

Report
on
**Save Wetlands from
Plastic Litter**

A celebration of

World Wetlands Day- February 2, 2020

**Location : Veer Savarkar Udyan, Sagar Vihar; Vashi,
Navi Mumbai**



Special Message
Shri Annasaheb Misal
Commissioner, Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation
(NMMC)



Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC), one of the most progressive ULB's in India has always focused on the environmental conservation and sustainable development of the city. The measures taken by NMMC have led to Navi Mumbai being ranked 7th in India under Swachha Bharat Abhiyan (SBA) in 2019. Additionally, Navi Mumbai has been bestowed with rich natural vegetation, mangroves and wetlands which protect the city from natural calamities like floods, provides carbon sink and contributes to the quality of life in the city. However, today, like most other cities in the world, plastic pollution is a growing concern in Navi Mumbai as well, directly impacting its ecosystems and thus needing conservation measures.

I congratulate The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and other project partners on their efforts to create the much needed awareness about plastic pollution and wetland conservation among citizens. I appreciate the efforts taken by the National Service Scheme (NSS) volunteers and college students for carrying this message forward to a larger group of stakeholders, thus creating a domino effect.

It was an honor to interact with diverse group of stakeholders, especially the UNEP representatives. Participation of Mr. G.S.Gill (IAS), Distinguished Advisor, TERI-WRC; and Mr. J. S. Saharia, Former Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra was very encouraging. Their guidance while developing a Policy document would be very valuable.

Navi Mumbai needs presence of motivated leaders like the citizens felicitated by event organizers. The initiatives for plastic alternatives like cloth bags made from used clothing should be replicated in Navi Mumbai on large scale. I feel motivated to see representatives from Helen Keller Institute of Deaf and Deaf blind taking active part in the program. Furthermore, I truly appreciate the organizations and citizens who have raised the saplings in waste plastic bottles and those who have agreed to nurture it further for afforestation. As part of the Eco-city Project, a joint collaboration with TERI, NMMC would be pleased to work towards the implementation of these initiatives on a larger scale with the objective of not only creating awareness but also a bigger long term positive impact.

I feel optimistic that with collaborative efforts by Government, Non-Government and Research organizations, Corporates, students and other citizens, Navi Mumbai will be able to achieve its goal of being a plastic waste free city in the near future. It is the moral responsibility of each and every individual to act responsibly and work towards making the city plastic waste free.



Special Message
Prof. Suhas Pednekar,
Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai



The University of Mumbai, one of the oldest and largest Universities in India, has 720 kilometers of coastline under its jurisdiction. There are more than 800 colleges affiliated to the university with 176 environment initiatives being undertaken in the campuses with the combined participation of over 15,000 students. The University's National Service Scheme (NSS) unit has always been a front runner in participating in environment, social and community based programs.

Wetlands are one of the most productive ecosystems, home to rich biodiversity and are essential to human survival. As Mumbai is a coastal city, the presence of coastal wetlands such as Mangroves becomes extremely important. However, with ever increasing human footprint, developmental activities and the problem of improper waste disposal in Mumbai, these wetlands and the biodiversity within them are facing the threat of being permanently wiped out from the city's geographical map. Thus, the conservation of mangroves through active participation of stakeholders is the need of the hour.

With our University as an official partner of TERI-UNEP's "Promotion of Counter-Measures against Marine Plastic Litter in Southeast Asia and India" project, it's been a great opportunity for TERI, UNEP and the University of Mumbai to come together and collaborate to address the issue of plastic pollution. Our NSS staff and volunteers have participated in various awareness activities organized by TERI under 'Rethink Plastic' campaign, including World Wetlands Day (WWD) – 2020. I appreciate TERI-UNEP's efforts on emphasizing the issue of plastic pollution in each and every program and grateful for giving NSS students the opportunity to be a part of the campaign. It's been a great learning experience for our students and it helped sensitize them to the perils of incorrect plastic disposal as well as significance of protecting mangrove ecosystem.

Further, the University shall support TERI and encourage the students to actively participate in future endeavors in environment conservation. This, hopefully, would also inspire our students to further spread the knowledge gained from such initiatives to create a much larger positive impact.

Special Message
Mr. Atul Bagai

*Country Head- India Office, United Nations Environment Programme
(UNEP)*



The UNEP is the leading and authoritative global voice on environmental issues. It is the key driver of the environmental dimension of sustainable development, within the United Nations system. UNEP's global campaigns 'Beat Plastic Pollution' and 'Clean Seas' are increasingly gaining traction. The India office of UNEP started operations 3 years ago. It made its mark when it organised a highly successful World Environment Day in 2018 when the Prime Minister of India, committed to phasing out single-use plastics.

