

# 2012

## Green GBU-Clean GBU



**GBU Environment Awareness Campaign, 2012**









**Organised by MSW III semester students**

***Department of Social Work***

***School of Humanities & Social Sciences***

**05 November, 2012**

## Content:

 INTRODUCTION-----	2
 ABOUT THE PROGRAMME-----	3
○ <i>Work done by the students of</i> <i>Department of Social Work</i> -----	3
 SLOGAN WRITING COMPETITION -----	5
 PAINTING COMPETITION-----	7
 PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN FROM YASHODHARA SANSTHA SHIVIR -----	8
 AWARENESS GENERATION -----	9
 ABOUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK -----	10
 THE STEP AHEAD...! -----	10

## INTRODUCTION

Environment is a very important buzzword today. The phrases 'climate change' and 'global warming' and more recently 'global cooling' are now part of our everyday lives and rarely does a day go by without a mention of it in our lingo, work, home or otherwise. There isn't just one over-arching problem but series of discrete problems concerning our society in the present times. Our immediate surrounding is engulfed with various environment predicaments which need to be highlighted, brought forward and spoken about.

We are all inclined to take the climate for granted. We are basically acclimatised to the seasonal cycle and most of the variations that occur from day and week to week. It is all too easy to forget just how much of this comfort depends on the fact that our buildings, food and energy supplies, health and transport systems and leisure activities are carefully designed to meet the challenges of the local climate. But when any extreme event occurs, it becomes acutely apparent how vulnerable is the infrastructure of the society to the climatic fluctuations. Droughts, floods, heat waves and windstorms can all have disastrous consequences<sup>1</sup>.

Although the discussion relating to climate change is a recent phenomenon, historically it was the effort of two researchers namely Hubert Lamb (England) and J Murray Mitchell (USA) who brought up the theory of climate change as an accepted scientific concept during the 1950s and 1960s. This led to an increased interest and growing realisation in the last few decades that recent climate change may well be at least partly the result of human activities. We have to also consider that climate change does not concerns environment alone but has major implications for economic and social development. And that is one of the reasons that '*ensuring environment sustainability*' is one of the eight goals under the **UN Millennium Development Goals**. There is now emerging literature about the possible social effects of global warming and climate change that addresses the risks to health and to particular population groups and concerns about how climate change is contributing to rising inequality. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) latest development report '*Fighting Climate Change—Human Solidarity in a Divided World*' forecast that the impact of climate change on the world's poor will have long term consequences<sup>2</sup>.

As social workers therefore we tend to see the approach towards our environment from human rights approach and also recognise the role of partnership by working with people, communities and institutes which can help promote the positives of global climate and minimise the harm which can be done.

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<sup>1</sup> Burroughs, William J. (2001). *Climate Change: A Multidisciplinary Approach*. University of Cambridge: United Kingdom.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations Development Programme. (2008). 'Fighting climate change—human solidarity in a divided world', Human Development Report 2007–08, UNDP.

## **ABOUT THE PROGRAMME**

On 5 November, 2012 the students of Masters in Social Work (MSW) III Semester organised '**awareness programme**' for all GBU students under the 'Green GBU and Clean GBU' project which was conceptualised and coordinated by five like-minded students of Social Work (namely Adnan Usmani, Joochi Singh, Kamal Singh, Manikant Singh and Seyrish Fatima Khan) in collaboration with student volunteers from MSW I Semester.

Historically, on this day in 2001, the UN General Assembly declared 6 November of each year as the **UN International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict**. Through this event, the students wanted to generate awareness among the GBU students who could prevent the exploitation of environment in their own premise, whether in their homes, classrooms, hostels, university campus or generally.

The aim of the programme was also (i) to promote environment awareness among the students of the university, (ii) to spread environment education, especially in a non formal way like slogan writing, painting competition, rallies and public talks, (iii) to encourage the students and everyone alike to endorse and be sensitised about petty but important things to keep our environment safe and sustainable like – switching off all electrical points when not in use, using of dust bin to dump the garbage, to conserve water by closing the water taps after use, to abuse less items which demands electrical consumption, to not litter the surrounding, to also set an example for others and doing what is right and (iv) to mobilise the student participation and preservation and conservation of GBU environment as the famous saying goes that *"charity should always begin from home"*.

