

AVNI

2021-22



CONTENTS

■ Principal's note

■ Convenor's message

■ About CGI (Aims and objectives)

■ Our Initiatives

■ Tatva 2022

■ Articles

• Volcanic Eruptions and its Impacts

• UN Convention on combating

Desertification

• Garbage Mountains of Delhi

• The City of Birds

■ Poems

• A testament

• Our Body, Piece of this Earth

• The name's a sparrow

■ Environmental Buzz (Quiz)

■ Meet the team

Credits

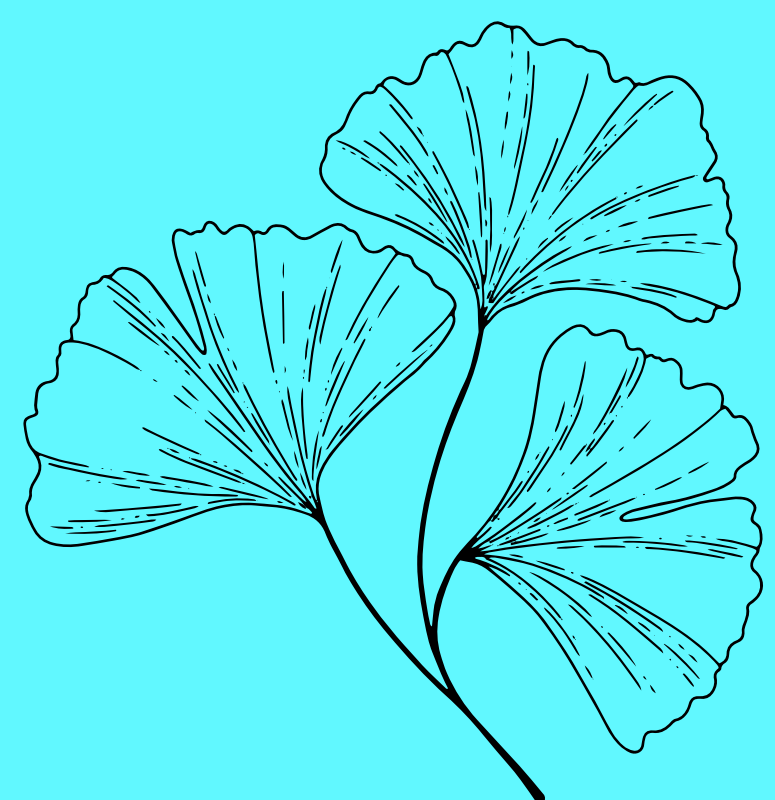
PRINCIPAL'S NOTE



It gives me immense pleasure to know that the Centre for Green Initiatives is all set to release its annual magazine 'Avni' for the year 2021-22. Since its inception, the cell has been at the forefront in raising environmental awareness and fostering sustainable attitude among the students of our college. This year too, CGI has added yet another feather in its cap by successfully organising a massive mask distribution drive in association with the Lung Care Foundation.

Now, with the publication of this magazine, CGI serves to provide a platform for students to delve into serious environmental issues and reflect upon their causes and potential solutions. I earnestly congratulate the entire team of Centre for Green Initiatives for their commendable efforts in bringing out this magazine and wish them all the very best for their future endeavours.

