

ENVIRONMENTAL PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BEYOND THE CAMPUS

<u>2016-2017</u>



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Introduction

Environment is changing as time passes as a result of socio-economic, technological and developmental activities. It is the need of the hour to take remedial measures to protect our environment and to create awareness about environmental protection. The environmental promotional activities of the college aim to make the public aware about environmental protection. The themes for the activities include energy conservation, waste management, environmental cleanliness and protection of natural resources. Street plays, awareness campaigns, cleanliness drives and various other environmental protection programmes have been organized as part of this initiative.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST PLASTIC

The Department of Social work organized a campaign against use of plastics in association with Thanmaya media centre, Kumaranalloor at Kumaranalloor Jn., The programme started at 10 am in the Kumaranallor area. The participants visited all the shops and houses in the Kumaranallor area and collected all the plastic wastes from there. Through our programme we conveyed the message of harmful use of plastics in our environment.

The participants including people from houses and shops gathered in front of a shop in Kumaranallor and took an oath against the use of plastic. Fr. Sonny (Director Thanmaya media centre), Dr. Ipe Varughese (Head of Dept. of Social Work, Bishop Chulaparambil Memorial College) and two representatives from the shops spoke during the occasion. Ms. Benee Wilson, Student Coordinator of the programme shared vote of thanks.





Plastic free Campaign for Public at Kumaranaloor, Kottayam on 20th September 2016



CLASS ON NATURAL AYURVEDIC PLANTS

Medicinal plants are useful for curing human diseases and play an important role in healing due to presence of phyto chemical constituents. The plant Tragia Involucrata, which we locally call 'Choriyanam', found in most of the kerala backyards has got wonderful medicinal values. A class on the various uses of Choriyanam was given for the NSS volunteers. This was done with the intention of familiarising students with the wild varieties of herbs which was used by our forefathers instead of high costly medicines. The leaves of Choriyanam are used for removing dandruff ,head lice and even used as food. Recipes using Choriyanam were demonstated to the students. Sixety students from various departments participated in this class and they were very curious to know the medical importance of plants around us.



Taking class on the benefits of Choriyanam plant on 28th November 2016



College Staff arranging the medicinal plants- Exhibition open for public on 28th November 2016



Brochure



SAPLING DISTRIBUTION

Presence of plants is vital for life to sustain as it is a source of air to breathe, shade and food to humans, animals and plants. They provide habitats for numerous species of fauna and flora, firewood for cooking and heat, materials for buildings and are places of spiritual, cultural and recreational importance. As part of the environment day celebration, which is conducted on 29th November 2016 saplings were distributed among students to upraise their love and concern towards nature. NSS unit of BCM College supplied saplings to its students to inspire students to plant trees, develop a culture of care towards the environment and to make them realize their inevitable dependence on nature. The project mission is to increase the green cover of our country outside the forest area in order to reduce soil erosion , reverse desertification, restore self-sufficiency and counteract climate change. Social mobilization strategy of BCM College NSS unit through deforestation is designed to rekindle hope, and environmental responsibility, and to bring about self- sufficiency that is in harmony with the ecosystem. This project of Sapling distribution was done in association with the Forest department of the Kerala Government. Under this Scheme, Students participated in planting of trees in their own household compounds and were taught ways to nurture them. Plants of neem, teal, tamarind etc were distributed.



Brochure



NSS Volunteer secretary Sethu Maria George distributing saplings to volunteers 29th November 2016



SALE OF HARVEST

We know that most of the vegetables and fruits we buy from markets are grown using artificial fertilizers and chemical pesticides. There are cases where health problems occur after consuming this. One of the fastest-growing segments in agricultural inputs is biological products derived from naturally occurring microorganisms, plant extracts, beneficial insects or other organic matter. The usage of biological products is indeed good for our health. And as a part of uplifting the practice of farming, the yield harvested by the NSS unit of Bishop Chulaparambil Memorial College was put on sale on 30th November 2016. Harvest obtained from the cultivation of organic farming was sold out as **"Vilaveduppu Maholsavam**". Inauguration of the sale was done by Fr Philmon kalathara, Burasr of the college along with Smt Susy Philip, Vice principal of the college by selling a "Vazhakola" to Dr Selinamma Joseph ,one of the senior most faculty of BCM College. This was a good initiative by the students which made them to be a role model for others. 23 students diligently participated this sale harvest. After the inauguration , yield from the farm was sold out to the staff and students of BCM itself within minutes. Students weighed and sold out the yield to the staff and students of BCM College. Profit obtained from the sale of Vazahakola was used for charity.