To achieve the above aims, the students designed the following programmes for students so to encourage them to participate in large numbers, which are listed below:

- (i) Slogan writing competition
- (ii) Painting competition and
- (iii) Awareness generation

### ***Work done by the students of Department of Social Work***

1. The MSW III Semester students made a formal proposal (based on the learning gathered by the theoretical paper being taught in the semester MSW 653 Project Management in Social Work) and sent it to the Head of the Department for his approval and guidance.
2. Appropriate approvals were also gathered from the concerned Dean, library staff and administration block.
3. A rough budget was provided to the finance department which sanctioned a sum of INR 3,155 for the event.

4. The students also raised funds from the other students of GBU and some faculty members by collecting a sum of INR 10 from each student.
5. The collected amount was utilised for various purposes like buying 300 chart papers, sketch pens, stationeries and notebooks among others. Trophies made especially from Nai Sarak, Old Delhi were made for the winners with the university logo and theme of the event.
6. A notice containing all the details of the programme was posted on the school notice boards and student common entry gates almost two weeks in advance to create a buzz around the event. The MSW III semester students coordinated the registration process too.
7. For materials with regard to public rally, posters were made by the students of social work on thick wooden stick to generate awareness.
8. Arrangement with regard to tea was also made for all the participants.

We garnered an overwhelming response with almost 700 students participated in this event. Two-third of the students participated in the slogan writing and painting competition with around 200 students participating in slogan writing competition and 200 more students participated in the painting competition. The slogan and painting competition was judged by eminent faculty members from various departments and the winners were awarded with trophy shields and certificates.



The event was attended by almost 700 odd students including 20 faculty members

## SLOGAN WRITING COMPETITION

*"Good ideas are a dime a dozen, but implementation is priceless".* A memorable slogan is the mainstay of any successful campaign. Therefore, the participants were asked to write slogans on issues related to environment which they perceive to be important. These slogans would also help us understand what today's generation think about the climate change and its impact on social and economic development of the society. A total of 197 students took part in this event. The judges of this event were **Dr. Navras Jaat Afreedi** (Assistant Professor, Department of History & Civilisation, School of Humanities & Social Sciences) and **Dr. Vinod Kumar Shanwal** (Assistant Professor, Department of Education & Training, School of Humanities & Social Sciences).



The students writing slogans

The winning slogans of the competition were:

**First (Winner: Akansha, School of Engineering, 12/ICE/065):**

*"Jal jeevan ka anmol ratan ...  
Isse bachane ka karo jatan"*

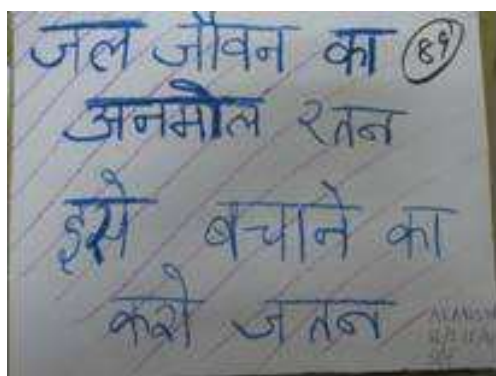
**Second (Winner: Adwita Pathak, B. Tech III Semester, 11/ICS/008):**

*"Recycle the past,  
Reuse your present,  
Save your future...  
Nurture nature for our future...  
It is time to show that you care!!!  
GREEN RULES"*

**Third (Mr. Sumit Bhardwaj, MBA I Semester, 12/PMB/022):**

*"it's only good until the last drop than what? "*

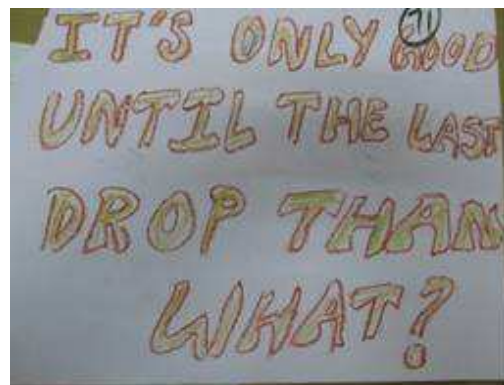
The pictures of the winning slogans are pasted below.