Prof. Simrit Kaur
(Principal)
Shri Ram College of Commerce



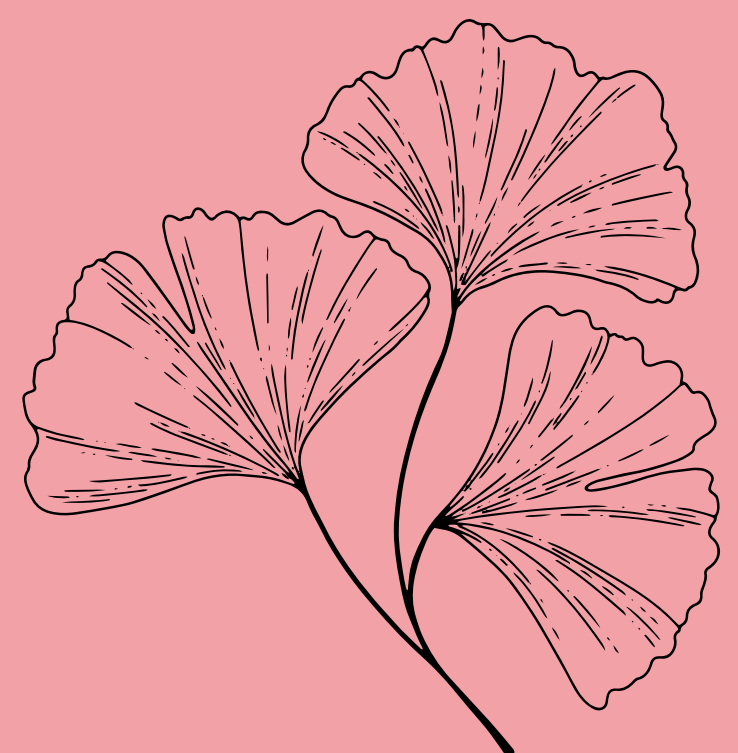
CONVENOR'S MESSAGE



I am elated to announce that the Centre for Green Initiatives is back with the latest edition of its annual magazine 'Avni'. Whatever a human decides as an ambition for himself, should be extended to everything on this planet. The idea that we need to protect this planet itself is a convoluted idea as it is not because of humans that the planet exists but because of the planet that humans are leading a healthy life. We must not only be conscious about human life but about everything that is alive whether it's a tree, a plant or a blade of grass.

The time and effort that has gone into the creation of this magazine is bearing fruit in the form of growing recognition and awareness about environmental issues. I am glad to see that CGI is able to create a real difference through the voices presented in 'Avni'. I congratulate the entire CGI team on the publication of this magazine and look forward to taking CGI to new heights in the coming years.

Dr. Rachna Jawa
(Convenor)
Centre For Green Initiatives



ABOUT CGI

ABOUT CGI

The Centre for Green Initiatives, SRCC is a dynamic institution concerned with the protection of the environment. It was established in the college with the objective of generating awareness and promoting environmental care at individual, institutional and community level. The Centre aims to create a pervasive atmosphere facilitating conversation, action and feedback on environmental issues engaging students, faculty and general public at large.

Our Objectives

- Understanding various environmental issues and the need to address them.
- Sensitising people about the need for protection of the environment for a sustainable and healthy future.
- Undertaking technological setup aimed at an environmentally and economically strong impact.

Our Functions

- Undertaking extensive research and surveys on various environmental related issues prevalent in the society, understanding their causes, possible impact and remedial measures.
- Conducting seminars, workshops and campaigns to sensitise people about environmental issues pertaining to society.
- Tapping the CSR initiatives of corporate, social venture funds and other potential platforms for funding.
- Initiating and facilitating collaboration with various organisations working extensively in various fields such as waste management, water conservation, energy practices etc.
- Setting up the latest technology (example: Solar panels, water harvesting plants, composting pits etc) meant for maximising environmental impact.

OUR INITIATIVES

OUR INITIATIVES

Mask Distribution Drive in Collaboration with the Lung Care Foundation

The Centre for Green Initiatives organised a Mask Distribution Drive in collaboration with the Lung Care Foundation on May 5, 2022.

The drive saw members of the institution distributing over 700 masks in and around the college campus. This initiative was aimed at raising awareness about the importance of following COVID protocols and encouraging everyone to wear masks at all times. This drive also intended to imbibe the sanctity among the people to abide by all the prophylactic measures and encourage them to take both the doses of vaccination.

We at the Centre for Green Initiatives commend the Lung Care Foundation for taking up this Mask Distribution Drive on a nation-wide scale, and are proud to be associated with the same.

Rendezvous with Mr. Arun Krishnamurthy:

Arun Krishnamurthy is an Indian environmental activist who has initiated the campaign of cleaning various lakes across India. He is known for founding the Environmentalist Foundation of India (EFI) 2011 based in Chennai which has its branches in 15 states and other cities. Sir, with the organisation has been successful in cleaning at least 169 lakes in the country. He was chosen as among the five people for prestigious Rolex Awards for Enterprise award in 2012 for scientific lake restoration in Chennai.

His enlightening words made us realise our duties towards our mother earth. He also mentioned about the ways by which we can join him for EFI and contribute our part towards environment.

We were very fortunate to have him on board and get an opportunity to gain his insights.

Capture Nature - Digital Photography Competition

The Centre for Green Initiatives conducted a digital photography competition, wherein students submitted surreal clicks of nature leaving us in an awe. This was an exciting competition for the participants as well as the society in judging as well as having a glimpse of the nuances of Nature.

A weekly series known as Green Panthers was initiated by the students of CGI to spread knowledge about people who were really involved in saving the environment in some way or the other and also encouraged people from their community to protect the mother earth from being vandalised. Many notable personalities like Wangari Maathai, Dr Salim Ali were talked about.

