

ANNUAL REPORT OF PRAKRITI SOCIETY (2019-20)

A brief profile of the society:

'Prakriti', the Environmental Society of LSR is an initiative by the students which aims to enlighten people about the importance of environmental issues and various methods of sustainable development. Throughout the year the society sees a wide array of interesting sessions, competitions and seminars to enhance awareness among the participants towards the environment. Therefore, the working of the society is towards celebrating the diversity and beauty of the environment and making everyone more inquisitive and conscious about its issues.

Office Bearers:

Kirti Chauhan (President)

Kamakshi Srivastava (General Secretary)

Nivetha S. (Treasurer)

Swasti Arya (Editor)

Staff Advisors:

Tripti Bassi

Sonali Mishra

Neha Sharma

Suman Bhanoo

Bhawana Arora

Akansha Singh

Vaishali Verma

Details

Campus Plantation Drive – 22nd July, 2019 On the special occasion of the college orientation for the batch of 2022, a campus plantation drive was carried out, as has been done for some years now. Freshers from all departments planted samplings all over the college campus to herald a new happy beginning..

Dragonfly Conservatory Workshop – 13th August, 2019 Conducted by Dr. Ishtiyak Ahmad, an education officer from the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary, the session created awareness about the immediate threats to the wellbeing of dragonflies in India and also highlighted practical solutions to the problem.

Plantation Drive at Tughlakabad Biodiversity Park – 17th August, 2019 Tughlaqabad Biodiversity Park is a new project of DDA among the upcoming and established biodiversity parks in Delhi, as a part of Professor C. R. Babu's drive to restore degraded ecosystems. Under the able guidance of Dr. Vivek, Head of Tughlakabad Biodiversity Park, the students and a staff advisor took the first step towards hands-on restoration of our eco-systems.

Talk on Ecology and Environment – 29th August, 2019 The event was conducted by Youth Alliance, an organization committed to transforming our community into a more introspective, sustainable, informed and responsible one. We were honoured to have with us Ms. Vibuthi, an alumna of LSR, and Ms. Riya as the speakers.

Butterfly Conservatory Session – 9th September, 2019 The session was spearheaded by Dr. Ishtiyak Ahmad, an education officer at Asola Bhatti Wild Life Sanctuary, who discussed the growing threat against butterflies and enlightened the students about the immediate need of butterfly conservation.

Talk on Water Crisis in India – 12th September, 2019 Delivered by Mrs. Anshumala Gupta, an IIT Kanpur graduate and who has worked as a senior Consultant with NCERT and Founder Director of Joy of Learning, the session began with recollecting a lost civilisation and turned to focus on how water plays an important role.

Talk on Environment and Spirituality – 25th September, 2019 An insightful and thought-provoking session on Environment and Spirituality: A Closer Look at Mindful Consumption was conducted by Dr. Manu Singh, who is not only an environment activist but a spiritual trainer as well. Throughout the session the speaker simplified the term Environmental Understanding with some basic yet fun examples that resonated with the student body.

Release of First Issue of Ankur – 29th September, 2019 The first online issue of Ankur, Prakriti's blog was themed around Ocean Health. It focused on creating awareness about the terrible condition of the oceans during the present time and suggests ways on how to prevent the same.

Annual Nature Walk – 1st October, 2019 Guided by Dr. Neha Sharma from the Department of Environmental Sciences, the nature walk is conducted every year inside the college premises to highlight the presence of various trees in the campus itself. It focuses on the historical, religious, metaphorical and medicinal aspects of the trees like Champa, Neem, Ashoka and several others. The students had fun walking in the woods and listening to the magic whispers of the old trees.

Session and Stall on Sustainable Menstruation – 24th October, 2019 Conducted by the organization, Greensphere under the project Meno-organic, the session focused on the dangers of the increase in non-biodegradable waste generated during menstruation. They created awareness how sanitary pads are harmful not only for the body but also for the environment.

Prakriti Bazaar – 16th January, 2020 The objective of inviting various organizations to set up stalls free of cost was to make eco friendly products accessible to the student body at large. Care was taken to have pocket-friendly products to cater to the student body. The bazaar was a huge success with organisations like Navdaanya, Raindrops Foundation, Ikhtiyaar, Aghaaz, Happy Living, Pure Wash and Goonj setting up stalls selling a wide range of products.