CULTIVATE AND ENJOY FRESH VEGETABLES AND FRUITS

Brochure

Volunteers of the BCM College NSS unit had undertaken organic farming in 1.60 acres of land near Iranjal bridge at Kottayam. When it was time for reaping the harvest of the hardwork, students went as a rally with plackards made of natural leaves. Rally was flagged off by Fr Michael Vettikattil, governing body member of the college. Objective of this rally was to spread awareness among the public about the organic farming undertaken by students. We wanted to pass on the message about the success of sustainable agriculture to encourage more people into it. Rally started off from BCM College and proceeded towards Iranjal Bridge through Kottayam town. Students procession carrying plackards attracted public attention with ease.



'Vilaveduppu rally' being inaugurated by Fr Michael Vettikattil, on 30th November 2016



Scenes from "Vilaveduppu rally" on 30th November 2016



Harvested organic vegetables from Bishop Chulaparambil Memorial College open sale for public on 30th November 2016



Students harvesting Tapioca on 30th November 2016

KOTTAYA 586 00 UNIT

PUZHA ARIVU

Conserving water means using our water supply wisely and be responsible. As every individual depends on water for livelihood, we must learn how to keep our limited supply of water pure and away from pollution. Keeping our water supply safe and pure will protect the water for the generations to come. Water resources are potentially useful to humans and indeed a blessing to mankind. The students were taught the importance of water resources such as rivers by being close to it and the need for knowing it.. 28 students diligently participated this programme. A nature awareness programme was comnducted by the NSS volunteers of BCM college, 11th December 2016 kottayam,. This was a programme organized so that the volunteers can have the experience of spending some quality time with mother nature learning facts and myths about the river and its banks. Rivers have a long story to tell about invasions and cultures of the places through which they flow. Students got enough options to learn the means and ways by which a river is being killed by pollution. History of the river 'Meencahil' was shared to the students by the historian Rajeev palikonam. He shared his pains on seeing the death of the river and its inhabitants. According to him, many of the species which once existed are not to be seen now in the waters.

UNITN



Brochure



Water conservation class by Shri Rajeev Pallikonam near the Meenachil river on 11th December 2016

ENVIRONMENTAL CONGRESS

Environmental awareness is to understand the fragility of our environment and the importance of its protection. Promoting environmental awareness is an easy way to become an environmental steward and participate in creating a brighter future. Environment congress program was held on Bishop Chulaparambil Memorial College auditorium on 13th December 2016 as a part of environment day. Sri Ratha Krishnan, environmental scientist inaugurated this meeting. College staffs, NCC unit cadets, students and people outside campus participated in this meeting. Programme was blessed with the presence of many dignitaries including Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA of Kottayam district, Sheela Cherian K Principal of BCM College and many members of the Lions Club. As part of the conference, there was a competition to choose the school in the state which follows the best practices in the area of sustainability and environment protection. PowerPoint presentations related to their work in the sustainable development of their surroundings were done by the selected schools before the NSS volunteers of BCM College. Presentations were awarded by Lions Club International. Santa Maria Kooropada school with their exemplary performance in protection of a river nearby their school came out as the winners of the competition.