Sanitization and Hygiene:

We at SRCC are committed to make our campus and society clean and green. There are equal numbers of male and female washrooms present across campus with satisfactory per student ratio and dedicated washrooms for members of staff. There are also dedicated washrooms for the differently abled students.

Solid Waste Management:

The Centre for Green Initiatives is committed to make SRCC a 'No Open Waste' (NOW) campus. The cell has been very active in establishing an efficient solid waste management system wherein the waste is easily collected, segregated, composted, and recycled. The biodegradable waste is converted into manure to be used in college to maintain its green environment. The non-biodegradable waste is sent for recycling or handed over to proper agencies for its proper use and disposal. Color coded dustbins are put across the campus to ensure proper segregation of waste at the source itself. The cell has an ongoing collaboration with an NGO named 'Greenobin', to which all the paper collected within the college campus is sold.

OUR INITIATIVES

Energy conservation

Shri Ram College of Commerce is the only campus in Delhi University to have the largest in-house solar plant system set up on the roof of the building itself. This entire project is fully funded by Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd. under a 25 year agreement.

The implementation of this project started in 2019, and at present 60% of electricity is powered by solar panels and we are trying to reach a cent per cent green energy compliant zone. In the future, we hope to increase this number, and also add a commercial dimension to the solar power project. All the buildings at SRCC are powered by solar energy ensuring less pollution in the environment and less electricity bills. The lights across the campus are timed which automatic switches which switches off after 6 pm to ensure that the energy is not wasted.

Botanical and Herbal Gardens

The Centre for Green Initiatives has been playing an active role in maintaining the greenery and flora in the campus. The gardens and lawns in the college premises have a vivid variety of flowers, providing enthusiastic and aesthetic vibes across the campus. The flora and green cover are regularly looked after to ensure fresh oxygen in the campus. Additionally, the plants are labelled to ensure that the students can recognise the flowers and learn about them which helps to bring them closer to nature. The plants across the campus have been carefully selected keeping the medicinal properties as well as the aesthetics in mind.

OUR INITIATIVES

Water conservation

The Centre for Green Initiatives has been creating awareness for water conservation in the campus and has taken various initiatives to save and reuse water. The college has a rainwater harvesting system in place within the college premises.

The drinking water that is used undergoes RO cleaning before it is used, and the water that is unfit for consumption is used in the college washrooms to prevent wastage.

RO systems are installed in all the kitchens to treat hard water. The wastewater from RO is used in college gardens and lawns.

The wastewater from ACs is collected and channelized to rain water harvesting pits. RO plants have also been installed in nearby vicinity to ensure clean drinking water to people at large.

CGI has been working consistently in this direction to ensure that the water is conserved and reused for various purposes like maintaining college greenery.

TATVA

2022

TATVA 2022

This year, the Centre for Green Initiatives came back with its annual flagship event “TATVA” celebrated on 23rd April 2022. The year 2021-22 has shown us the consequences of human activities on environment in the form of Coronavirus. This Green Fest is a small initiative to spread awareness and motivate youth to take care of the environment.

The Nature is what we all have in common and if we continue to destroy it for our own good then nature will no longer be able to accommodate humankind. This event is one in its kind initiative which celebrates the various aspects of nature and efforts of various renowned environmentalists towards its conservation. This year CGI had organised a virtual speaker session and various competitions to promote environment sustainability in an interesting way.

The session witnessed various eminent speakers who kept the audience enthralled with their unique takes on the environment. The speakers were Mr. Rajiv Khurana (Founder of Lung Care Foundation)- our keynote speaker, followed by Mr. Ramesh Sharma (Founder of Ekta Parishad), Mr. Zeeshan Khan, Mr. Akhilesh Anil Kumar and Mr. Satyam Jha. Mr. Rajiv Khurana shared his thoughts on the theme "Strengthening SRCC's impact" where SRCC stood not just for "Shri Ram College of Commerce " but also for "Student Role in Clean air and Climate action". On the other hand Mr. Ramesh Sharma talked about "Forest Dependency and Conservation" where he described Solemnity of the problem as well as the role of education in Forest Conservation, Mr. Satyam Jha shared his views on "Adverse Effects of Chemical Farming" and motivated us to work towards sustainable use of natural resources.

