

PLASTIC ERADICATION DRIVE: Kuwara Bhivsen, Bhivagad of Parshivani Taluka, Dist. Nagpur (MS) India on 06/11/2023.

The massive consumption of wide range plastic products has generated a huge amount of plastic waste. There is a need to provide awareness of their uses and routine management as a part of our lifestyle. Nowadays, plastics are increasingly being used in our daily life activities, including the packaging in different food and brewing companies, cosmetics, pharmaceutical, and other production sectors need to pack their end products for efficient and safer product's delivery to the community.

Learning and applying the knowledge to protect, restore and manage local forest ecosystems sustainably to combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and stop biodiversity loss. Healthy ecosystems and the biological diversity support us as a source of food, water, medicine, shelter and other material goods.

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Objectives:

1. The Drive was organized to inspire the students for providing "Shramdaan" which refers to being physically active and providing the participation in various environment cleanliness activities.

2. To sensitize the people for the negative impact of the use of plastic and request them to promote a safe future by not taking the help of any plastic made product.

3. The students should also work on first making their house plastic-free and then their society by telling the people the harmful impact of the use of plastic.

4. To provide 'Shramdaan' to collect all the plastic wastes in one place from where it can be easily sent to be recycled.

5. To aware student that they should avoid using plastic made water bottles and carry bags instead they should prefer alternatives.

B.Sc. Botany Student of **Dr. Ambedkar College Deekshabhoomi, Nagpur** conducted a non-biodegradable waste cleaning activity with Plastic Eradication Drive to engaged students in pay back to forest and ecosystem services at **Kuwara Bhivsen, Bhivagad of Parshivani Taluka, Dist. Nagpur** (MS) India on 06/11/2023.

Kuwara Bhivsen, Bhivagad is a famous tourist spot where visitors throw **plastic-leatherglass (non-biodegradable waste)** in the forest area which is unsustainable for biodiversity and ecosystem which negatively impacts on soil health and floristic composition. Excessive use of plastic bags leads to choking of water bodies which are becoming a menace for everyone.

Plastic pollution is ubiquitous in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Plastic waste exposed to the environment creates problems and is of significant concern for all life forms. Plastic production and accumulation in the natural environment are occurring at an unprecedented rate due to indiscriminate use, inadequate recycling, and deposits in landfills. Plastic pollution has become inevitable for human civilization in the Anthropocene era. Plastics production is increasing dramatically, and the negative impacts on our ecosystem are also increasing mainly via **micro- and nano-sized plastics**. Both types of plastics are having significant negative impacts on the ecological functions



of natural habitats. Plastic pollution is interlinked with the SDGs and climate change. Despite the existing knowledge about the impacts of plastic pollution, plastic waste management is at a dismal level, especially in developing countries. For example, open burning, unscientific landfilling, and disposal in the natural environment, including incineration, are largely prevalent, which is a health hazard to several lifeforms. Our review provides a comprehensive overview of the ecological, environmental, socio-economic costs, including linkages to climate change and SDGs, in the context of plastic pollution and plastic waste management.

Since plastic pollution is ubiquitous, it needs to be treated as a global threat similar to climate change and pandemics. Research and innovation should be encouraged to reduce, reuse, recycle, and recover plastics and find eco-friendly replacements for plastics, and alternative solutions must be emphasized. In addition, empowering and educating communities and citizens to act collectively to minimize plastic pollution and use alternatives options for plastics must be proactively promoted and enforced.

Plastic pollution is a global concern that must be addressed collectively with the utmost priority. We have collected **14 bags of plastic-leather-glass** (non-biodegradable waste) and disposed of it to a **Solid Waste Management, Centre of Parseoni Nagar Panchayat** Dist. Nagpur. This activity inspired students to safeguard natural resources and adopt sustainable practices for sustainable future.

The visit was organized under the supervision of **Dr. Subhash. R. Somkuwar**, Associate Professor & Head Dept. of Botany DACN, **Dr. Rahul B. Kamble** and **Mr. Labhesh B. Parteti** Faculty of Botany Dept. DACN.









Plastic Eradication Drive at Kuwara Bhivsen, Bhivagad of Parshivani Taluka, Dist. Nagpur (MS) India on 06/11/2023

OUTCOMES:

1. This drive will create awareness among the people about the harmful effects of the single use plastic as a result they will be motivated towards the use of paper or fabric (Cotton or Jute) bags.

2. This Drive will result in seize the plastic pollution from the Kuwara Bhivsen, Bhivagad and adjoining areas.

3. Awareness generation and behavioral change in students and people to adopt eco-friendly alternatives to plastic.