



EnviroBulletin

Under the Environment Education Training and Awareness (EEAT) scheme

APRIL - JUNE 2020



Department of Environment,
Chandigarh Administration

INTRODUCTION

The Corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic is taking a huge toll on individuals, families, communities, and societies across the world. Daily lives have been profoundly changed. COVID-19 has undoubtedly brought innumerable changes in our lives, but this time can be utilized to reflect upon our own thoughts and doings and by engaging in constructive activities.

During the lockdown period, various activities were organized for students through digital means. The April to June Quarter is the most important quarter of the year since the most important days lie in this quarter including World Environment Day, Earth Day and International Day for Biological Diversity. Various competitions were organized to channelize the energy of students such as photography competition, poster making competition and online quiz competition etc.

Adapting to the Covid-19, digital awareness has been identified as the best method to approach students under such prevailing conditions. Thus, all the activities were performed through online mode and teachers were requested to make sure that the guidelines of social distancing and staying at home are strictly adhered to and the students were advised not to step outside their houses.

EARTH DAY 2020

April 22, 2020 marked 50 years of **Earth Day**. The theme for Earth Day 2020 was *climate action*, which represents the biggest challenge to the future of humanity and the life-support systems. In this regard, the Ecoclub students were encouraged to utilize their time during the lockdown period by engaging in the Earth Day celebration through digital means.



On the occasion of Earth Day, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) called on the youth to pledge and showcase their support to help India transition to low carbon sustainable economy and share their plans for every day 'climate friendly actions' that they would undertake to combat climate change in the post COVID-19 world.

Earth Day - 22 April 2020 Theme : Climate Action

Earth Day is an annual event celebrated around the world on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. The theme for Earth Day 2020 is 'Climatic Action'. Just like the global coronavirus crisis, climate change is a direct result of human interference with the natural environment. This time of lockdown is also a time to reflect and introspect on our consumption patterns and the everyday choices that we make.

During this time of slowdown, we have witnessed improved environmental conditions, better air and water quality and their many benefits for all creatures inhabiting this planet. We have witnessed human kindness, compassion and resolve in many forms as we embraced minimalistic lifestyle so that everybody can have equitable access to vital resources.

The concept of sustainable lifestyles has been a way of life in India for centuries and today it is absolutely central to an effective climate change response. The learnings from this unfortunate time must inspire the necessary transformation of our ways of life to pave the way for renewed harmony between humans and nature, communion between our inner self and outer life; balance between ecology and economy; between the worlds we have inherited and created, between the present and the future - to a life that responds to Mahatma Gandhi's 'One must care about the world one will not see' and ultimately, greater peace among the peoples of the world.

Online entries were invited from school students as per the following details.

CATEGORY	COMPETITION
CLASS 6-8	POSTER/DRAWING
CLASS 9-12	POEMS, SHORT VIDEOS (not more than 2 minutes)



We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children



POEMS SUBMITTED BY STUDENTS OF ECO CLUBS OF CHANDIGARH

SET ME FREE

*Dear God just set me free
From all the sufferings you see*

*Why is it so hard to avoid deforestation
When they already know it leads to human extinction*

*I see my children hurting me everyday
They don't hear what their mother wants to say*

Global warming hurts me in every single way

The changes could leave us all in dismay

From body burns to crying a river

I fear I will forgive humans never

*So Dear God set me free
From all the sufferings you see*

I would rather die in peace

Rather be burnt or in cold freeze

Aditya Sharma

DAV Model School Sector 15 Chandigarh



IT ISN'T HARD TO EXPLAIN

*Global warming isn't hard to explain
It leaves mother earth crying with excruciating pain.*

*This hurts our planet in every single way
The changes could leave us all in sorrow and dismay.*

*We need to stop it now so the temperature doesn't rise
People, plants, and animals would be in demise.*

*Changes in temperature due to the depleting ozone layer
We really don't need it so show us that you care.*

*Mother Nature can't do it all so let's give her a rest
We all need to try and do what is best.*

*Our planet earth is precious and can't be replaced
We need to act now or our home will be erased.*