Despite the best efforts, and the spotlight on plastics, our understanding of its science is limited. Assessment of sources of plastic waste, its content, accumulation hotspots, leakage pathways, are approximate. Most importantly we are still grappling with challenges of technology and finance for its management.

UNEP is currently implementing the Japan Government funded "Promotion of Counter Measures against Marine Plastic litter in South-east Asia and India" project in Agra, Haridwar, Allahabad and Mumbai, as well as a Norway Government funded project where we are supporting the high-level Marine Litter Cell in the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change. UNEP shall be working closely with the Ministry to develop a national road map on marine litter and plastics.

The Counter Measures project is a first ever project in this part of the world that targets collecting ground-level data on plastics. The project also attempts to reach out to a spectrum of stakeholders, both to increase their understanding of the issue, as well as to embed and institutionalise sustainable initiatives for reduction and improved management of plastic waste.

UNEP has partnered with TERI for project implementation in Mumbai. Through the "Rethink Plastic" campaign, we have reached out to more than 5000 people through perception surveys, pledge campaign, treasure hunts for waste bottles and saplings, awareness and training activities. We deeply value this partnership and hope to strengthen it in times to come, to strengthen UNEP's vision and leadership on marine plastic litter.



Special Message
Dr. Ajay Mathur

*Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute
(TERI)*



I am glad that TERI's Western Regional Center (WRC) has been celebrating World Wetlands Day (WWD) in Mumbai for the past 12 years with diverse stakeholders and in collaboration with the Ramsar Convention. The reports of all these events are available on the Ramsar website (<https://www.ramsar.org/>). The WWD-2020 celebration on the theme 'Save Wetlands from Plastic Litter' by TERI was in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC), and National Service Scheme (NSS).

NMMC has been partnering with TERI for various environmental and sustainable development initiatives under the Eco City project since 2012; whereas TERI is currently the outreach partner for the UNEP sponsored project titled 'Promotion of countermeasures against marine plastic litter in Southeast Asia and India' in Mumbai. As part of this project TERI- WRC is implementing an action oriented campaign 'Rethink Plastic' (November 2019- March 2020) to reach out to various stakeholders and urge them to Refuse, Reduce Reuse, Recycle and Rethink plastic responsibly.

I am overwhelmed to see the large participation of youth representing the NSS and other educational institutions like Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College, Vashi, South Indian Education Institute (SIES), Nerul, Maharshi Dayanand College, Parel, India Culture League Education and Society (ICLES) Motilal Jhunjhunvala College, Vashi, in this event. I was informed that over 300 participants were a part of the event; and more than 100 kg of plastic was collected from the mangroves just in an hour. It was heartening to note that all participants have taken a pledge against single use plastics and many of them drafted roadmaps against plastic pollution. These suggestions will be collated and submitted to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra by TERI, UNEP and other project partners; requesting him to develop a roadmap against plastic pollution in the state. The participation of representatives from Helen Keller Institute for Deaf and Deaf blind was a true value addition to the event. I am happy that TERI handed over 100 saplings of native trees raised in waste plastic bottles to them for nurturing and use in afforestation. Further, TERI's commitment to prepare a Braille booklet on Plastic Pollution is a noteworthy initiative to spread the message against plastic pollution to the differently abled students.

I congratulate and thank all the participants, partners and media representatives for undertaking such an illustrious initiative with an objective to minimize single use plastic and also conserve wetland ecosystems.

Index

Sr No.	Content
	Agenda
1	Inaugural and Interactive Session
	a Welcome and Event Introduction
	b Key Address by the Chief Guest
	c Address by the Dignitaries
	d Pledge by participants against Single Use Plastic
	e Felicitation: Exemplary Initiatives for Environmental Betterment
	f Commitment of Differently Abled
	g Panel Discussion – Youth Vision on Plastic Pollution
2	Mangrove Cleanup activity - Sagar Vihar
3	Parallel Activities
	a Collage using Waste Plastic Bottles caps
	b Wetland conservation message through art
	c Pledge Against Single use plastic and Perception survey
	d Plant a Sapling in waste plastic bottle
	e Display of Cloth Bags - Aapli Pishvi
4	Media Coverage
5	Take Home Message
	Acknowledgment

