25904831 / 321
E-mail us: sabade@tropmet.res.in
sheetald@tropmet.res.in

Instructions

* Participants are requested to report sharp at 9:45am at the venue for registration.
* Participants are requested to carry Id card for registration.

Competition Details

<p>Drawing / Poster Competition Topics</p> <p>Rules * The drawing sheet will be provided to each participant. * Participants are requested to bring their own drawing and sketching material (crayons, colour pencils/pens, drawing pad, water colors etc.) as per their choice/ requirement.</p> <p>Quiz Competition Topics General Knowledge, Environment, Swatch Bharat Abhiyan, Waste management and current issues based on these topics.</p> <p>Rules * Instructions as per the rounds will be announced during the competition.</p>	<p>Essay Competition Topics</p> <p>Rules * The writing sheets will be provided to each participant. * Participants can write in any one of the two languages English/ Marathi. * Essays limit 500 numbers of words. * Marking will be done on the subject matter relevant to the given topic, handwriting, neatness and overall presentation.</p> <p>Best out of Waste Topics</p> <p>Rules * Participants can come up with models, eco-friendly technologies or green designs) * Participants can present model / working model or show demonstration.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">For all competitions the decision of judges will be final.</p>
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Participation certificate



1 Registration of participants for various competitions on the Earth Day Celebration at IITM



2 Drawing Competition



3 Drawing made by students



4. Speech by Ms Priya from NGO SWACHH on Cleanliness drive



5. Interactions with participants on segregation of wet and dry garbage



6 Best out of waste



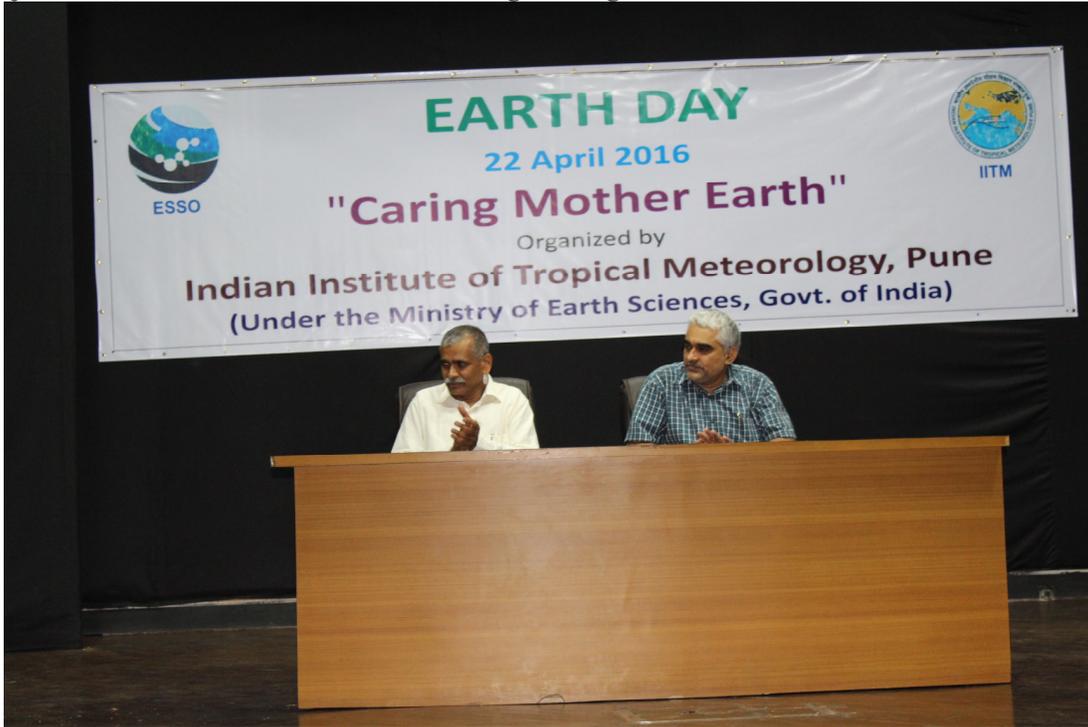
3 Dr. R. Krishnana, Director, IITM visiting displays of Best out of Waste competition



4 Street-Play show on "Dry and Wet Garbage segregation" by group "Lok Shahir Anna Bhau Sathe Shramik Kala Pathak" of PMC.



9. Award Ceremony at the hands of Dr. Krishnan, Director, IITM and Dr. Milind Mujumdar, Chairman (SGICC) and Organizing committee



11 Felicitation of participants



- 5 Dr. R. Kishnan, Director, IITM felicitating contractual staffs working for waste management at IITM campus



13. Felicitation of Dr. O.N. Shukla, Hindi Officer, for his valuable contribution for compering and delivering a lectur on this National event.



14. Swachhata Abhiyan at IITM residential Colony premises

