REPORT FOR THE “AWARENESS PROGRAMME TO AVOID THE USE OF SINGLE USE PLASTICS” FOR THE ICONIC WEEK CELEBRATION FROM 04.10.2021 TO 10.10.2021 UNDER AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV

Campaign to avoid single use plastics

The Govt of India has launched a 75 week campaign Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to celebrate the achievements of the country and its people. The Ministry of Culture Govt. of India has allocated the week from 04.10.2021 to 10.10.2021 to the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The Hon’ble Prime Minister had instructed to phase out the single use plastics by 2022. Hence the iconic week was celebrated for the theme “Awareness programme to avoid the use of single use plastics.”

A awareness programme was organised in Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Gass Forest Museum, Forest Campus on 04.10.2021 with the participation of the college students particularly 7th unit of the NSS Volunteers (61 Nos) from the Dept. of Physics from Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science & Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore participated in the offline programme. The Online Webinar was conducted regarding the iconic week.

A billboard on theme was displayed and a talk was presented on the demerits of single use of plastics. The dos and the don’ts and the alternatives used for the plastics were explained to the students. An online webinar as a part of Students Nature Connect Prakriti programme in collaboration with the CUBE Organization was also conducted.

Activities for avoiding the plastics were conducted and activity chart to avoid single use of plastics was illustrated. The students participated voluntarily picking up waste around the GFM campus. A lecture on the theme was presented on facts such as practice of proper waste management, segregating and on the need to stop littering.
A CNN documentary film “Midway a Plastic island” was screened in the Students Edu Center. The film depicted the impact on the consumption of the plastic by the living organisms particularly birds and fishes. The strategies & actions for Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle were explained to the students.

**Online Webinar Series**

The programme was initiated with the participation of the College students of 66 Nos from the Dept. of Botany from the Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science & Higher Education for Women Coimbatore participated in the online programme. The online webinar was organized on 09.10.2021 as part of the observance regarding the iconic week.

Besides the introductory talk on the usage of plastics, the main topic on the carbon foot printing and damages of one time use plastic in the ecosystem was delivered by the speaker Dr. B. Nagarajan Scientist - G. He narrated as to how the birds, fishes, coastal birds and animals were consuming the plastics and in turn affect the ecosystem balance.

A total of 127 students participated in the awareness programme for the single use plastics.
AWARENESS PROGRAMME
TO AVOID THE USE OF SINGLE USE PLASTICS

ICONIC WEEK
04 - 10TH OCTOBER 2021

INSTITUTE OF FOREST GENETICS & TREE BREEDING, COIMBATORE
(Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education)
PRAKRITI ONLINE WEBINAR SERIES

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GASS
FOREST MUSEUM

INSTITUTE OF FOREST GENETICS & TREE BREEDING, COIMBATORE
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Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

ICONIC WEEK 2021

Organized by

ENVIS Resource Partner

on

Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding

(Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education)

Coimbatore
Iconic Week 2021 Celebrations by IFGTB ENVIS

As a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, ENVIS Resource Partner on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement at the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore celebrated Iconic week 2021 by organizing an awareness event on the theme “Avoid the usage of single use plastics”. The main objective of the event is to increase public understanding and shape community perceptions on the dangers of the usage of single use plastics, their environmental impact and available solutions, thereby empowering more people and organizations to take action for phasing out the usage of single use plastics by 2022. An awareness poster highlighting how to quit the usage of single use plastics was released by Dr C. Kunhikannan, Director, IFGTB. Dr R. Yasodha, Scientist G and Group Coordinator Research, Dr B. Nagarajan, Scientist G, Head, Forest Ecology and Climate Change, Dr V. Sivakumar, Scientist G, Dr Modhumita Dasgupta, Scientist G, Head, Plant Biotechnology and Cytogenetics, Dr Kannan CS Warier, Scientist F and ENVIS Coordinator, Shri Rajesh Gopalan, Head, Extension, Dr D Rajasuguna Sekar, Scientist F, Dr S. Vigneswaran, Senior Programme Officer, ENVIS and other officials were present during the release. Softcopy of the awareness poster was widely transmitted electronically to students and other stakeholders.
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
ICONIC WEEK 2021

India and Single Use Plastics

- Worldwide, one to five trillion plastic bags are consumed annually.
- The scale of plastic waste and its environmental impact were two of the major issues.
- India generates around 25,940 tonnes of plastic waste per day and approximately 9.46 million tonnes of plastic waste per year.
- Around 60 percent of plastic waste (15,384 tonnes) is collected and recycled, while the rest is uncollected and littered in the environment.
- India is now attempting to take a strong stand against plastics and plastic pollution, in the form of banning the sale and use of single-use plastics (SUP).
- Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules 2021, prohibits the usage of identified single-use plastic items.
- India plans to phase-out single use plastics by 2022.

What can be done?

- Promote the use of biodegradable items
- Create Awareness
- Skip single use plastic items
- Carry your own cup/bottle
- Give up gum
- Wisely dispose electronic items
- Always recycle
- Buy sustainable clothing
- Plant More Trees