Agenda: World Wetlands Day 2020 Event

February 2, 2020

9.30 AM - 10.00 AM	Registration
10.00 AM - 10.30 AM	Cleanup activity in mangroves
Inaugural and Interactive Session	
10.00 AM - 10.15 AM	Arrival of guests and chief guest; Exploring the live activities (Poster making, Mural making, Rangoli and more)
10.15 AM - 10.30 AM	Welcome and Introduction about project and the event- TERI and UNEP
10.30 AM - 11.00 AM	Address by the Guest of Honor and dignitaries
11.00 AM - 11.10 AM	Key note address by the Chief Guest
11.10 AM - 11.20 AM	Felicitation of citizens carrying out exemplary work for environmental betterment
11.20 AM - 11.30 AM	Handing over of saplings for further nurturing
11.30 AM - 12.00 PM	Panel discussion to understand views of the youth for preparing the Road Map to counter Marine Plastic Pollution
12.00 PM - 12.05 PM	Vote of Thanks
Parallel Activities	
12.05 PM - 1.00 PM	Making collage using bottle caps
	Messages on Wetland conservation through art (Rangoli and Posters)
	Pledge against single use plastic and Perception survey
	Plant a Sapling in waste plastic bottle
12.30 PM - 1.00 PM	Refreshments (Healthy Food- Millet Idli and Fruit Plate)



1. Inaugural and Interactive Session

Dignitaries on Dais



(From L to R): Smt. Shaila Sam, Media and Communication Specialist, UNEP; Shri. Lovish Ahuja, Vice President, Governmental Affairs – India, TOMRA; Smt. Saloni Goel, Consultant, Plastic Pollution Programme, UNEP; Shri. G.S. Gill (IAS), Distinguished Advisor, TERI-WRC; Shri. Annasaheb Misal, IAS, Commissioner, NMMC and Shri. J.S.Saharia, (IAS), Former Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra (GoM)

a) Welcome and Event Introduction



Dr. Anjali Parasnis

While explaining the concept of ‘Rethink Plastic Campaign’, Dr. Anjali Parasnis, *Associate Director, TERI-WRC* emphasized on the innovative approach of **raising saplings of native trees and nurturing them in waste plastic bottles** thereby practicing reuse and recycling of plastic. It’s also a great way to **offset the carbon footprint.**

Further, she also explained about the **importance of mangroves for coastal cities** like Mumbai and Navi Mumbai and emphasized on their better management and conservation.

Program Inauguration World Wetlands Day 2020



Hon'ble Chief Guest planting the Native Sapling (*left*) and unveiling the collage made from Plastic waste (*right*)

Welcoming the Dignitaries with Native Tree Saplings



Mr. Lovish Ahuja, *Vice President, Governmental Affairs, India, TOMRA*



Mr. J.S. Saharia, *Former Chief Secretary, GoM*

b) Key Address by the Chief Guest



**Shri Annasaheb Misal, I.A.S.,
Hon'ble Commissioner,
NMMC**

- The Commissioner, NMMC appreciated the TERI-UNEP initiative to counter marine plastic pollution.
- He highlighted the need of individual efforts by all citizens to make the city free from plastic pollution.
- He urged the youth to actively take action to tackle plastic pollution; and encouraged citizens' participation in cleanliness initiatives like the Swachha Bharat Mission (SBM).
- He also mentioned that change in behaviour and thinking is extremely important in solving the menace of plastic pollution; and highlighted the role of media in raising awareness and sensitizing citizens about environmental issues.
- Talking about NMMC's initiatives against single use plastic, he told that the NMMC head office is single use plastic free; and the corporation shall continue to work towards managing plastic pollution in the city through concrete policies and action against the same.

c) Address by the Dignitaries



**Shri. J. S. Saharia (IAS),
Former Chief Secretary,
GoM**

- Shri. J. S. Saharia (Guest of Honor) appreciated TERI and UNEP's efforts towards creating awareness and sensitization among the citizens through action oriented programmes being conducted under the 'Rethink Plastic campaign'.
- He specifically emphasized that all citizens especially youth must take concrete steps against plastic pollution, both at individual and institutional level.



**Shri. G.S.Gill (IAS)
Distinguished Advisor,
TERI-WRC**

- Shri. G.S.Gill emphasized on continual work towards creating awareness and conducting impactful activities.
- He mentioned that involvement of youth in environmental and sustainable development initiatives is of great importance.
- Towards this, he also submitted a proposal to NMMC, on behalf of TERI for a long term project against plastic pollution for the city of Navi Mumbai.

c) Address by the Dignitaries



Smt. Saloni Goel
Consultant, Plastic
Pollution, UNEP

- Smt. Saloni Goel, gave insightful details about the UNEP project 'Promotion of countermeasures against marine plastic litter in Southeast Asia and India' being implemented in 4 Indian cities namely Agra, Prayagraj (Allahabad), Rishikesh and Mumbai to tackle plastic pollution.
- She also highlighted that lack of knowledge and awareness about the intricacies of plastic like different types of plastic is a key concern in managing plastic pollution.