First prize winning slogan



Second prize winning slogan



Third prize winning slogan

There were other noteworthy slogans which received special mention from the judges which are listed below:

1. "Hug a Tree, They have less issues than people" – **Ashwant Kr Singh**, M Tech, 11/PBT/017
2. "Earth is not disposable. Be a part of the solution, not of pollution because Earth loves you" – **Vishvesh Kamal**, 11/PMB/062 & **Vaibhav Arya**, 11/PMB/055
3. "Don't be mean, be green...  
Don't refuse to reuse for it's our Earth you abuse" – **Nida Murtaza**, School of Biotech, 11/PBT/029
4. "Kudrat ka paaya kam nahi hota,  
Jo adhura reh jaaye who sankalp nahi hota,  
Aayo hum tum mil ke lagayein ek ek vriksha  
Kyunki hariyali ka vikalp nahi hota" – **Ankur Kansal**, 11/IEC/018
5. "Don't litter,  
It makes the world bitter" – **Gaurav Sharma**, M Tech, 11/PBT/020
6. "Pedo ko mat kaanto bhai,  
Yeh karte hain prakratik bharpai.  
Kadi dhoop hain jalte paav,  
Hote ped toh milti chaav" – **Aishwarya Saran**, 11/ICS/009



7. "Modern technology  
Owns an apology to the ecology" – **Mohit Singh Chandela**, 12/IEE/006
8. "Give a loot,  
Don't pollute,  
Go Green, Help Clean.  
Vriksh dhara ka bhushan hain,  
Karte door pradushan hain" – **Avdesh Yadav**, 11/IEE/023
9. "Population and Pollution  
Dangerous for Earth" – **Ashish Kumar Chauhan**, M Tech III Semester, 11/EIT/009
10. "Grow more trees,  
Let the Earth breath" – **Ashutosh Singh**, SOBT, 11/EBT/015
11. "Waqt ke is dorahe par mod kaisa aaya hain  
Insaan ne chhoda prakriti ka saaya hain.  
Jiske aanchal mein pale bade,  
Jiske saayein mein manushya ne aaj uss maa ko bhulaya hain.  
Waqt ke is dorahe par yeh mod kaisa aaya hain!!!" – **Kashika Shukla**, School of Management, 11/PMB/074.



The judges at work



All 200 slogans were displayed

## PAINTING COMPETITION

The world famous artist Pablo Picasso said “*art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life*”. The students of GBU were given a chance to go all creative with the brush and paper and explore their imagination which can show their geniuses in technicality and creativity with the bent of social ideology. The purpose of painting competition was also that the act of painting together is also a great way to bond together in social groups and



like-minded people and learn the nuances of imagination and culminate that into picturesque and thoughtful ideas. A total number of 196 students participated (in a group of two –  $98 \times 2 = 196$ ). The judges of this event were **Dr. Bidushi Sharma** (Assistant Professor, School of Management) and **Ms. Isha Paul** (Research Associate, Department of Psychology & Well-being, School of Humanities & Social Sciences).

The following paintings won the prizes:

- **First (Winner: Akhilesh Kumar, School of Engineering (Dept of MURP), 11/PUR/001)**
- **Second (Winner: Mr. Kavish Saroha (11/ICS/053) & Ms. Deepakshi Sharma (11/ICS/035))**
- **Third (Winner: Ms. Jyoti Arya (12/PMB/025) & Ms. Shalini Singh(12/PMB/039))**



The First, Second and Third winning entries respectively

### PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN FROM YASHODHARA SANSTHA SHIVIR

This event was also celebrated with the children of *Yashodhara Sanstha Shivir* (YSS). YSS is an informal school which works as university extension programme and an integral part of Department of Social Work. It aims to work towards education and awareness among deprived children from informal sectors and adjoining areas. It started at a construction site on the campus of GBU. The university provided a site for the education centre and the contractor of the construction site constructed classrooms for the children. The teaching material and other necessary things for the day-to-day functioning of the centre were provided by resource mobilisation. On an average, the student strength is 70 in the age-group between 3-14 years. The school is being managed by volunteers of GBU which includes students, faculty members and CRC and other staff.