TATVA 2022

Mr. Akhilesh Kumar delivered his insights on how can youth bring a change in the society and lastly Mr. Zeeshan Khan threw some light on the need for a balance between sustainability and economic growth". Their contribution in the field of food security, forest conservation and environment sustainability is an inspiration for the youth. Their words and personal experiences encouraged young minds to work towards the environment.

The competitions organised during Tatva were TARANG (Poster making competition), QUIZZERA (Quiz Competition) and R3 (Best out of waste competition). This year, the cell had witnessed an unprecedented participation of around 200 participants-1.5 times more than previous year. The competitions were held to assess the participants' creativity and knowledge about nature.

TATVA 2022 was a remarkable event with a perfect balance of knowledge and fun. It taught everyone not to take environment for granted rather work towards achieving balance in life.

ARTICLES

ARTICLES

Volcanic eruptions and its Impacts

A volcanic eruption occurs when a volcano releases lava and gas, sometimes explosively. A 'glowing avalanche' which occurs when newly erupted lava slides down the flanks of a volcano, is the most deadly sort of eruption. They have the ability to travel swiftly and reach temperatures of up to 1200 degree Fahrenheit. There are about 1500 potentially active volcanoes worldwide.

When the earth's mantle melts, magma is created. The rising magma or molten rock leads to volcanic eruption. Magma is formed when a portion of the earth's upper mantle or lower crust melts. A volcano is essentially a hole or a vent through which lava and the dissolved gases it contains are released. The buoyancy of the magma, the pressure from the dissolved gases in the magma, and the injection of a new batch of magma into an already filled magma chamber are the three main processes that cause a volcanic eruption . Not only the powerful explosions affect land and water around the volcano but the tiny droplets of sulphuric acid erupted into the stratosphere can change our planet's climate temporarily. These eruptions force people living near volcanoes to abandon their land and homes. Secondary events include floods, landslides and mudslides, hot ashes can result in wildfires.

Volcanic Explosivity Index (VEI)

Volcanic Explosivity Index (VEI) is a numeric scale that measures the relative explosivity of historic eruptions. Volume of products, eruption cloud height, and qualitative observations are used to determine the explosivity value.

Tonga volcanic eruption



On 14 January 2022, a very large eruption of Hunga Tonga, an inhabited volcanic island in the South Pacific ocean, began. The eruption caused tsunami in Tonga, Fiji, American Samoa including damaging tsunami in New Zealand, Japan, United States, Chile and Peru. The suspected reason for the tidal wave was an associated subsurface eruption that destroyed a part of the island on 14 January. This allowed saltwater to fill the volcanic vent, inflicting another undersea explosion consequent day. The explosion was thus immense that it penetrated through the ocean and triggered the tsunami. The event was probably the largest volcanic eruption in the 21st century and was “hundreds of times more powerful” than the first atomic bomb. The data suggests that its VEI measured was as high as 5. The eruption caused the death of 5 people, 18 injured and some are missing. There were some reports of residents in Tonga struggling to breathe as a result of the ash.

Cumbre Vieja volcano eruption



On 19 September 2021, the 2021 Cumbre Vieja eruption began at the Cumbre Vieja volcanic ridge comprising the southern half of the Spanish island of La Palma in the Canary Islands, lasting for 85 days. An earthquake swarm started under Cumbre Vieja on 11 September 2021 . It slowly migrated to the surface and a yellow warning of potential volcanic activity was issued. The lava flow has covered over 1000 hectares and caused the evacuation of 7000 people. It impacted industrial structures such as cement plants, which have also caused gas clouds and explosions. The eruption is considered to be the longest known eruption of a volcano on La Palma and the most damaging volcanic eruption on La Palma since records began. The general harm as a result of the volcano amounts to as much as 843 million euros as calculated through the authorities of the Canary Islands. Its VEI was 3.

Volcanic glass at Kilauea



On 29 September 2021, the Kilauea volcano on the Big Island of Hawaii began to erupt and flood the Halema'uma'u Crater with lava .When gas bubbles within lava burst at the surface, golden, pointed strands of glass — called after Pele, the Hawaiian goddess of fire and volcanoes , appear. Kilauea is considered a 0 or 1 on the Explosivity Index due to its regularity and output. The lava had destroyed 656 homes as it spread across 267 hectares. Large quantities of volcanic gas— frequently water vapour (H₂O), carbon dioxide (CO₂), and

sulphur dioxide (SO₂)—are constantly launched at some point of eruptions of Kīlauea volcano. As SO₂ is launched from the summit, it reacts with the ecosystem to create the seen haze called vog (volcanic smog) that has been located downwind of Kīlauea. Vog creates the capacity for airborne fitness dangers to citizens and visitors, damages agricultural vegetation and different plants, and influences livestock.

