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Monthly newsletter of Centre for Environment Education (CEE)



»»» NEWS

CEE AT WEEC 2024

World Environmental Education Congress (WEEC) is an international meeting platform that welcomes everyone interested in education for the environment and sustainable development and connects them with international actors in environmental education. WEEC 2024 was the 12th congress and took place in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from January 29 to February 2, 2024. In a plenary session, Kartikeya V Sarabhai, Director-CEE, shared his thoughts on 'Collaborating and Networking for EE and ESD' along with other experts.

South and Southeast Asia Network for Environmental Education (SASEANEE) had a productive meeting bringing together esteemed environmental leaders from the region.



INDIAN HOTELS RECEIVE THE GREEN KEY CERTIFICATION

Sofitel Mumbai BKC, Novotel Pune Nagar Road and Novotel Hyderabad Airport becomes the first Indian hotels to receive the renowned Green Key certification. The hotels went under a lengthy and rigorous process of audit to earn this prestigious certification. This certification signifies a commitment towards the sustainable environment in the hospitality and tourism sector.

The Green Key certificate is the leading standard for excellence in the field of environmental responsibility and sustainable operation within the tourism industry. In India, the Green Key certificate is being implemented by CEE and was launched in August 2023 to certify the environment conscious hotels.



Novotel Pune Nagar Road

Sofitel Mumbai BKC



➤➤➤ AWARDS

CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE AWARD

Shri Kartikeya V Sarabhai, Director, CEE, being presented the 'Champions of Change' award from Lions Council of India by Dr Subhas Sarkar, Union Minister of State for Education and Dr Patti Hill, International President of Lions Club International at Jio World, Mumbai.



SAKSHAM SHALA TRAINING FOR GOG'S EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

➤➤➤ TRAININGS

The Climate Change Department completed the 2-day training on "Saksham Shala" for the 3rd batch of Government of Gujarat's Education Department officials. The training focused on delivering the climate resilient schools framework - clean, green, safe and sustainable systems - developed by GoG with UNICEF Gujarat and CEE as the main technical partner and GIDM providing capacity building support.



TRAININGS

CEE-HCLF My Clean City Project G Noida team, in collaboration with the RWA, conducted solid waste management training for Residents of Sector - 37, 36, Delta 1. The training focused on the SWM rules -2016, three types of solid waste, the need for source segregation of waste, and the importance of daily practice in segregation. A total of 355 residents participated in all seven training programmes.



On January 7, a fire safety training was organised by HDFC Bank-CEE and CORE (service provider) for safai mitras and MRF staff at Swachh Centre, Hinjlicut, Ganjam. Training provided by the team led by Mr Bajara Murmu, Station Officer & other five Hinjlicut Fire Station team members was attended by 40 safai mitras and MRF staff from Hinjlicut Municipality.



Under the Urja Chetana initiative, 10 schools in Kolkata have initiated composting, collectively managing 286.35 kg of waste, primarily from midday meals and dry leaves under the guidance of CEE Kolkata team. This odourless process has yielded 109.22 kg of compost till now in 30 days which students have applied to school plants. Additionally, through pH testing, 1680 ml of nutrient-rich leachate was obtained and judiciously used in plant care after dilution with water. This sustainable initiative reflects a positive impact on waste reduction, fostering environmental consciousness in school communities.



NATIONAL WORKSHOP OF CAG-EE

With Mr Kartikeya V Sarabhai as Chair, NCERT constituted the Curriculum Area Group on Environment Education (CAG-EE) with 16 Members. CAG-EE is working to develop new text book and Teacher Learning Material (TLM) suitable to meet the triple planetary crisis for Environment Education text book for the Grade 10 and an optional course on sustainability and climate change for Grade 11 and 12 as per the NCF-SE 2023. A national workshop of CAG-EE and special invitees was organised on January 19-20 at CEE Ahmedabad for the review of the work so far and the way forward.



A 2-day interactive workshop occurred at PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya Ahmedabad Cantonment campus as part of the PM Shri Yogna and Litterless campaign. The workshop engaged students from Classes 7 to 9, who actively participated in various activities. The session commenced with a brief introduction to "Footprint to Handprint" and the "Zero Waste Concept."



➤➤➤ OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

On January 5, a State Level Workshop on Roadmap for Plastic Waste Management in Jharkhand was organised by the Drinking Water & Sanitation Department, SBM(G), Govt of Jharkhand in Partnership with HDFC Bank-CEE, UNICEF, and NEEDS. Dr Neha Arora, IAS, Director DW & SD shared that we all have to adopt a systems approach to manage plastics and acknowledged Mr Prabhjot Sodhi for sharing his knowledge and insightful views to manage plastics responsibly. The workshop was attended by 180 participants including representatives from different organisations and mukhiyas of selective panchayats.