- Smt. Divya Gaikwad highlighted the need of outreach events to raise awareness and motivate the community for environmental betterment.
- She urged the citizens to stop using single use plastics and switch to eco-friendly alternatives and encouraged the young participants to actively act against plastic pollution.



Smt. Divya Gaikwad,
Corporator, NMMC



Shri. Lovish Ahuja
Vice President,
Governmental Affairs,
India - TOMRA

- Shri. Lovish Ahuja specifically highlighted that the real solution to the waste is segregation at source while technological and end of pipe solutions can mitigate only ~30% of the waste problem.
- He also mentioned about the importance of life cycle analysis of each and every product we consume, specially with respect to the amount of waste generated by those products.



Pledge by the Dignitaries



Pledge by the participants

d) More than 300 participants took Pledge against Single Use Plastic

As a good citizen of my country and a responsible resident of the planet Earth, I pledge to Refuse, Reduce, Recycle, Reuse, Repair, Re-gift, Recover and “Rethink plastic”, to the best of my efforts by doing the following:

- I shall say “NO” to single use plastic items (Straw, carry bags, cutlery etc.)
- I shall always carry a cloth bag, reusable cutlery, straw and cup.
- NOT purchase fruits and vegetables wrapped in plastic films
- Sensitize peers, friends and family about minimizing single use plastic
- Sort my waste for recycling and disposal
- Ask restaurants NOT to send plastic cutlery when ordering food online
- Purchase usually what can be either recycled, reused, refilled or repaired
- NOT accept gifts/ bouquets wrapped in plastics
- Avoid sachets as much as possible

e) Felicitation: Exemplary Initiatives for Environmental Betterment



1. Smt. Neeta Karnik (Aapli Pishvi Initiative)

She works with local women residents to make **cloth bags from old sarees, dupattas and dresses** and distributes them to vendors and customers to promote the use of cloth bags. She aims to make at least one Municipal Market in her locality, free from plastic bags.



2. Shri. P. S Lokhande

He started **PSL Waste Management LLP** to collect, segregate and effectively manage municipal waste.

3. Smt. Jyoti Nadkarni

She collectively **works with housing societies in Kharghar**, Navi Mumbai to help collect and segregate household waste **at source**.





5. Smt. Kalpana Chhatre

A member of **Mangrove Marshal Group**, Navi Mumbai. The group organizes **weekly mangrove cleanup activity** at Sagar Vihar and Mini Sea Shore, Vashi, Navi Mumbai.

4. Shri. Prakash Chandra Joshi

Individually **collected more than 1500 waste plastic bottles** for the campaign



f) Commitment of Differently Abled



- **The Helen Keller Institute of Deaf and Deaf blind** engages their students in raising and nurturing saplings
- The institute adopted **100 saplings** of native trees raised by students of **ICLES Motilal Jhunjhunwala College, Vashi** in waste plastic bottles as part of the TERI-UNEP 'Rethink Plastic' Campaign, at the hands of Dr. Anita Jadhav, **Associate Professor, ICLES Motilal Jhunjhunwala College, Vashi**


- TERI also committed to prepare a **Braille book and Touch and Feel kits** for these special students to introduce them to Plastic and its impacts on health and environment.
- A draft of the Braille book was handed over to representatives of **Helen Keller Institute of Deaf and Deaf blind** by the Hon'ble commissioner, NMMC.

g) Panel discussion : Youth Vision on Plastic Pollution



A 6 membered panel including 3 experts and 3 young volunteers led a very interactive discussion with participants

Stakeholders Expressing their views on Plastic Pollution



*Use paper bags
instead of plastic
bags as bin liners*

*Is there any alternative to
plastic that can be used for
waterproofing?*



*Need for
developing
sustainable
alternatives to
Multi Layer
Plastic packaging*



Key Points Highlighted During The Panel Discussion

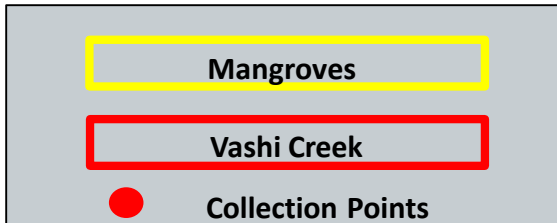
As the participants voiced their concerns and opinion on Plastic Pollution, there was consensus on the following points:

- Use of Single Use Plastic should be banned. However, alternatives to plastic should be practical, affordable and easily available
- In depth research on life cycle of different materials being used as alternatives to plastic to be carried out
- Policies need to be strengthened
- Usability of plastics in areas like food and medicine packaging, electronic equipment, medical instruments, automobiles and others cannot be neglected.