~ Ritisha Goyal

UN Convention on Combating

Desertification

Desertification is a serious issue across the world and has wide reaching impacts on both human lives as well the ecological balance of the region. Every year thousands of sq km of lands undergo desertification and it has made many regions uninhabitable for humans.

Desertification is the process by which fertile land becomes desert, it is usually due to drought, deforestation, or inappropriate agriculture, this intern results in a serious reduction in the water level in the region and can also be said to be degradation of arid, semi-arid regions as a result of various climatic and human factors. These arid and sub-humid regions make up about 40% of global land area and are home to around 2 billion people. The planet is expected to produce 24 billion fertile soil per year due to desertification.

There are both human and climatic reasons behind desertification. The primary human factors behind this are (1) deforestation, in which the cutting of millions of hectares of forests across the world has led to a serious desertification problem. Forests act as a barrier to expanding deserts and also help prevent soil erosion due to wind. (2) Poor agricultural practices like lack of crop rotation, use of chemical fertiliser, pesticide (3) Overgrazing by animals is also one of the primary human causes. Climate Change is also the most important factor responsible for desertification which are behind climatic reasons.

Due to the severity of the issue of desertification The United Nation Convention on Combating Desertification was adopted in Paris, France on 17 June 1994. The UNCCD was entered into force in December 1996 and now the UNCCD has 197 parties.

UNCCD is the current leader behind practices that reduce and reverse land degradation especially when it comes to arid, semi-arid and sub humid regions. Under the UNCCD there are

four major programmes which when fulfilled will be the reason behind the sustainable development goal 15. The 4 Programme under UNCCD are as following:

Land degradation Neutrality is the first Programme of UNCCD under this Programme 128 nations among the 196 signees have pledged to stop land degradation by 2030. According to UNCCD Land degradation neutrality is “a state whereby the amount and quality of land resources necessary to support ecosystem functions and services to enhance food security remain stable, or increase, within specified temporal and spatial scales and ecosystems.”

The LDN requires few plans of action by the member states (1) avoiding degradation of land (2) Reducing existing degradation practices by adopting sustainable management practices (3) increasing biodiversity soil health and food production (4) Increasing effort to restore and return degraded land.

The second Programme is the Drought initiative under this initiative the UNCCD sets up a drought preparedness system in many nations, reducing drought vulnerability and allowing people to better adapt to drought of both people and ecosystem. Under this Programme more than 60 nations across the world have formulated a comprehensive drought action plan. The countries are also aided to develop a regional strategic framework to aid them in developing technical and institutional capacity to manage drought.

Under this UNCCD has developed a drought toolbox which informs nations who they should respond to a drought, allowing them to better monitor drought prone areas and assisting nations to restore degrading dryland ecosystems.

The Great Green Wall Initiative is the third Programme of the UNCCD. It was launched in 2007 by the African Union and wants to cover a stretch of 8000km across Africa with trees. The Programme has raised 8 billion USD to restore the degraded and expanding deserts on Sahel. GGW wishes to restore 100 million hectares of degraded land. This project aims to restore fertile land, provided economic opportunity for

many young Africans, food security for millions of people and climate resilience for the African continent.

GGW initiative has another Programme associated with it which is the Great Green Wall Accelerator. This Programme has turned the GGW to a rural developmental Programme, this is done through the use of 5 pillars these are as following:

Pillar 1 deals with investment in small and medium sized farms and strengthening of value chains, pillar 2 deals with land restoration and sustainable management ecosystem, pillar 3 deals with infrastructure which provide climate-resilience, pillar 4 deals with framework for effective governance, sustainability, stability, and security and pillar 5 deals with capacity building. The last major Programme of UNCCD also deals with Capacity Building Marketplace.

The UNCCD has a permanent secretariat and it makes arrangements for sessions of the Conference of the Parties (COP) and its subsidiary bodies. There is also the Committee on Science and Technology under UNCCD. This Committee identifies priorities for research, and recommends ways of strengthening cooperation among researchers and reviews relevant data.

UNCCD has since its convention played an important role in mitigating desertification having restored around 600000 sq km of land. It has worked a lot towards spreading awareness about desertification, and countering both the spread of desertification and restoring land and making it more habitable for human settlement in the future.

