



TERI in collaboration with ONGC organised ‘One Lakh Paper Bags Campaign’ under the ‘Soldiers of the Earth’ project

Future green warriors get lessons on green living, students pledge to save the environment, minimise environmental hazards

March 9, 2012, Nazira, Assam: **TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute)** in association with **ONGC (Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd)** organised the *One Lakh Paper Bags Campaign* under the *TERI-ONGC Soldiers of the Earth* project to sensitise the youth about environmental issues. The campaign was held at the Ambedkar Auditorium, ONGC Nazira, Assam, on 29 February 2012. Four leading schools from Nazira and the neighbouring Sivasagar district—Kendriya Vidyalaya, ONGC, Nazira, DPS Nazira, Kendriya Vidyalaya ONGC, Sivasagar, Holy Name School, Sivasagar participated with enthusiasm and zeal. The day-long programme culminated with students distributing paper bags to shopkeepers in the nearby markets.

The mood was electric with students shouting slogans and pledging to work towards saving the environment.

Ms Preeta Pant Vyas, General Manager, Human Resource/In Charge, HR-ER, ONGC Assam Asset, Nazira in her inaugural address highlighted the role of youth in saving the planet. A special introductory presentation on the Soldiers of the Earth programme, championed by Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar was also showcased. The inaugural session was followed by Poster Painting Competition and an Environment Quiz.

The winner of the Environment Quiz was the team from DPS, Nazira, the runner up being the team from Kendriya Vidyalaya, ONGC, Nazira. Students from DPS Nazira and Kendriya Vidyalaya, ONGC, Nazira emerged as the winners in the Poster Painting Competition. The big prize of the One Lakh Paper Bag Campaign Champion was bagged by DPS Nazira for their efforts in making around 4000 paper bags within the span of one week. Kendriya Vidyalaya, ONGC, Nazira was the runner up.

In his address to the students Mr Anil Kumar Sachan, Group General Manager, Drilling and Officiating Executive Director, Asset Manager, ONGC Assam Asset, Nazira said, “We have to start with very small steps which will lead to bigger achievements in the field of environmental protection.” He encouraged the students to not stop with the campaign and continue their good work. Ms Vyas, in her address, called upon the students to take the initiative and lead the movement towards environmental change. Dr T Varun, General Manager, Head, Logging Services, ONGC Assam Asset, Nazira spoke about the various areas that need special attention such as water resources and their conservation.

The campaign was an exciting and learning experience for the students who pledged to continue taking steps to minimise environmental damage in their homes and schools. This, they felt, would merge into a larger, nationwide movement for the protection of the environment.

About The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI):

From microbiology to global climate change, from smoke-filled rural kitchens to plush corporate boardrooms, from schoolchildren to heads of state—no sphere of human endeavor is unfamiliar to TERI. Headed by world-renowned economist and Head of the Nobel Prize winning UN Climate panel, Dr. R K Pachauri, TERI is best described as an independent, not-for-profit research institute focused on energy, environment, and sustainable development and devoted to efficient and sustainable use of natural resources. A dynamic and flexible organization established in 1974, all activities in TERI move from formulating local and national level strategies to suggesting global solutions to critical energy and environment-related issues. Headquartered in New Delhi, TERI has established regional offices in Mumbai, Bangalore, Goa, Guwahati and Mukhteshwar in the Himalayas and International centres in Japan, Malaysia, the United Arab Emirates, Washington DC, London and Utrecht, the Netherlands.