2. Mangrove Cleanup Activity- Sagar Vihar

Location



Significance of mangroves

- Mangroves act as buffer against extreme weather events such as hurricanes, coastal floods.
- They stabilize coastline and slows down soil erosion rate
- Act as source of livelihood for local communities – fishing, collection of honey, tannins and wax
- Act as a Carbon Sink
- Mangrove roots are a complex system that accumulate organic and inorganic nutrients and thus, act as a breeding ground and nursery for various marine organisms. However, plastic litter in mangroves is a cause of concern as it gets trapped in the mangroves.
- The cleanup activity was carried out in order to collect plastic waste trapped in the mangroves and dispose it off responsibly.

Participation of 100 NSS volunteers, University of Mumbai



- All participants were provided **Personal Protective Equipment** (Gloves and Masks)
- Instead of plastic bags, **Gunny bags** were used for waste collection



Weighing of the collected Waste

More than 100kg of Plastic waste was collected in 1 hour time



3. Parallel Sessions

The Chief Guest Appreciating the exhibition Area



a) Collage from Waste Bottle Caps



Volunteers making collage using waste bottle caps

Rationale

- Waste plastic needs to be properly channelized to prevent it from ending up in the terrestrial and marine ecosystems.
- Caps of waste plastic bottles were used to convey an important message.
 - Plastic can be reused.
 - Single used caps to be recycled and channelized for responsible disposal.
 - **SAVE OCEANS from single use plastic.**



Volunteers used bottle caps to create the display of the message '**Save Oceans**'. These caps were pasted on Duck shaped cardboard cut outs to depict the plight of aquatic animals and birds.

b) Wetland Conservation Messages Through Art

1. Rangoli- A Traditional Art





The volunteers enthusiastically showcased their creative skills to convey the message of wetland conservation using the traditional art form.



2. Awareness through Posters

A vibrant array of posters was made by the volunteers. Each poster artistically conveyed the importance of wetlands and the need to save them from plastic pollution.



c) Pledge and Perception survey



Perception Survey- Rationale

- Perception of individuals is very important to understand the behavior, practices and awareness of the citizens as well as to carve out a way forward.
- The perception survey on '*Plastic Use and Management*' was designed to assess the opinions of individuals regarding plastic use, management of plastic waste and awareness about alternatives to plastic and impacts of plastic pollution on health and environment.
- The results of the survey are important in formulating policy recommendations to tackle plastic pollution for the state of Maharashtra.

Pledge against single use plastics- Rationale

- Single use plastic is a rising global concern. Invented for the sake of convenience, today it is an environmental hazard.
- In order to reduce dependence on single use plastics and promote use of alternatives, the participants were encouraged to take pledge against single use plastic.

Special Electronic Interphase to take Pledge and Perception survey

TERI created special electronic interphase- **QR Codes** to take the pledge and perception Survey which were displayed at the event venue, to reduce paper wastage and keeping in mind the tech savvy young participants.



QR Code to take the Perception Survey



QR Code to take the Pledge against Single Use Plastic



QR Code of the 'Rethink Plastic' App to register contribution of saplings and waste plastic bottles

More than 300 individuals took the Pledge against Single Use Plastics and filled in the Perception survey

d) Plant a Sapling in Waste Plastic Bottle- Rationale

- Native trees saplings raised in waste plastic bottles when used for afforestation will help offset carbon footprint towards production of these bottles.
- This would also demonstrate a responsible reuse and disposal of waste plastic bottles.



Sapling of Indian Almond Tree (*Terminalia catappa*)

Around **630** mature trees are required to offset Carbon footprint towards production of **1 lakh** PET bottles

- **Benefits of using native tree species for afforestation include:**
 1. They survive well in local climate
 2. No threat of invasion
 3. Support native biodiversity

Why plant Native saplings?



Banyan (*Ficus benghalensis*) (Vad, Bargad)

- Medicinal properties: leaf, bark, seeds and fig cure disorders like diarrhea, polyuria, dental, diabetes and urine disorders
- Wood : making door panels, boxes
- Bark : making paper and ropes
- Figs: edible
- Habitat for numerous bird species



Sacred Fig (*Ficus religiosa*) (Peepal, Pimpal)

- Host for Lac Insects
- Fodder for goats and cattle
- Figs: edible
- Bark: extraction of reddish dye; cure inflammations and glandular swelling
- Medicinal uses: beneficial for eczema, asthma, blood purification, digestive ailments



Neem (*Azadirachta indica*)

- Medicinal uses: effective for skin infections, intestinal problems, diabetes, malaria,
- Neem oil: pesticide for grain storage
- Twigs: used for brushing teeth
- Bark fiber: rope making
- Requires less water for growth
- Provides shade

Other suggested native species: *Ficus racemosa* (Umbar), *Terminalia catappa* (Kadwa Badam)

Volunteers planting saplings of native tree species (collected from roadsides/ cracks of walls and buildings) in waste plastic bottles prepared as planters.