Shri Vishnu Deo Sai, Chief Minister; Chhattisgarh inaugurated Zilla Panchayat, Ministry of Jal Shakti- RWPF platform supported, HDFC Bank and CEE Material Recovery Facility and Material Recycling Centre on January 25 in Chhattisgarh.

He along with Shri Kedar Kashyap, Forest and Climate Change Minister of Chhattisgarh inaugurated 83 e-rickshaws to assist Swachhata Didis in door-to-door waste collection in rural and urban landscapes to collect and transport waste from Solid Liquid Resource Management Centres (SLRM) and village segregation sheds to MRF for further processing facilitated by implementing partner Shrishti Waste Management Services.

On January 5, CEE, NRDC and Junagadh Municipal Corporation (JuMC), organised Cool Roof Awareness Workshop in Junagadh. This event engaged diverse stakeholders, including municipal school authorities, government building maintenance personnel, local community members, and real estate developers.

This collaboration marked a pivotal step in community education, showcasing practical insights and compelling case studies to highlight the immense potential of cool roofs in Junagadh, driving sustainable urban development initiatives.



CEE North seamlessly connects with district coordination in Bihar, fostering collaboration and communication. Across Vaishali, Jahanabad, and Motihari, the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge (TTPC) unfolds its wings, touching the lives of thousands. Vaishali witnesses the participation of 22 schools and eight colleges, engaging 2,000 students and 455 youth. In Jahanabad, 200 participants in five schools embrace the challenge, while Motihari sees 105 students in four schools actively involved.



A clean-up drive was organised by Kerala SGF Tide Turners Plastic Challenge State Coordination Team on January 7 at Kadappara-Alingal Waterfalls, Kerala, in association with Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department. A total of 51.37 Kg of plastic waste was collected, mainly plastic bottles and food wrappers in three hours.



Mr Suman Rathod, Programme Director, Rural Programme Group (RPG) delivered a talk on the "Implications of CSR for NGOs in Gujarat" at a State Level Training Programme named Bridging Impact: Corporate Social Responsibilities and NGOs. The event was jointly organised by Yuvak Vikas Trust, Ahmedabad and Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, Delhi.

Mrs Padmini Bhoi Sahu IAS, Mission Director; SBM G inaugurated the Reverse Vending Machine (RVM) on January 4, in Raipur in the presence of Mr Pradeep Rungta, State Head, GIB, HDFC Bank, Mr Sandarbh Khatri, Area Head, GIB, HDFC Bank, State Consultants; Mr Purshottam Panda, Mr Rupesh Rathore, and Ms Abhilasha. Mrs Padmini emphasised this is done to promote responsible behaviors towards NO TO LITTERING and put all MLP - plastic wrappers and bottles and earn benefits.



On January 30, CEE South had a meeting with Ms Judith Weinberger-Singh, Resident Representative of HSS India where significant impact of the HSS-CEE projects over the last three years was discussed. These projects have been instrumental in providing knowledge support to state-level stakeholders, facilitating effective implementation of the Karnataka State Action Plan on Climate Change (KSAPCC) in the water and agriculture sectors.



In Ranmalpur Primary School of Halvad taluka, a talk was organised with children and teachers about Green School. It has been suggested by government to implement Green School activity in the school under PM Shri Yojana.



CEE facilitated a 10-day long internship programme for the undergraduate students of School of Liberal Studies (SLS) of PDEU. The programme was designed to provide them with a broad orientation of various socio-economic and environmental issues and how they are interlinked.

The programme was a mix of field visits and classroom sessions that helped the participating students understand different SDGs in the local context.



On January 27, CEE and Natural Resources Defense Council, in association with Gujarat Institute of Civil Engineers & Architects (GICEA) and with Indian Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ISHRAE) as a support partner organised a dynamic workshop and knowledge-sharing event "Fostering Sustainable Future with ECSBC Implementation" at Gujarat Institute of Civil Engineers & Architects. The workshop aimed to accelerate the adoption of the Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Code (ECSBC) and promote energy efficiency in upcoming commercial buildings, fostering a sustainable future for the building and construction industry. This event attracted over 50 attendees including real estate developers, architects, engineers, consultants etc.



Mr Prabhjot Sodhi moderated and facilitated 'Reimagine the way we Produce, Consume and Dispose Plastics session' at MRAI 11th Plastics International Conference held on January 23, in Kolkata. The session eminent speakers as panelists. The panel highlighted the significance of plastics and stressed the ongoing research to optimise its efficacy through circular approaches. They shared examples of plastic's reuse positive impact, emphasising cost-benefits, outreach, and strategies. They added- Plastics, will be a crucial sector in shaping the economy and aiding India in meeting climate change and net-zero targets.



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