

## World Environment Day 2013 Reports



### World Environment Day 2013 at V.J.B. Udyan & Zoo

World Environment Day” was celebrated at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan-Zoo. Educational activities for creating empathy and awareness about protection and conservation of environment on mother Earth, were organized for the members of Mumbai based “The Nature Lovers”.

An oath in Marathi, Hindi & English languages were displayed at the entrance gate. The participants took the oath. The participants were imparted information based on the theme for this year World Environment Day celebrations, which was “Think. Eat. Save” through a poster in Marathi & English languages displayed at the entrance gate. Afterwards an introductory lecture was given about the role of modern zoos in protection and conservation of wildlife and in educating masses for creating love, interest and awareness about the wildlife, nature and environment as per the National Zoo Policy adopted by Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi and also about Dos’ and Donts’ in the zoo. It was followed by a guided tour of the zoo. During the guided tour, emphasis was given on the observation of the animals and significance of their external characteristics. Information was also provided about the new techniques adopted for display of zoo animals facilitating their living both physically as well as psychologically through various environmental enrichment activities. The Horticultural Assistant, gave information about the rare trees, including their economic importance inside the premises of the zoo.

At the end of the trail the participants were shown the approved Master (Layout) Plan of V.J.B. Udyan Zoo displayed at the entrance gate and given information about the project taken up by the M.C.G.M. administration for further development of V.J.B. Udyan-Zoo including the new approved animal collection plan, works completed and works to be taken up



**The Nature Lovers taking oath to save environment**



**Education and Public Relation Officer explaining about zoo management during guided tour**

further. Further the E.P.R.O. Anil M. Paranjpe interacted with the participants and answered their queries regarding functioning and activities of the Udyan-Zoo. The participants appreciated the entire programme and the programme ended with vote of thanks.

**Submitted by A.M. Anjankar, Director. Email: vjbudyanzoo@yahoo.co.in**

### Campaigns, Awareness programmes and workshops mark WED in Bhopal

To mark World Environment Day, WWF-India, MP&CG state office in collaboration with MP Biodiversity

Board organised a series of events starting from 1 June 2013. The events based on the theme ‘Think, Eat and Save’. By these events we aim at spreading awareness and sensitizing masses towards curtailment of food wastage and the need to promote judicious usage of food resources at global as well as household levels. The celebrations started on June 1, 2013 with Anti – Polythene campaign at Bittan Market, Bhopal. Around 200 cloth bags were distributed to people and shopkeepers at the market to spread the message of clean and green environment. The state office staff along with 11 interns interacted with public and told them about the adverse effect of polythene on environment.



The youth with the WED theme posters



Volunteers and WWF interns at the programme



Street play on the environmental theme

And asked them to take a pledge to not to use polythene in future. On June 3, 2013 an awareness campaign was organised at the MP Tourism Rainbow Treat, near Shahpura Lake, Bhopal from 18:30 onwards. The whole programme was organised to involve the youth who are the future of our country and to make them aware about the increasing pollution levels and various ways to counter this issue. A Rock Band performance followed by a street play based on the environmental theme was organised. Ajay Mishra, Sr. Admin. Officer informed the public gathered there about the importance of WED. The programme was followed by an open Environmental Quiz hosted by RJ from 98.3 FM Radio Mirchi. Whilst these events were carried out the interns did the Signature Campaign and asked everyone to sign the board and pledge to take care of environment from now onwards. Around 50 volunteers and interns of WWF-India participated in the awareness programme which was witnessed by hundreds of people. A group of senior citizens of nearby colony participated in the event by playing flute and songs. The programme was very well appreciated by all.

Finally the series of events was concluded on June 5, 2013 with the workshop based on the theme 'Think.Eat.Save' at EPCO Auditorium, Bhopal from 10.30 am to 6.00 pm.

There were about 120 participants from College of Excellence, IES college, LNCT college, MANIT, trainees from CAIE, Interns from Nirma University and teachers from PGBT, Bhopal.