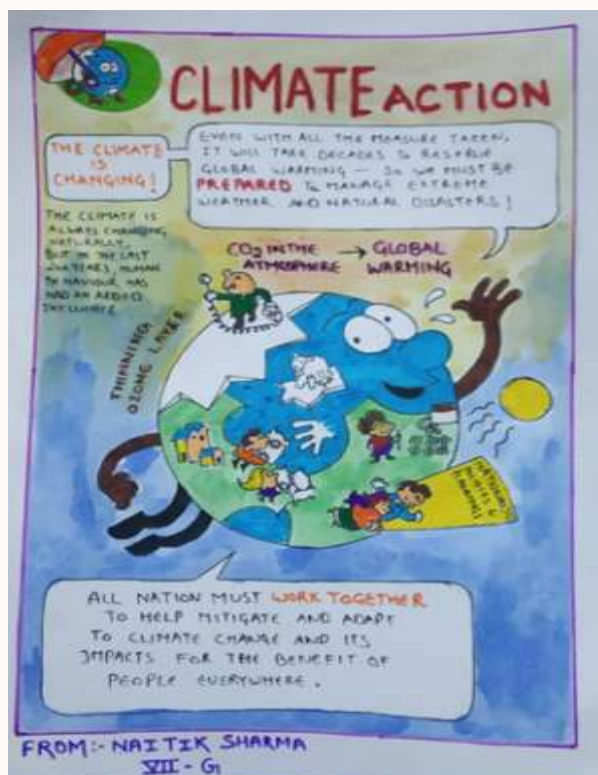
Maneshwar Singh Saini

Sri Guru Harkrishan Sr. Sec. Public School





POSTERS SUBMITTED BY STUDENTS OF ECO CLUBS OF CHANDIGARH





Celebrating 50th anniversary of World Earth Day in Chandigarh

Celebrating 50th anniversary of World Earth Day in green capital of India-Chandigarh, students, teachers & Principals of over 50 Schools of the city came together to create and promote over 250 short mobile videos, as part of a 'Do It Yourself-Acts of Green': Inter-School Mobile Video Contest. This was organized by Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration and Yuvsatta-an NGO with Earth Day Network India as knowledge partners.

Giving information about the response Sh. Pramod Sharma, Coordinator, Yuvsatta asserted that participating students and teachers used their time of stay at home constructively by making creative video messages and uploading them on YouTube, demonstrating their commitment to our environment and mother earth. Majorly they addressed the issues of discarding single use plastics, composting at home, recycling, even making organic dyes at home, promoting solar energy, saving water with onset of summers, benefits of cycling and amidst corona pandemic many videos of preparing cloth masks and importance of hand washing were also contributed.

Appreciating the initiative and support of local schools, Sh. Debendra Dalai, IFS, Director, Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration said that at this juncture of tough time where the whole world is fighting to defeat the invisible enemy COVID 19 virus the citizens of Chandigarh have shown solidarity and commitment along with the rest of our country to stay at home to contain the spreading of the Virus. He further appreciated the efforts by the students and children of Chandigarh to utilize the lockdown period for constructive purpose by making mobile videos to express their concern for the mother Earth on this WORLD EARTH DAY. He also emphasized that mother earth is also healing during this period as many positive developments of nature are visible and hence we must pay attention to relook into our activities for a peaceful coexistence along with other creatures. He also added that the people of Chandigarh are blessed to be living in the green capital of India-Chandigarh with around 46% of its total area under green cover. So it's imperative for each one of us to individually adopt green living lifestyles without polluting land, air and water-the elixir of life.

World Earth Day 2020
50th Anniversary Celebrations
Theme - Climate Action

Do-It-Yourself (Acts of green)
Inter-School Short Mobile Video Contest
For Students & Teachers from Chandigarh

To Participate, Prepare & Send Short Mobile Videos (60-90 seconds) on any of the following:

1. Composting waste
2. Discarding single use plastics
3. Recycling
4. Preparing cloth masks by reusing old cloths
5. Organic dyes
6. Vegetable garden (grow your own food)
7. Solar energy
8. Waste reduction
9. Saving water
10. Hand-washing
11. Cloth bags
12. Cycle for health & happiness

WIN CASH PRIZE + TROPHIES + MERIT CERTIFICATES

• So, what are you waiting for, just create a beautiful mobile video, post it on youtube and share the link before April 19, 2020 at yuvsatta@gmail.com.
• One can send multiple entries.

Participate of School can also participate by recording their World Earth Day mobile video message (60-90 seconds), posting it on youtube and sharing the link before April 19, 2020 at yuvsatta@gmail.com

Organizers:
Yuvsatta (youth for peace)-NGO & Department of Environment,
Chandigarh Administration
Knowledge Partners:
Earth Day Network India





INTERNATIONAL DAY OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

The Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration planned a theme-oriented competition for school/college students. The theme of this year's Biodiversity Day was "OUR SOLUTIONS ARE IN NATURE". Teachers were requested to make sure that the guidelines of social distancing and staying at home are strictly adhered to and the students were advised not to step outside their houses.