30 volunteers participated in this activity

e) Display of Cloth Bags - Aapli Pishvi



A display of cloth carry bags made using old clothes was set up by the representatives of *Aapli Pishvi* initiative

They gave away the cloth bags free of cost to the participants in order to promote the use of cloth carry bags and reducing plastic carry bags



4. Media Coverage

Media Coverage

Clean-up drives carried out on World Wetland Day

Navi Mumbai: The civic body, in association with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), conducted a number of clean-up activities along the vast wetland and mangrove fringe of Thane creek line in Sagar Vihar, Vashi. This was done on the occasion of World Wetland Day, which was observed on Sunday. Hundreds of volunteers joined hands to highlight the need and importance of protecting wetlands and mangroves. TERI and UNEP have jointly begun a campaign called 'Rethink Plastic' which began from November 2019 and will go up to March 2020. — **BB Nayak**

Times of India_03.02.2020

पाणथळ जागा वाचविण्यासाठी उपक्रम

मुंबई : खारफुटी पूरनियंत्रणाचे काम करते. तसेच कार्बन कपात करत सागरी किनाऱ्याची धूप कमी करण्यातही खारफुटी महत्त्वाची भूमिका बजावते. पर्यावरण संतुलनासाठी महत्त्वाची असून यातून जैवविविधता आणि उपजीविका जपली जाते. खारफुटीच्या जंगलात अडकलेला प्लास्टिक कचरा स्वच्छ करणे महत्त्वाचे आहे. त्यामुळे 'रिथिंक प्लास्टिक' सारख्या उपक्रमावर भर देण्यात यावा, असे टेरीच्या सहसंचालिका डॉ. अंजली पारसनीस यांनी सांगितले. सागरी कचऱ्यापासून पाणथळ जागांच्या बचावासाठी स्वच्छता मोहिमेचे आयोजन द एनर्जी अँड रिसोर्सेस इन्स्टिट्यूट (टेरी) आणि द युनायटेड नेशन्स एन्व्हायर्नमेंट प्रोग्रॅम (यूएनईपी) यांनी नवी मुंबई महानगरपालिका (एनएमएमसी), नॅशनल सर्व्हिस स्कीम (राष्ट्रीय सेवा योजना एनएसएस) आणि संघटनांच्या मदतीने या मोहिमेचे आयोजन केले होते. त्यावेळी पारसनीस बोलत होत्या. या स्वच्छता मोहिमेचे उद्घाटन करताना नवी मुंबई पालिकेचे आयुक्त अण्णासाहेब मिसाळ म्हणाले, राज्यात नवी मुंबई पहिल्या क्रमांकाचे आणि देशातील सातव्या क्रमांकाचे स्वच्छ शहर ठरले होते. विविध उपाययोजनांमुळे आमचे एनएमएमसी मुख्यालय सिंगल युज प्लास्टिक मुक्त इमारत असून प्लास्टिक प्रदूषणाचा यशस्वी मुकाबला करण्यासाठी वर्तणूक आणि विचारांमध्ये बदल करणे अत्यंत महत्त्वाचे आहे. टेरी आणि यूएनईपीने हाती घेतलेल्या या उपक्रमाचे कौतुक आयुक्तांनी केले. त्याचप्रमाणे टेरीच्या चमूने प्लास्टिक कचऱ्यापासून बनवलेल्या कोलाजचे अनावरणही करण्यात आले.

Tarun Bharat_04.02.2020

प्लास्टिक न वापरण्याची शपथ

नवी मुंबई : 'प्लास्टिक वापरणार नाही, प्रदूषण होईल असे कृत्य करणार नाही' अशी शपथ रविवारी जागतिक पानथळ दिनाचे औचित्य साधून महाविद्यालयीन विद्यार्थ्यांना देण्यात आली.

सागरी कचऱ्यापासून पाणथळ जागांच्या बचावासाठी 'टेरी' आणि 'यूएनईपी' या संस्थेतर्फे जनजागृती कार्यक्रमाचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. या वेळी पालिका आयुक्त अण्णासाहेब मिसाळ प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून उपस्थित होते. 'प्लास्टिकबाबत पुनर्विचार करा' असे घोषवाक्य घेत रविवारी वाशी येथील सागर विहार येथे जनजागृती कार्यक्रमाचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. या वेळी मोठ्या संख्येने महाविद्यालयीन विद्यार्थी उपस्थित होते. पालिका आयुक्त अण्णासाहेब मिसाळ यांनी, प्रत्येकाने स्वतः प्लास्टिक वापर टाळणे आवश्यक असून वर्तणूक आणि विचारांमध्ये बदल अत्यंत महत्त्वाचे आहे असे सांगितले. या मोहिमेत सहभागी स्वयंसेवकांनी खारफुटीच्या जंगलात अडकलेला तब्बल १०० किलोग्रॅम प्लास्टिक कचरा गोळा केला.