Visit to Okhla Bird Sanctuary – 18th January, 2020 The walk inside the sanctuary was guided by Dinkar, an avid birder from Rajasthan. The members spotted many water birds as well as land birds such as the Northern Shoveler, Common Pochard, Eurasian Coot, Great Egret, Intermediate Egret, Little and Cattle Egret, Rose Ringed Parakeet, Rufous Treepie, Jungle Babbler, Black Brongs to name a few.

Workshop on Zero Waste – 23rd January, 2020 Plogga comes from the term plogging which means picking up trash while running. Abhimanyu, the speaker, started this movement back in 2017 by creating communities of volunteers and has completed 600 plogging runs. He also stressed on the condition of garbage pickers in the informal sector. They receive unsegregated waste which contains medical waste such as blades leading to cuts.

Clean-Up Drive – 1st February, 2020 A clean-up drive was organized in collaboration with There Is No Earth B, a collective of environmentally conscious individuals in Connaught Place, Delhi before which safety equipment were handed out to all and instructions on the proper procedure for the same were given. After the clean-up drive, the members marched forward with all the bags to give the same to a recycler.

Seed Ball Making Initiative – 6th February, 2020 Under the able guidance of Dr. Vivek, head of Tughlakabad Biodiversity Park the members of the society used native-indigenous plant seeds to make the seed balls. The plant's productive part and compost was brought from Tughlakabad Biodiversity Park which were deseeded by the members themselves.

Talk on Ecofeminism – 7th February, 2020 Owing to lack of awareness on this topic, Prakriti in collaboration with the Department of History organised a talk on Ecofeminism by Dr. Vasudha Pande. She is an assistant professor at the Department of History, LSR. Dr. Pande covered a wide section of the topic reiterating the concept that women have always been seen as natural beings whereas men are seen as cultural beings.

Paper Recycling Workshop – 14th February, 2020 A workshop was held in collaboration with Aghaaz, an in-house NGO under NSS, LSR on recycling waste paper into sheets of paper which were then used to make file covers and aesthetic bookmarks.

Release of the second issue of Ankur – 20th February, 2020 The second online issue of Ankur was themed around a dilemma every youngster faces in recent times- whether to stay in trend or to invest in something durable. The title was 'Fast Fashion versus Sustainable Fashion'.

Talk on Fast Fashion – 20th February, 2020 A session on sustainable fashion was conducted by Youth Alliance. They indulged everyone in an activity in which the participants had to search for the price paid, manufacturing country, material used, production cycle, and the real cost of any type of clothing that they were wearing.

Sustainable Sell Stalls – 20th February, 2020 To create awareness about organic homemade natural products over chemical based ones, Prakriti members made an organic body scrub and an eco-friendly gel-based candle which were made using brown sugar, coconut oil, sandalwood oil, gel, tea leaves and rose petals and sold at reasonable prices.

Nest making Workshop – 21st February, 2020 Under the able guidance of Mr. Khatri a nest making workshop was organised where the participants received hands-on training with pre-packed kits for making artificial nests.

Celebration of Environment Week and Inspection Walk – 21st to 28th February, 2020 The Environment Week was celebrated throughout the college on a grand scale with inputs from every department. Each department took up themes relating to their subject and related it to an environment crisis the world is facing and put up elaborate and informative boards, decoration and models on the same.

Delhi University Annual Flower Show – 29th February, 2020 Enthusiastic students participated in various categories like Western, Eastern, Roses, Marriage and several others and created a stunning display of flower arrangements and rangolis. A great number of prizes and high commendations were received not only by students but also the gardeners of the college.

Waste Plastic and Paper Collection Drive - Prakriti organized collection drives for waste plastic and paper throughout the year that were then sent to recyclers. Both the drives saw huge participation from the student body and created awareness about the importance of segregation and recycling.

Garden Pe Charcha Sessions - Student led informal sessions were held to create a space for discussions on topics like Nature and Psychology, Environment and Competitive Examinations and Vipassana which is a ten-day meditative journey to find one's path in life.