The workshop started with a welcome address by Sangita Saxena, State Director. She briefed the participants about climate change and the importance of WED theme 2013. She explained how wastage of food is harming us not only economically but also environmentally as rotten food releases methane gas which is one of the most harmful Green house gases. She also told them about the projects of the state office especially the one on Education for Sustainable Development. On this occasion books and a DVD on Education for sustainable development were also released by the chief guest and the guest of honour.

The Guest of Honour Mr. R. G. Soni, Member Secretary MP Biodiversity Board, said, "*sensitizing 100 college students & teachers would have multiplier effect as it reaches to 1000s of people*". He asked everyone to plant a tree every year and takes care of it. He also praised WWF-India for releasing Education for sustainable development books which will be very beneficial for educators.

The Chief Guest Mr. Iqbal Singh Bains, Director General, EPCO said "*we should shift our views to optimism, so that tomorrow can be a better day*". He also said "*rather than blaming anybody else, we should look in ourselves and; the youth should take the responsibility to build a better earth under the guidance and support of elders*". He also said that these types of activities and thinking should not be limited to only one day but we need to work and take care of the environment daily. He also congratulated WWF-India for releasing the books on Education for sustainable development.

The other speakers for the workshop were Dr. Vipin Vyas, Professor, Limnology Department Barkatullah University Bhopal. He addressed the topic "Footprints of your Food" especially in context with water footprint. He spoke about food security and how to calculate water footprint by giving different examples. It was a very interesting session and made participants to think about water conservation. The second speaker was

Dr. Shankar Patidar, Physician & member Gayatri Pariwar, Bhopal. He spoke on the slogan "Go Green" and told the participants how Gayatri Shaktipeth organises more than 300 ideal marriages every year where there is no food wastage.

The next speaker Mr. Ajay Dubey, environmentalist spoke about "Role of youth in environment protection". Energetic and enthusiastic Mr. Dubey motivated the youth to take part in environment protection. He told them the importance of asking question in democracy. Told them about the environmental laws, the impact of environmental issues on poverty, malnutrition and other issues related to

society. He also talks about the importance of values in education. Next speaker was Dr. Sandip Gangil, Principal Scientist, CIAE, Bhopal spoke about "Saving of Energy and Environment using Conservation Agriculture". He also spoke about zero budget farming.

Last but not the least the last session was open forum where participants had a chance to express their views. It was so interesting that the programme extended till 6.30 in the evening. All the sessions were very enlightening and highly interactive. At the end the participants took pledge to take care of environment and not to waste food.

**Submitted by: Ms. Sangita Saxena.**



**Students group assured to save the local biodiversity at Sagar Island**



**Students looking at the posters of birds, fishes and trees**



**Phulbari students who attended the WED programme**



**Motivational games played to create environmental awareness**

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**Paribesh Unnayan Parishad (PUPA) West Bengal hosted WED programmes**

PUPA celebrated the World Environment Day on 5 June, 2013 with technical support from Zoo Outreach Organization, to highlight the different environmental problem and the process to solve them at P.K.Ray Memorial Pallisree Study Centre, Phulbari. This year the theme was "Think. Eat. Save". Sixty students attended in which 25 belongs to Scheduled caste. The students brought 3-4 types of plants from their home and they planted them. We also explained them the meaning of the

theme "Think. Eat. Save" and taught them to prepare a balance diet chart including vegetables, milk, protein, carbohydrate, fat and vitamin and also taught them not to waste the food.

After that a drawing session was organized, where we provided drawing sheets and color pencils to the students. Our drawing expert Mr. Santanu Das had drawn a picture based on environment and the students were asked to draw with their imagination and color the picture. All of them enjoyed the session a lot. PUPA decided to organize a regular drawing class for the students on every Wednesday. After this activity, different motivation games were organized among the students which were played

not only to arouse environmental awareness among them but also to create a bond of unity. A quiz competition was also organized. The main motivation behind this quiz competition is to make them aware about nature and create competitiveness among them.

Our chairperson Mrs. Rina Chakraborty had sent some gifts which were then distributed among the students. Organizational and project staff co-operated a lot to make this program a success. We wish to organize such type of programs every year. After that the students were provided with small refreshments.

