



REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

# SWACHHATA PAKWADA 2023

BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY WING, SREE CHITRA TIRUNAL  
INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

## INTRODUCTION

**Swachhata Pakhwada** is a campaign launched under the Swachh Bharat Mission. It is an important flagship programme of the Government of India initiated by the Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi, launched in order to honour Mahatma Gandhi's and fulfil the dream of Mahatma Gandhi to make a clean and hygienic India. It is a FORTNIGHTLY AWARENESS drive on cleanliness and is being observed every year. May 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> is the period of campaign for all institutions under Department. of Science and Technology As part of the campaign, various activities were conducted to promote the cleanliness culture as well as to spread awareness about sustainable cleanliness to the employee community of the institute. The activities conducted include 'Plantation of Tree Saplings', "Setting up of medicinal plants garden", 'Clean campus drive', 'Swachhata at Workspace', 'Poster competition for kids', Strategies for implementation of "Green Protocol" and organizing lectures on 'Strategies on laboratory waste management' for BMT Wing.

## PLANTATION: FRUIT BEARING TREES AND MEDICINAL PLANTS

The Swachhata Pakhwada campaign of BMT Wing was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Sanjay Behari, Director, SCTIMST on 03 May 2023. As part of the inaugural ceremony, saplings of fruit bearing trees such as guava, sapota, custard apple, njaval, peanut butter fruit, mango, cherry plants were planted in the premise of BMT pond valley. It is expected that these fruit bearing trees would attract various kinds of birds to our campus. The location was chosen considering that the birds could have food and water without much human interruption.

Apart from the fruit bearing trees, as many as 25 varieties of medicinal plants were planted near the reception, BMT wing. Dr. Hari Krishna Varma P.R. (Head BMT Wing), HoDs of different departments, faculty members, and other staff joined hands to make the program a great success. Ayurveda and Sidha branches of medical sciences make use of many medicinal plants as part of medicines. Around twenty five varieties of locally available medicinal plants including different varieties of basil plants, indigo, alovera etc. were planted in an identified area.



### **SWACHCHATA @ LABORATORIES**

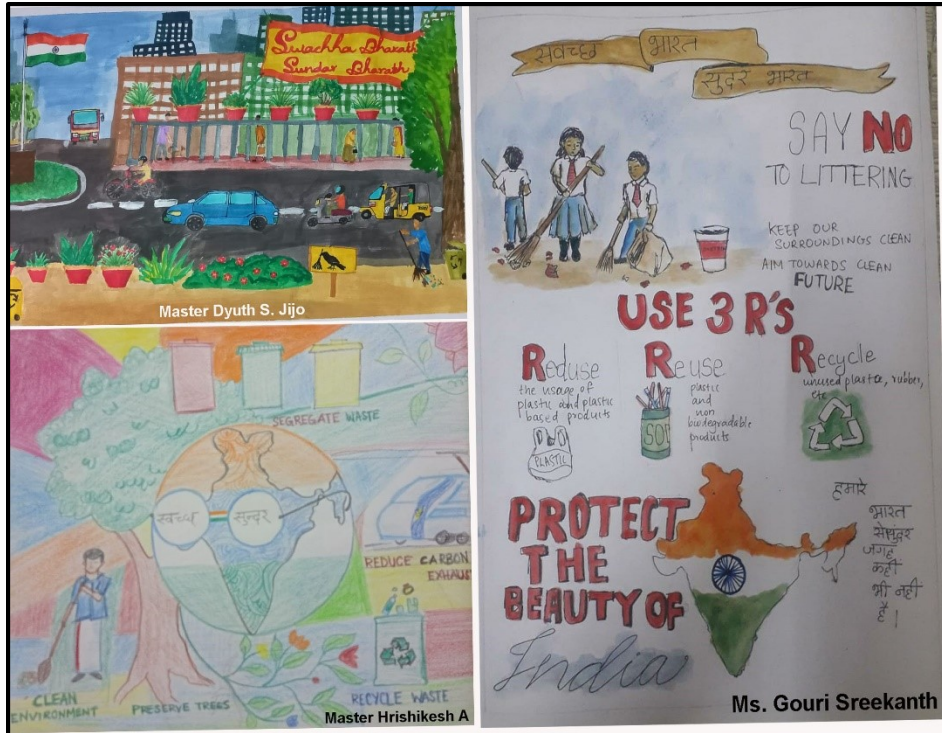
A clean up drive (apart from routine cleaning) was conducted in all the divisions and laboratories of the campus. Labelled bins were temporarily installed at various locations such as Palace – Library, Near TRU in Block C, Near Punching station in Block B, Corridor of Toxicology block and Animal House and Veranda of Construction wing building. The staff and students were instructed to clean up the labs/ divisions and dispose of the waste in the specific labelled bins. They were also requested to upload the photographs of laboratories before and after the clean up.