The Department organized two competitions on the theme of Biodiversity which include the following:

1. Biodiversity Photography Competition

The students were encouraged to click photos of three species each of plants (indoor and gardening plants, trees present within the house premises) and animals (mainly insects, birds, ants, butterflies etc.) present around and within their homes. Five best entries under each category were invited from schools to the Department.

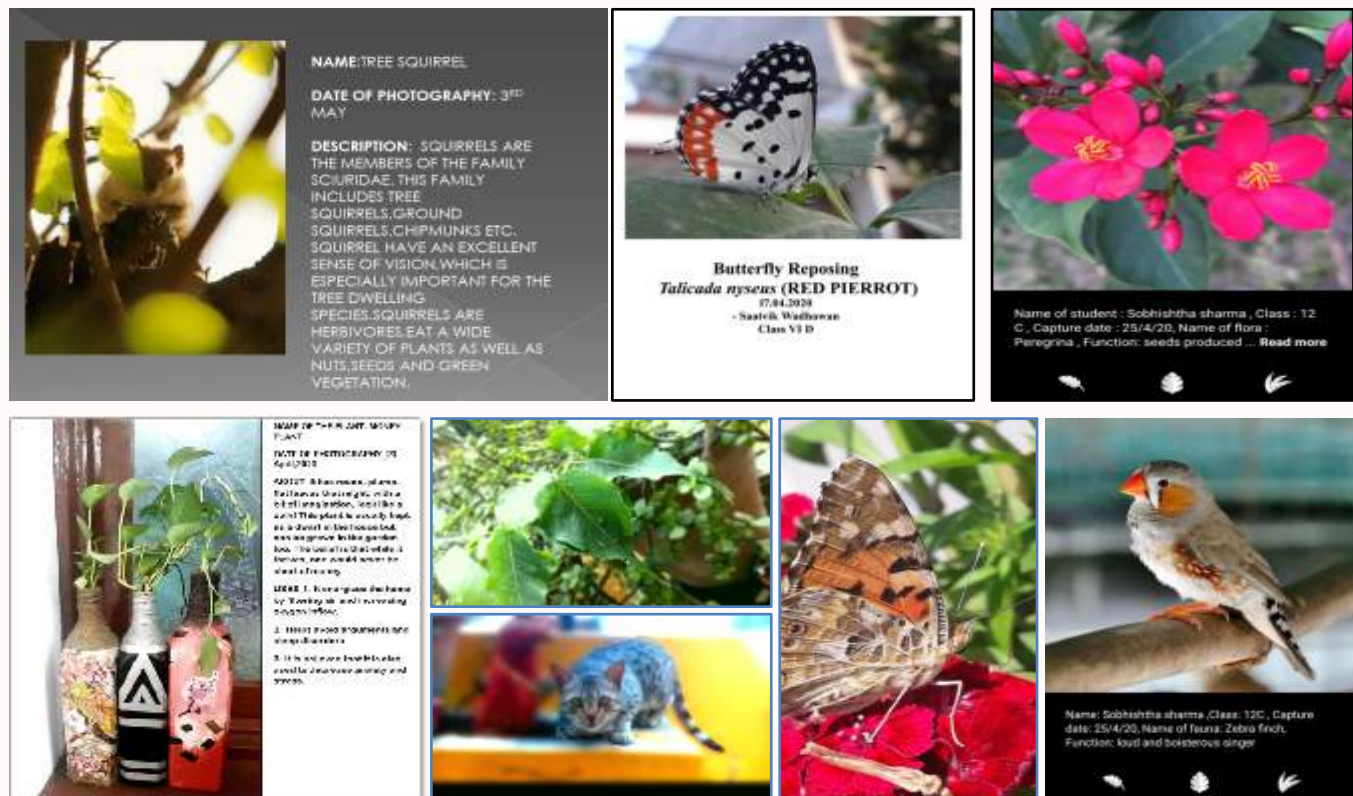
Details of the Competition:

There were two categories for the competition as given below:

Category 1: Up to Middle Level

Category 2: Above Middle level - up to Sr. Sec. Level

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION





2. Biodiversity Poster Competition

Entries were invited from schools for poster/slogan competition

Details of the Competition:

There were three categories for the competition as given below:

Category 1: Up to Middle Level

Category 2: Above Middle level - up to Sr. Sec. Level

Category 3: College Level

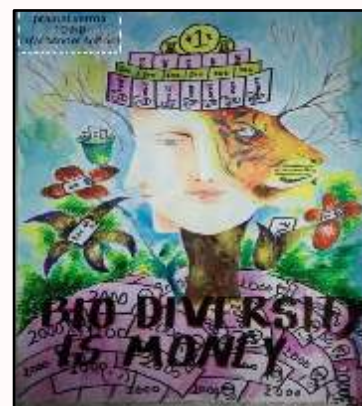
Themes:

Category 1: Biodiversity (Poster/Drawing Competition)

Categories 2 & 3: Biodiversity and Health (Painting or Drawing Competition with a Slogan or a little description mentioned on the drawing or poster)

The best five entries under each category were awarded with E-certificates

POSTER / SLOGAN COMPETITION





WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

The World Environment Day is celebrated on 5th June every year to create awareness about Environment and to sensitize people towards their duty to preserve and conserve environment. Every year a theme is declared to give attention to specific environmental problem. This year's theme was 'Biodiversity'.

On this occasion, Sh. V.P. Singh Badnore, Hon'ble Governor of Punjab and the Administrator, UT Chandigarh released the 'Greening Chandigarh Action Plan 2020-21' prepared by Forest Department, Chandigarh, in Punjab Raj Bhawan, Chandigarh in the presence of Sh. Manoj Parida, IAS, Adviser to the Administrator, Sh. Arun Kumar Gupta, IAS, H.S.-cum-Principal Secretary Environment and Forests, Sh. A.K. Sinha, IAS, Finance Secretary, Chandigarh Administration. This Plan has envisaged 2,55,000 saplings to be planted during 2020-21. The target of plantation assigned to Forest Department is 70,000 saplings and Horticulture Wing of Engineering Department is 30,000 saplings and Municipal Corporation is 50,000 saplings, while the balance is to be achieved by involving other stakeholders such as NGOs, Schools, RWAs, etc.

Sh. Debendra Dalai, Director, Department of Environment informed that UT Chandigarh takes pride in having preserved about 46% of the total area under forest and green cover. To increase green cover in U.T. Chandigarh, "Greening Chandigarh Action Plan 2019-20" was prepared for implementation by all the greening agencies. Speaking on the occasion, Sh. Debendra Dalai, IFS informed that World Environment Day reminds us of our responsibility towards nature and nature conservation. Due to COVID-19 and prevailing lockdown condition, we have realized how the nature has started healing and made us realize how we can contribute in maintaining a balance in nature.





After the event of releasing Greening Chandigarh Action Plan 2020-21, a ceremonial plantation was conducted by Forest Department, UT Chandigarh at Nagar Van (City Forest) where saplings of Banyan tree, Neem, etc. were planted by Sh. Debendra Dalai, IFS, Sh. T.C. Nautiyal, IFS, CF and Dr. Abdul Qayum, IFS, DCF alongwith staff of the Department.

Due to COVID 19 pandemic, the World Environment Day was celebrated also by inviting school students and public online for participation in the Poster Making, Repurposed Art, Poetry Contests, etc. and accordingly 970 students participated in different activities like Inter School Short Mobile Video Contests, Inter-School Poster Making, Inter-School Repurposed Art Contest, Inter-School Poetry Contests with the support of teachers and NGO - Yuvsatta. Other activities also conducted i.e. Best out of Waste-Create anything from something, Create a Garden @ Your own Home - Vertical Garden from Waste Material- Look for a simple, easy, and cheap way to create a garden, Painting on the earthen pots and fused bulbs with slogans- such as 'Stay indoors, Stay Safe' and 'Be Safe all in Lockdown & with a Green Message on Biodiversity. Such activities have brought awareness about environmental protection and to encourage children about action for recycling, fighting global warming, cleaning up pollution and many other issues.

An online Green Quiz Competition was held at 12.00 Noon on 5th June by the Department of Environment, UT Chandigarh in which more than 1100 students participated in the live green quiz contest and the winners were presented E-certificates.




Department of Environment
Chandigarh Administration

Inter-School Short Mobile Video Contest Celebrating World Environment Day 2020 For Students & Teachers from Chandigarh



**Short Mobile Videos (60-90 seconds) on
'Say NO to Polythene Bags'**

- Just create a beautiful mobile video, post it on youtube and share the link by June 3, 2020, at yuvsatta@gmail.com.
- **Cash Prizes, Winner Trophies and Merit Certificates** are waiting for you.

Organizers: Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration & Yuvsatta (youth for peace)-NGO