~Abhijit

GARBAGE MOUNTAINS OF DELHI

Delhi, the capital city, is known for its rich heritage and culture. The capital of the country is really the capital of everything: from the tallest minaret in the world to Asia's largest spice market, from being designed by British architects to unique museums. From historical monuments to tempting street food from the best college to the best coliving residences, Delhi has all of it.

Yes, Delhi has all of it, even Garbage Mountains. Despite all the good things, Delhi is also famous for rooting 3 garbage mountains. Yes, the city has 3 garbage mountains currently; landfill of Bhalswa, Ghazipur, and Okhla.

Every year, India produces 62 million tonnes of waste, out of which only 12 million tonnes is being processed and around 31 million tonnes is being disposed of in landfills. Only metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bangalore, and Kolkata are generating around 10 million tonnes of garbage.

Delhi currently generates 12,350 tonnes of solid waste daily. A large part of this waste is dumped at these landfills only. The Ghazipur dumpsite is spread over 70 acres and currently holds nearly 140 lakh metric tonnes of waste. The Okhla landfill is spread across 40 acres, although decommissioned in 2018, but still, a dumpsite filled with dump only. Every day around 2200 tons of waste is being dumped at the Bhalswa, the second largest to Ghazipur.

These landfills reached their limits but were still forced to be operated due to inefficient management. The Okhla landfill was declared exhausted in 2010 but was under operation until 2018, Ghazipur has been overflowing since 2002, exceeded its capacity at least a decade ago but is still in operation.

This situation exemplifies the widespread civic failure that has resulted in India's national capital earning the unenviable title of being the world's most polluted capital. Observations and research by East Delhi's superintendent engineer Arun Kumar stated that the Ghazipur landfill will be taller than the Taj Mahal in Agra by 2020 as it was rising nearly 10 metres every year. In 2018, a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, and Forests realised that the height of the Ghazipur landfill had reached 65 metres, almost the same as the height of Qutub Minar. If the situation remains the same then soon Delhi would turn into a big garbage dump.

The dump is also a source of an unthinkable number of diseases that would wreak havoc on the lives of every age group of India. These landfills generate hazardous living conditions with toxic air, contaminated water to the people living nearby which would degrade their basic right of living in a hygienic environment. The chances of collapse are seen to be high when landfills exceed their limits and that's exactly what happened in September 2017 when a large part of the Ghazipur landfill collapsed resulting in the death of two people and injuring five. A similar incident happened with the Bhalswa landfill leading to the destruction of the slum area. Other than the collapses, landfills are prone to catch fire due to the heat generated by the decomposition of waste. The landfills act as a ticking bomb and could create havoc anytime. The major emissions of methane in India are caused by landfills only. High levels of Nickel, Zinc, Arsenic, Lead, Chromium, and other metals are part of the solid waste at landfills in many metro cities, especially in Delhi, claims a study by a group of scientists at Jawaharlal Nehru University.

The Government of India has taken subsequent steps for the same. Waste energy plants have been installed and a portion of waste is being treated by the WTE plants but they are not sufficient enough to erase the dump fills.

Campaigns like Compost Banao, Compost Apnao have been launched by MoHUA on waste-to-compost under SBM-(U) aiming to encourage people to convert their kitchen waste into compost and use it as fertiliser and reduce the amount of waste getting to landfill sites. Regressive promotion of Waste to Energy was done by the government. The actions taken paid off. It was seen that the height of Ghazipur landfills was reduced by 40 feet using the biomining technique. A project was undertaken to transform the Okhla landfill into an ecological park. The project was seen to be a success as about 6000 square metres of the 40-acre land was being converted into green space in 2019. This transformation is expected to expand its roots in the coming years.

The government would take many initiatives for the same but these initiatives would mean nothing if we, the people of this nation don't support them. Change isn't something that happens overnight. Change is like a plant that needs nourishment over years to grow into a tree that will provide a shed. Let's nourish the change tree and cut the roots of dumping sites of the nation.

~ Manshi

THE CITY OF BIRDS

“Birds began humming and tweeting loudly at 5 a.m. or even earlier, and continued until 8 a.m. It was very common to see birds flying from one tree to another and occupying all the branches of the trees. Not only mornings but evenings were also filled with the melody of the Cuckoo bird's voice and many others. It used to be a beautiful sight, but nowadays it's onerous to see one,” my father reminisced about his childhood when birds were plentiful in and around the village where he grew up. Although I haven't seen many birds since my childhood, they have always fascinated me. Their vibrant colors, sweet voice, sometimes sour as well, soft feathers, endless flights, everything attracts me to them. I always wondered why birds migrate, leaving their homes far behind. Then, I came to know that birds migrate thousands of kilometers away to find the best place for feeding, breeding, and raising their young ones.

