

## World Forestry Day celebrated by OASIS Mumbai



Students are given ZOO Education kits



Wearing animal masks from the education kits



Participants of the World Forestry Day celebration

"Titli Utsav", was a half-day event and students dressed as butterflies all over the St. Michael High School Kurla West on 22 March 2012 to observe World Forestry Day. This event was a part of the year long project called *Ped Pukare Titli Aa Re* and the event saw students participate in fancy dress, poetry, jingle and poster contests. Over 600 students, parents and teachers attended.

Mrs. Jean Gomes, Principal of St. Michael High School feels, "Children are bored of the daily routine and interactive projects and learning through participation excites them thus garnering their complete participation and attention."

*Titli Utsav* started with the session for a group of 50 students on the biodiversity through the ZOO material to be able to understand the World Forestry Day and be able to talk about the biodiversity to the rest of the students of schools. The biodiversity concept was narrowed down to the theme of the butterflies and event composed of contests like fancy dress competition, jingle, and poetry and poster competition. The students gave a fantastic performance and the hall resounded with tumultuous applause from the audience.

Mrs. Jayashree Rao said, "Butterfly Rehabilitation is a new thought in the social sector and I am glad that the teachers are encouraging the students to think of such innovative ideas. I congratulate OASIS and the teachers for their commendable work". Mrs Pallavi Dhingra said, "I have not seen a single butterfly or a sparrow of late in Mumbai. Protection of these creatures is an important part of the ecosystem. Planting trees that attract creatures that are slowly fading away is imperative to the environment."

The event ended with the prize distribution and the closing speech given by Dr. Puja Sukhija, Exe. Director of OASIS. The event in itself was very enlightening. The students had successfully integrated facts about butterflies in their performances, thus making it entertaining yet informative. Research Scholar Mrs. Ganga Jaykumar, who attended the programme said, "It was excellent event, there is a lot to learn about butterflies and their importance in the ecological system."

The event was coordinated by AIESEC organization students. **Submitted by: Ms Shikha Shisodia Project Manager, Email: info@oasisngo.org**