During the programme, the students of Department of Social Work along with Ms. Isha Paul, Research Associate, Department of Psychology & Wellbeing conducted various group

sessions with them and involving them in various activities like songs, prayers, competitions and street songs. In the end, all the YSS children were provided with stationeries like books, pencils, pens by Mr. Vinay Litoria, Manager, Corporate Relations Cell.



The children of YSS at the event



Faculty members and DSW students in a group session with the YSS children



The children of YSS being distributed with stationeries from Mr Vinay Litoria, Manager, CRC

## AWARENESS GENERATION

The last phase of the programme was deliberated by the faculty members and students of various departments and schools which included public talks on climate change and a public rally. Among the first speaker we had a student from MSW I semester student Mr. Sudarshan Singh who started his speech with a self composed poem on environment and emphasised that only collaborative efforts among youth can bring in the change.

The event finale speech was delivered by Dr. Subhasis Bhadra (Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Social Work) who emphasised that youth has a big role to play in saving the environment. He also emphasised that as young professionals who are on the threshold of their respective careers like scientists, managers, engineers, social scientists it will become imperative to imbibe disaster and crisis management in the scheme of their work and also personal life. Furthermore he emphasised that this is mainly due to the fact that young people have to live for an extended period with the deteriorating environment bestowed by earlier generations and there are a lot of risks and health hazards involved in this. Young people will be forced to engage in improvised and effective forms of action and activism; thereby generating effective responses to ecological challenges.

In the end, students of Social Work also took put a public rally with the slogans on the sticks. But since most of the students had left, the rally and the event came to a close after the sunset.



1. Sudarshan Singh, MSW I Semester student giving a speech on climate change
2. Dr. Subhasis Bhadra, Asst Professor & Head, Department of Social Work giving a speech on youth's role in building safe environment
3. Students of DSW generating awareness through public rally on environment protection and sustainable solutions

## ABOUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

The Department of Social Work was formed in the year 2011 under the aegis of School of Humanities & Social Sciences. The department offers two year Masters Programme which is divided into four semesters and also has PhD programme in its curriculum. The mission statement of the Department is - '*Competence to Progress; Reaching the Unreached*'. The Department aims to provide both academic and professional exposure to students in the field of social work which encompasses social work in administration, welfare, policy development, community organisation, building human resources, research and documentation among others. The Department strives to enhance the intellectual faculties of students and individuals through both scholastic and field endeavours by engaging them in classroom discussions, field work with institutions and open communities and provide them exposure to national and international events and so on.

The Department provides both theoretical and field exposures offering vivid courses like case work, group work, sociology, psychology and mental health, family and child welfare, social welfare, social entrepreneurship, project management, social policy, dynamics of human behaviour, labour welfare, rural and urban development, NGO management among others. The department organises a weekly departmental Seminar with two presentations each week which provides opportunities to the students to prepare themselves in public platform, make formal presentations and learn the decorum wherein they shall be introduced once they enter the professional world.

## THE STEP AHEAD...!

Looking at the grand success and response of the event, the Department intends to continue its endeavour to organise and celebrate 5 November every year as GBU

Environment Awareness Day and help empower the students who can be the medium to bring in social change, however small the effort may be. The department believes that one random event cannot bring in the desired change, to help bring in a sustainable environment it is important that such programmes are organised every year where the talent of the students can be tapped in a fun and informal manner alongside educating them with social ethos and ideologies which will help them become a better individual and also shine in the field they will work in along with creating a good name of the university in the world outside.

We therefore request the university to provide its support to us in the coming years as well to make this programme a grand success as this year.

With the following years, the department also intends to develop pamphlets, stickers or small booklets which can be given to all students delineating the dos and donts of combating environment hazards. If the department receives more grants from the university, then seminar and workshops can also be organised. More awareness generation programmes can be organised like quiz, essay, debate, poster and slogan competitions, training programmes and so on which will help garner maximum student participation.



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