Loksatta_05.02.2020

Media Coverage



टेरी, युनायटेड नेशन्स एन्व्हायर्मन्ट आणि नवी मुंबई पालिकेच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने वाशी येथे जागतिक पाणथळ दिवसाचे औचित्य साधून जनजागृती कार्यक्रम झाला. 'प्लास्टिकविषयी पुनर्विचार' संकल्पने-अंतर्गत प्लास्टिकपासून तयार केलेल्या कोलाज चित्राचे अनावरण आयुक्त अण्णासाहेब मिसाळ यांनी केले.

Maharashtra Times_04.02.2020

जागतिक पाणथळ दिनानिमित्त विविध जनजागृतीपर उपक्रम संपन्न

नवी मुंबई - नवी मुंबई हे राज्यातील पहिल्या क्रमांकाचे व देशातील सातव्या क्रमांकाचे स्वच्छ शहर म्हणून मागील वर्षी नावाजले गेले असून, यावर्षी देशात प्रथम क्रमांकाच्या मानांकनासाठी सज्ज आहे. स्वच्छ, सुंदर व प्लास्टिकमुक्त शहर निर्मितीकरिता नवी मुंबई महानगरपालिका सातत्याने विविध उपक्रम राबवित आहे. स्वच्छता ही नागरिकांची सवय होण्यासाठी स्वतःपासूनच सुरुवात करत प्रथमतः महानगरपालिकेचे

मुख्यालय सिंगल युज प्लास्टिक प्री करण्यात आले आहे. प्लास्टिक प्रतिबंधाच्या दृष्टीने टेरी आणि यू.एन.ई.पी. यांनी घेतलेला पुढाकार प्रशंसनीय असून, शहरातील नागरिक व त्यातही विशेषत्वाने तरुणांइने यात सक्रिय सहभाग घेऊन प्लास्टिकमुक्त नवी मुंबई करण्यासाठी पुढे आली आहे हे चित्र आश्वासक असल्याचे मत महापालिका आयुक्त अण्णासाहेब मिसाळ यांनी व्यक्त केले.

Mumbai Chauffer_05.02.2020

प्लास्टिक प्रदूषणाविरोधात भरीव कामाची गरज

जे. एस. सहारिया यांचे प्रतिपादन

पाणथळ दिनानिमित्त वाशीत कार्यक्रम

नवी मुंबई : महाराष्ट्र शासनाचे माजी मुख्य सचिव जे.एस.सहारिया यांनी रिथिक प्लास्टिक या उपक्रमाचे बहिष्कार करून यामधील युवकांचा सहभाग लक्षणीय असल्याबद्दल समाधान व्यक्त केले. प्लास्टिक प्रदूषणाविरोध वैश्विक आणि संस्थात्मक पातळीवर सविध काम करण्याची गरज त्यांनी व्यक्त केली. टेरी संस्थेचे मुख्य सल्लागार निवृत्त सचिवी अधिकारी जी. एस. गोल यांनी नवी मुंबई शहर इतके फिटो बनवण्यासाठी महानगरपालिका प्रयत्नाधीन असून त्याद्वारे टेरी संस्था सहयोगाने काम करीत असल्याचे सांगितले. प्लास्टिक प्रतिबंधाबाबत एक अभिनव प्रकल्प राबविण्याबाबतही काम सुरू असल्याची माहिती त्यांनी दिली.



टेरी व युनायटेड नेशन्स एन्व्हायर्मन्ट आणि नवी मुंबई महानगरपालिका यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने सगर विहार से. ८, वाशी येथे जागतिक पाणथळ दिवसाचे औचित्य साधून आयोजित करण्यात आलेल्या विदेशी कार्यक्रमासमयी जी एस गोल यांनी भाष्य करीत होते.

रिथिक प्लास्टिक संकल्पनेबद्दल बोलावले टेरी संस्थेच्या सह संघाला डॉ. अंजली पारसनीस यांनी टाकाऊ प्लास्टिक वाटण्यामध्ये पिचल, डंबर, वड अशा देवी कुळांशी रोपे तयार करून त्यांचे संरक्षण करण्यातून प्लास्टिकचा पुनर्वापर व पुनरुपयोग ससेच पर्यावरण संरक्षण हे विविध हेतू साध्य होत असल्याचे सांगितले. त्याचसमयी त्यांनी खासपुढीचे महत्वाची विषय केले. यावेळी उपस्थित स्वयंसेवक व नागरिकांनी १०० किलोपेक्षा जास्त प्लास्टिक संग्रहित केले व नवी मुंबई महानगरपालिकेकडे योग्य विल्हेवाट लावण्यासाठी प्रदान केले, अशी माहिती देण्यात आली.