I still remember those summer vacations of 2014 when I returned from my maternal uncle's home and saw a nest on the top of my lobby's fan. I was extremely surprised and asked my father about it. He told me that a couple of birds built this nest two days ago. After that, I watched those birds every day coming in and going

out of our main gate and feeding on whatever little they collected. We did not switch on the lobby's fan as we didn't want them to leave. But unfortunately, they left us one day and I still wonder why they did so. I loved them and thought that they loved me too but I guess, that wasn't true. Although I never loved science, I get excited every time the topic of birds is being discussed in the class.

It is believed that birds have evolved from dinosaurs. Do you know that there are more than 9000 species of birds spread over the whole planet from the poles to the equator? I bet you must not have even heard of the Long-billed Vulture, Bengal

Florican, Himalayan Quail, and Forest Owlet among others because they are critically endangered birds of India. Fret not, I will tell you about a few of them which are my personal favorites.

The Himalayan Quail is a medium-sized bird with a red and yellow beak and legs, as well as white markings around the eyes. It has a long and slender covert tail. They haven't been spotted in over 125 years.

The Forest Owlet is quite different from other owls as it hunts during the day when it is visible and exposed to assaults by others. It seems to be very daring and adventurous by nature. Forest Owlet is only found in India and nowhere else in the world.

Then, comes the Kingfisher noted for their spectacular dives into the water. These vocal, colorful birds are renowned for their dramatic hunting techniques. Have you ever heard about the most intelligent birds that have ever existed on earth? They are the common Magpies. Magpies have shown the ability to make and use tools, imitate human speech, grieve, play games and work in teams. They also perform funerals. They utilize self made equipment to cut meals into appropriate sizes for their children. We all have heard about the Cuckoo bird, the famous singing bird of Europe. But did you know that only male Cuckoo birds can make the sound of 'Cuck- oo, Cuck- oo'? It enjoys eating hairy caterpillars.

Anyways, let me share with you one more experience of mine during the Covid pandemic. One fine morning in May 2020 when I woke up at 6 AM and as I stepped out of my bed rubbing my eyes and yawning, I heard the chirping of birds. I couldn't express that feeling of joy that filled my heart. Every day I heard them chirping for almost the next two months but soon the voices faded and one day, they disappeared in the air completely. Soon I realized that birds were singing and chirping because there were minimum human activities on the

roads and towns as mostly everyone was at home. But as people started to come out, birds went back to their homes silently, where we can't disturb them or more precisely, harm them.

There is no doubt that human activities like clearing down forests, industrialization, mobile towers, and their harmful radiations have contributed to the deteriorating health of birds. William Wordsworth said, "Birds matter to all of us, whether we realize it or not." Humans are so insensitive that they will only comprehend the significance of this phrase after they have suffered greatly.

Earlier, Earth used to be the planet of every species, be it plants, animals, birds, and humans but humans are so self-centered that they have tried to acquire a monopoly

on this planet. A planet that used to be a city of birds and sweet voices has degraded into an industry where everyone is looking to earn money one way or the other. Hopefully, those birds hiding somewhere will come back to the city which is looking for them. People may go greedy but cities still find birds.

~Bhoomika Garg (21BC177)

POEMS

POEMS

• A Testament

When I 'd be no longer alive,
There 'd be something for you to realise.
The dense forests, effusive lakes and surreal estuaries,
Would be the ones characterised in my Obituary.
And if you still have something to divide,
Sunder the memories, which might satiate your ravenous
appetite.
The Memories, bliss for you but boon for me,
What number of trees did you cut for a chair, just to enjoy
a cup of tea?
You started clearing the forest lands,
To meet your mercenary demands.
The demands which were self - centred and egocentric
In the race of minting money, you forgot what you did?
Was deforestation the only means of industrialisation and
development?
When the consequences were perilous and virulent.
Being oblivion to the warning signal,
You proved to be narcissist and in-sensible.
Climatic changes, global warming, floods, soil erosion
were not the only after effects,
Pray for yourself my dear as your life is in huge debts.
For I am your Mother Earth, let me predict something for
you,
Not a long way to go, you'll repay what you do.
You'll die in masses and crowds.
When there ain't a single flower to cover your shrouds.