Environmental congress meeting at Sr.Savio Hall on 13th December 2016



CLASS ON ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

Environment is what houses and helps our ecosystem grow and thrive. Without protecting and taking care of our environment we're putting so many lives at danger such as animals, plants and crops, and even our own. All of the ecosystems that make up our environment are deeply connected. Bishop ChulaparambilMemorial College NCC unit organized an Environment Protection class on environment day.. All NCC cadets had participated in the class which made them more aware and to know more about the necessity in protecting the environment. Class was conducted at college auditorium held on 15th December 2016. 23 cadets actively participated this class. Shri Kurian a famous environmentalists took a session for the NSS Volunteers on the endangered species of Kottayam. He showed us many pictures of flowers and animals which he took by himself, which were very common once in the vicinity of our homelands. But many of them were not known to the students, because they are rarely seen now in our vicinity due to the climatic variations and ever increasing pollution levels. He pointed out that many of the linkages in our food chain have started disappearing due to the careless behavior of humans. He urged the students to have sustainable development.



Brochure



Environment protection class by Dr. George Mathew of the College on 15th December 2016



HARITHAKERALAM-FLASHMOB

Harithakeralam misson aims to promote eco-friendly environment, sustainable development of natural resources, effective solid waste management, rejuvenation of the water reserves, sanitation and social hygiene, promotion of organic cultivation, zero pesticide food products, healthy foods, propagation of herbicides and Organic farming, protection of biodiversity and so on. As a part of environment day Bishop Chulaparambil Memorial College NCC unit organized a flash mob "HARITAKERALAM" in bus stand of kottayam on 17th December 2016. NCC cadets participated in the flash mob which helped to make the public aware about the importance and necessity to conserve environment. 25 cadets diligently participated this harithakeralam flashmob.





Harithakeralam mission flash mob at Nagambadom Bus Stand on 17th December 2016



CLEANING COLLECTRATE PREMISES

As a part of Gandhi Jayanthi, to promote and convey the message of clean India, NSS volunteers of Bishop Chulaparambil Memorial college took an initiative to clean the College and Civil station premises of Kottayam. District Collector Smt CA Latha IAS inaugurated the function on October 2, 2016 in front of collectorate junction and addressed the students. She spoke about the importance of cleaning near school and college area and madam also joined the cleaning activities of our NSS unit. Suchithwa Mission Coordinator and other officials were also there for the function. Programme was very effective and more than hundred students participated in this cleaning.



District Collector, Smt CA Latha addressing the students on Gandhi Jayanthi cleaning on October 2, 2016

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Cleaning the Kottayam District Collectrate premises on October 2, 2016

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Waste has become a menace affecting many households. On an average 6000 tons of Solid Waste is being generated in all across Kerala. Waste Management is an essential service to be provided by the municipal and local government authorities. Failure to provide it efficiently could be disastrous. Private sector participation is one of the best choices open to boost the performance of public services like solid waste management.





Brochure



NSS volunteers along with Programme officer during the exhibition on 22/09/2016

With disposal of waste emerging as a great concern in the state, NSS volunteers from BCM College conducted an exhibition on waste management at Thirunakara Maidan. Various charts related to various dimensions of waste management created by NSS volunteers from science stream were exhibited to create awareness among the public. Recycling, reuse and reduce were stressed to minimize waste generation. "**Kamba composting**" a novel composting technique was the highlight of the exhibition. Two Kamba Models one which was filled with the waste and an empty kamba was there, to demonstrate the process before the visitors of the exhibition. Kamba composting can decay all wastes generated at homes except metal scrapes and glass materials. Decaying

was done by the worms born from the curd which acts as a catalyst for decomposition. Plastic cans which were once thrown out as waste was reused as flower pots for planting flowering plants and herbs by the students. This was also demonstrated in the exhibition. Flowers made out of plastic carry bags attracted many persons. Exhibition was a successful one considering the large number of visitors to the stalls.



MODELS FOR WASTE MANGEMENT on 22/09/2016

Our College also has an incinerator and bio gas plant for managing the wastes generated at BCM College. We have separate collection systems for non degradable E wastes in the college. E wastes were collected by the NSS unit of the college. Pen drive was an initiative by the NSS unit of the College to portray the huge volume of plastic wastes generated by students every day in BCM College.



NO

DR. STEPHY THOMAS Principal In Charge Bishop Chulaparambil Memorial College Kottayam, Kerala