यावेळी यूएन.ई.पी. संस्थेच्या प्रमुख सल्लागार सरोनी गोयल यांनी समुदायाचे असल्याचे मोठे प्रमाणातील प्लास्टिक कचऱ्यामुळे त्याचा सर्व जीवसृष्टीवर परिणाम होत असल्याचे आढळून येत असल्याने पाणी, हवा व जीवसृष्टीवरील प्लास्टिक प्रदूषणाचे परिणाम रूढतात घेऊन ते धोबितण्यासाठी विशेषत्वाने समुद्री प्लास्टिक प्रदूषणावर रूढ केंद्रीत करण्याचे ठरविले असल्याची माहिती दिली. यावेळी मुंबई, आंध्र, अहमदाबाद, हरिद्वार याठिकाणी उपक्रम सुरू करण्यात आले असल्याचे त्यांनी सांगितले. त्याच धर्तीवर नवी मुंबईतही उपक्रम राबवण्यात येणार आहे.

'समुद्री प्लास्टिकपासून पाणथळ जागांचा बचाव'

मनात आणून आत्मसाधन मिळाले टेरी संस्थेचे मुख्य सल्लागार माजी सचिवी अधिकारी जी. एस. गोल, भारत सरकारचे उच्च अधिकारी लॉरिया अहजा, नवी मुंबई महानगरपालिकेच्या पर्यावरण दर्ता समिती सभापती दिक्षा वसकरबाई, उच आयुक्त ददासाहेब चाकुकरवार, टेरी संस्थेच्या सह संघाला डॉ. अंजली पारसनीस, यूएन.ई.पी.च्या प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण सल्लागार सरोनी गोयल व इतर मान्यवर उपस्थित

होते. यावेळी वारोविल कर्मवीर भाऊराव पाटील महाविद्यालय व आरसीएस महाविद्यालय, नेरळचे उमयव आदिक तंत्र महाविद्यालय व एसआयईएस महाविद्यालय तसेच डॉटम ईन्स्टिट्यूट अहमद एन्व्हायर्मन्ट मॅनेजमेंट तसेच एनएसएसचे विद्यार्थी समुद्री प्लास्टिकपासून पाणथळ जागांचा बचाव' या संकल्पनेस अनुसरून खासपुढी क्षेत्रातील प्लास्टिक संकलन मोहिमेत मोठ्या संख्येने सहभागी झाले होते.

तरुणांचा सहभाग कौतुकास्पद - आयुक्त

नवी मुंबई हे राज्यातील पहिल्या क्रमांकाचे व देशातील सातव्या क्रमांकाचे स्वच्छ शहर म्हणून मागील वर्षी नावाजले गेले असून या वर्षी देशात प्रथम क्रमांकाच्या मानांकनासाठी सज्ज आहे. स्वच्छ, सुंदर व प्लास्टिकमुक्त शहर निर्मितीकरिता नवी मुंबई महानगरपालिका सातत्याने विविध उपक्रम राबवित आरुन याचद्वारे ही नागरिकांची सवय होण्यासाठी सतत-सततच सुरुवात करत प्रथमतः महानगरपालिकेचे मुख्यालय सिंगल युज प्लास्टिक प्री करण्यात आले आहे. प्लास्टिक प्रतिबंधाच्या दृष्टीने टेरी आणि यूएन.ई.पी. यांनी घेतलेला पुढाकार प्रशंसनीय असून, शहरातील नागरिक व त्यातही विशेषत्वाने तरुणांइने यात सक्रिय सहभाग घेऊन प्लास्टिकमुक्त नवी मुंबई करण्यासाठी पुढे आली आहे हे चित्र आश्वासक असल्याचे मत महापालिका आयुक्त अण्णासाहेब मिसाळ यांनी व्यक्त केले.

Navrashtra_05.02.2020

5. Take Home Message

“Save Ocean to Cherish and Don't
Leave it to Perish...”



“Restrict Single Use Plastic”



Acknowledgement

We would like to express our gratitude to :

- Project Partners, Sponsors, NSS volunteers, College students for actively participating in all the activities.
- Local citizens and all participants for making this event successful.
- Media personnel for covering the event and helping us reach out to greater audience.
- Each and Every one who has been associated with us in this endeavor

THANK YOU