~Shivanjali Kathpal



• Our Body, Piece of this Earth

O soil, Mother of all Mothers,
All other lives you nurture.
How silly I was!
I could not understand your magic.
The seed you nourished , nourished others.
What we say as our body, is actually you.
For our living, you must live too.

What a brilliant organization you are,
Home to zillions of organisms.
A handful of soil contains a whole living world
What a sophisticated and compassionate mechanism.
Because of this rich biodiversity you contain
Life on this planet sustains

What serves as the basis of life
is now on verge of extinction.
Top soil, when it loses its richness, becomes sand.
Life cannot further grow in this land.
We are losing soil biodiversity at an alarming rate
It's high time we see,
how we conduct ourselves.
in a conscious or compulsive state?

Human beings endowed with enormous intelligence,
Must make sensible decisions.
We, just a piece of this Earth, not the master
can't live by destroying the larger existence..

Let not the soil turn sand,
Let not it become dead
Let not turn this magic into tragic

After all, our body is a living soil.

~ Ritu Kumari



- **The Name's a Sparrow**

Before the sun shines,
I wake up so that I
Can feed my little lights.

Back in the time,
I owned every house, every sky.
Now all that's left is my few brothers' lives.

Blurry is my vision
But I see, our destiny will have a collision.
Yet, I will chirp till the night.

Bolting my eyes,
I see a god's dug furrow.
And if you haven't guessed it yet, the name's a
sparrow.

~Aman Chandrashekhar



ENVIRONMENTAL BUZZ (QUIZ)

ENVIRONMENTAL BUZZ

1 Which of the following is the most abundant pollutant found in smog?

- [A] Ozone**
- [B] Sulphur oxides**
- [C] Nitrogen oxides**
- [D] Volatile organic compounds**

2 Which of the following items is not included in Environmental Auditing?

- [A] Scrutiny by the government agencies**
- [B] Pollution monitoring schemes**
- [C] Safety provisions for industrial workers**
- [D] Storage of toxic chemicals**

3 Which country has declared a 90-day “environmental emergency” after a massive Crude Oil Spill recently?

- [A] Argentina**
- [B] Peru**
- [C] Australia**
- [D] Canada**

4 Lichens are the best indicator of

- [A] Noise pollution**
- [B] Soil pollution**
- [C] Water pollution**
- [D] Air pollution**

5 Which of the following is designated as the “lungs of the world”?

- [A] Equatorial evergreen forests**
- [B] Taiga forests**
- [C] Mid-latitudes mixed forests**
- [D] Mangrove forests**

6 Which one of the following trees is considered to be an environmental hazard?

[A] Eucalyptus

[B] Babool

[C] Neem

[D] Amaltas

7 The Ozone hole over Antarctica was discovered in

[A] 1975

[B] 1985

[C] 1978

[D] 1987

8 The Environment Ministry recently released a National Action plan for the conservation of which species?

[A] Marine Turtle

[B] Great Indian Bustard

[C] Brahmaputra Dolphin

[D] Black Buck

9 Which region is the home to 428 species of birds as per the data of ZSI?

[A] Naga Hills

[B] Sunderbans

[C] Khasi Hills

[D] Gir Forests

10 Which sea is referred to as an oceanic desert?

[A] Red Sea

[B] Sargasso Sea

[C] Arabian Sea

[D] Sea of Japan

Answers:-

1-A, 2-A, 3-B, 4-D, 5-A, 6-A, 7-B, 8-A, 9-B, 10-B



Centre for Green Initiatives

2021-22

Chairperson

Prof. Simrit Kaur
Principal

Convenor

Dr. Rachna Jawa
Associate Professor

Faculty Members

Mr. Gaurav Sharma, Mr. Sudhanshu Yadav, Mr. Harvindhar Singh,
Ms. Priyanka Agarwal

Administrative Members

Mr. Shiv Nandan, Mr. Sanjay Dhoval, Mr. Satyakant Gupta

Cabinet

President- Stuti Bhanoot

Chief Executive Members- Abhishek Chowdary, Logesh, Shravani

Research and Technical Head- Kasturi Drolia, Amogh Sangewar

Organising and Marketing Head- Paranathi Bellamgari

Technical Head - Khushi Verma

TATVA 2022



**Centre for Green Initiatives
Shri Ram College of Commerce
Delhi university
Delhi - 110007**

coordinator.cgi@srcc.du.ac.in

<https://www.srcc.edu/centre-green-initiatives>