PUPA observed another WED programme for the students of Gobindrapur Tarachand Vidyaniketan, Sagar Island on 12 June, 2013 with active support of ICZM project. Sixty students were participated. The basic purpose of the programme was to motivate the students to protect the biodiversity and start biodiversity conservation. The theme for this year is Think.Eat.Save, which is an anti-food waste and food loss campaign that persuades mankind to reduce their footprint. So that was also highlighted in the programme.

One of the main objectives of the awareness programme was to generate a group, who will protect and conserve the biodiversity at their local area especially in Sagar Island. The Biodiversity experts Dr. Pranjelendu Roy, Retd. Scientist-in-charge, Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhubaneswar and Dr. Amales Misra, Retd. Scientist, ZSI, were present in this programme to grace the students on protect the local biodiversity.

After introduction of the students, they were divided into six groups and showed different pictures of birds, fishes and trees. Some of the students were very active to identify the birds and trees. After this session, a quiz competition was organized for the students. The basic motto of this quiz competition was to make them aware about nature and increase the knowledge on environment and nature. During those participatory sessions, the resource persons were discussed about the importance of biodiversity conservation and boosted them too proud for our country's natural bounty and unique biodiversity. They also explained about conservation and

protection of environment and love for nature has always been part and parcel of Indian ethos and culture.

After the programme, the students were divided into three groups with two leaders to protect their local biodiversity. The teachers were also participated in the programme actively and they assured that they will take care the groups to conserve the environment at their locality. Initially the groups were assigned to collect various cat fishes and barb fishes, climbing perch, magur & singhi fishes at this rainy season and try to conserve those fishes in their school pond. The basic aim is to motivate the groups to preserve the extraordinary fishes, which are fade away day by day from our nature. The groups will follow up after one month of the programme to assess their work and action plan for next stages. **Submitted by: Dr. Amales Misra. Email: amagram.pupa@gmail.com**

**WED Program by Suzlon Wind Energy Pvt. Ltd, Sanganeri, Tirunelveli, TN**

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) team in Suzlon organized a half-day World Environment Day program in the local language Tamil. The participants were the company staff of both technical and non technical. It began with a brief introduction of the WED's this year theme by Mr. Brawin Kumar of Zoo Outreach Organization and the detailed guidelines sent by Zoo Outreach Organization were used in the entire program. The program's main focus was to develop an interaction with participants to know, teach and achieve this year's theme "Think, Eat and Save". Various slogans related to food waste were explained. A small gallery with colour posters of this year's theme was set up at the venue. We asked the participants to explain their responsibility in protecting their environment. Interaction and question answer sessions were the main highlights of the program. The food wastes in various countries, virtual water, how to preserve the foods by our own traditional methods and thier role to reduce footprint were the major components of the program agenda. **Submitted by: Mr. Venkatesh Babu, Sr. Er. Suzlon, and Mr. Brawin Kumar, Zoo Outreach Organization. Email: brawinkumar@zooreach.org**



**Mr. Brawin Kumar briefing about WED theme**



**Mr. Debojit Phukan at the Dhemaji College, WED Programme**

**Megamix, Assam celebrates WED, 2013**

On the occasion of WED celebration Megamix conducted few events with others. With Dhakuakhana Science Society jointly organised its central event at All Assam Miri Higher Secondary School, Matmora, Assam. Activities of the day were plantation, student contest, short rally and open session. Dr. Narendra Nath Dutta, Mr. Digen Hazarika, Mr. Likhan Burhagohain and Mr. Tanu Tamuli were the resource persons. Dhemaji College invited Mr. Debojit Phukan as a resource person for their WED programme. He gave a interaction based presentation to the audiences which comprises of teachers and students. Another joint programme of

Megamix and SAVESCO of Ghilamora was held at Bagdevi High School. Mr. Cheniram Baruah, Prsident of 'Megamix' and Mr Prafulla Chutia RP of 'Meganix' participated. Dr Amal Dutta, Research Coordinator of 'Megamix' lead the one day programme at Kekuri, a remote place of Dhakuakhana. **Submitted by: Mr. Debojit Phukan, Email:phukan.debojit@rediffmail.com.**

