

For Favour of Publication

Valediction of the Biodiversity, Dolphin Conservation and Aquaculture Management module of Green Skill Development Programme on River Life Management System

Patna, July 15. The Centre for Environment Energy and Climate Change (CEECC) at Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI) an ENVIS RP on Water Management and Climate Change had organised two different programmes on Green Skill Development Programmes & "Beat Plastic" campaign.

CEECC-ADRI organized the valediction function for the training programme on Biodiversity, Dolphin Conservation and Aquaculture Management module of River Life Management System (RLMS) under Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP). GSDP is a skilling initiative of the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) aimed at creating a green skilled work force for the conservation and restoration of environment.

This is the consecutive second module conducted by CEECC-ADRI under RLMS after the previous module on ETP/STP/CETP Operation and Maintenance. The broader objective of this training programme was to skill local youths/community from the Ganga river stretch in Patna- Danapur area with fundamental knowledge of the biodiversity of the river and the threats due to river pollution. The 150 hours course has also imparted knowledge on biological, taxonomical, ecological and conservational aspects of the endangered Ganges River Dolphin, the national aquatic animal of India. Several field visits, laboratory work and special lectures from various renowned institutions were also conducted. In addition, training students also participated in awareness campaign called "Beat Plastic" organized by CEECC-ADRI in association with Bihar State Pollution Control Board (BSPCB) on July 15, 2019. The training has been conducted in collaboration with Zoological Survey of India, Patna and ICAR-RCER Patna. The training programme included both theoretical and extensive practical classes throughout the session.

Dr. Niladri Sekhar Dhar, Director, CEECC-ADRI welcomed guests and mentioned that GSDP trainees can use the knowledge and skill acquired from the training in their social life. Prof. Ashok Kumar Ghosh, Chairman, BSPCB, in his special address, mentioned that loss of biodiversity is an alarming situation. He also mentioned about food chain and due to loss of biodiversity, the loss of biodiversity impacts food chain. He informed that the central factor for loss of biodiversity is loss of habitat. He also encouraged GSDP trainees to work on micro-level and spread the knowledge among the people after the training. Dr. Gopal Sharma, Scientist, Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), also encouraged the GSDP trainees to spread awareness at ground level and become master trainers and local scientists. He also explained that environmental problems can be resolved by scientific approach. Mr. Shashi Bhushan, Harit Recycler Association, Dr. Ramakant Pandey, Patna University and Dr. Bibha Kumari were also present in the program. Mr. Vivek Tejaswi delivered the vote of thanks for the program.

“Beat plastic”

Patna, July 15. The Plastics have become ubiquitous around us at the time of the use and even after the disposal. To reduce the menace that has been created around us, the Government of Bihar banned the manufacturing and use of plastic carry bags in Dec, 2018. Bihar State Pollution Control Board (BSPCB) initiated the implementation and issued closure of industries manufacturing and supplying plastic carry bags. However, even after seven months of the ban, it has not completely vanished from our surrounding.

On July 15, 2019, the CEECC-ADRI in collaboration with BSPCB and Harit Recycler Association have taken the initiative to spread awareness among the common people to discontinue the usage of plastic carry bags. The awareness campaign entitled “BEAT PLASTIC” was conducted on July 15, 2019 (6:00-7:00 am) at the nearby vegetable market in front of Krishna Apartment, Boring Road. A total of 20 people including SDP trainees from CEECC-ADRI, BSPCB and Harit Recycler Association participated in the campaign. Around 100 cloth bags were distributed among people who were carrying plastic bags for shopping. They were informed about the hazards of the plastic and were requested to dispose their plastic bags and use cloth bags to carry their vegetables.

Anjani Kumar Verma

(Anjani K Verma)