A survey was also conducted to identify the challenges faced by the individual labs/ divisions. As the part of the survey, a questionnaire was formulated and circulated among the staff and students. The challenges and suggestions were collected.

### **SWACHCHATA THROUGH COMPETITIONS**

To induce awareness about the importance of cleanliness and hygiene and encouraging children to take responsibility to keep and maintain their surroundings clean, a Poster competition on “Swachh Bharat Sundar Bharat” was organized. The competition was organized under two categories (Category 1: Age group above 12 years; Category 2: Age group 13-18 years). The best posters received in either categories were rewarded. The prize winning posters are given below.



Prize winning posters



Poster that won the consolation prize

Another competition was conducted for the BMT Faculty/staff/students wherein suggestions were invited to improve waste management in the Disions/labs/campus. The members who sent best suggestions were rewarded.

## **SWACHCHATA THROUGH GREEN PROTOCOL**

The green protocol comprises of a set of measures implemented to significantly reduce waste with primary focus on prevention of use of disposables and using reusable alternatives like glass/stainless/porcelain cutleries. This also includes scientific practices of handling waste. Committee for Swachh Bharat Mission initiated a proposal for implementation of green protocol in BMT Wing. Based on the request, a committee under Chairmanship of Shri. Nagesh, Scientist G (Senior Gr.), Division of Extracorporeal Devices, was constituted to look into the implementation of Green Protocol on the campus. A blue-print on the implementation plans has been formulated.

Inspection of Toilets was done to assess whether they are accessible to children, senior citizens and differently abled personnel. On inspection, it was found that all the toilets are accessible by the above categories of persons.

## **CONCLUSION CEREMONY AND PRIZE DISTRIBUTION**

The Swachhata Pakwada observation at BMT Wing was concluded formally on 16 May 2023. The ceremony began with welcome speech by Shri. Sajithlal MK, Chairperson, Swachha Bharath Mission committee. Dr. HK Varma, Head BMT spoke about the implementation of cleanliness in the work place and Shri Nagesh DS, Scientist – G (SG) spoke on the importance of implementation of green protocol. Dr. Shiny Velayudhan presented the glimpses of activities conducted during the cleanliness fortnight. Two lectures were also organized during the conclusion ceremony.

Dr. Remya NS, Scientist – D, Biological Safety Officer delivered a talk on the scientific methods for the management of biomedical wastes in a medical device laboratory. She briefed on the types of Biomedical wastes and emphasized that effective management of biomedical waste involves a series of coordinated steps, which includes proper segregation at the source, safe collection, transportation, and storage of the waste, adhering to strict safety protocols and regulations.

Dr. Renjith S., assistant chemical safety officer delivered a talk on the scientific methods for the management of chemical wastes in a medical device laboratory. He briefed the types of chemical wastes and stressed the need for the implementation of Reduce, Recycle and Re-use

(3R) strategy for their sustainable management. He pointed out that the lab user should be aware of MSDS and containment strategies of each chemicals before using it for the R&D purpose. Sensible purchase, utilization and management of laboratory chemicals can reduce the chemical wastes considerably. The meeting concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Mr. Saurabh S. Nair.



### Swachchata Pakhwada: Conclusion

Prizes for the winners of the competitions were distributed by Dr. Harikrishna Varma, Head BMT Wing, Shri. Muraleedharan C V, Associate Head BMT Wing, Shri. Nagesh D S SIC, Division of Extra Corporeal Devices.

### Winners of the Poster competition are:

#### Below 12 years

**First Prize:** Master Dyuth S. JiJo

#### Above 12 years

**First Prize:** Ms. Gouri Sreekanth

**Second Prize:** Master Hrishikesh A

**Consolation Prize:** Ms. Devika BA



#### **Distribution of Prizes**

The Swachhata Pakhwada committee members are thankful to all the support extended from the institute. We look forward to cooperation from all of you for the successful implementation of forthcoming activities.



**Swachh Bharat Mission committee Members 2023:** (From Left to right): Shri. Sajithlal MK, Dr. Gijo Raj, Shri. Saurabh S Nair, Mrs. Beena P. Nair, Dr. Remya KR, Dr. Shiny Velayudhan, Mr. Hemanth Kumar RP and Shri. Anoop Gopinathan (not shown in the photograph)