

NAINITAL MEGA CLEAN UP EVENT

Nainital is very well-known beautiful hill station of Uttarakhand, somehow losing its beauty and getting worst day by day due to solid waste or garbage strewn around the Naini Lake and other tourist spots. Proper management of waste is crucial for building sustainable and liveable cities, but it remains a challenge for many developing countries and cities. A report found that effective waste management is relatively expensive, usually comprising 20%–50% of municipal budgets. This instigated us to initiate a solid waste management campaign in Nainital under the project AMRITAM of NMHS along with the NGO, NPP and local communities. So, we decided to organize a cleanliness week was organized under the title of **NAINITAL MEGA CLEAN UP EVENT** under the AMRITAM project of NMHS and celebrate it as “AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV” from 12 Sep 2021-18 Sep 2021 to create awareness among native peoples especially youth and tourists about cleanliness. The aim of the Nainital mega clean up event was to eliminate open defecation, eradicate manual scavenging, introduce modern solid waste management and promote a positive attitude towards healthy sanitation practices.

Under this event, we have organized drawing competition and speech competition at different schools to make the students aware about the need to keep the surroundings clean, as the role of schools has been instrumental in realizing the mission of Swachh Bharat. Along with this we have also organized prize distribution program to encourage the participants, nukkar natak, vichar-ghosthi, cleanliness drive, disposable bag, sanitizer, mask, gloves distribution program.

DRAWING COMPETITION

On the very first day, we conducted drawing competition in which students from various schools (St. Mary College, St. Joseph College, All Saints College, Mohan Lal Sah Balika Vidya Mandir, Mohan Lal Sah Bal Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary Girls School,) were participated. As many as 150 students of the school were participated in the drawing competition. The students were told to draw on the theme of a ‘**Clean Up Nainital**’. Also, they were made aware about cleanliness and daily solid waste disposal related problems of Nainital city. The main objective behind the competition and theme selection was to promote the students for the concept of clean city and green city and to aware them for adopting the habit of cleaning the surrounding in their daily routine. The overall objective of this competition between students was to spread awareness about necessity of cleaning of surrounding and to

convert this one-day cleaning program into daily habit of students of cleaning the surrounding environment. Children participated in the competition with great enthusiasm, which was reflected in the drawing prepared by them. This enthusiasm towards cleaning from the school children motivated the team for upcoming events.



SPEECH COMPETITION

On the further round of our drive, we had organized a speech competition between students. The main objective behind this event was to observe conveying skill of the students for cleaning the surrounding. It was observed that a good speaker has the ability to convenience the audience for participation in social event, so, in our next round of event we tried to find some good speakers to spread the message of need of cleaning surroundings.

The topic selected for the event was to check the observation of student behind social issues, some of topics are, “**Yeh Saher Aaj Bimar Sa Kyu Hai**”, Participation of community in cleaning, waste disposal techniques etc. The enthusiasm of participants encouraged team to convey social message of cleaning. The best speaker of the event was awarded by prize and certification by team to encourage them for the vision of event. At the end of the event, some standard techniques for waste characterization, collection, separation, & disposal as well as major facilities provided by government and local authorities to collect the solid waste were also shared with them. A message for utilization of municipal dustbin installed at different locations like market places, streets, roadside etc. was delivered and segregation of waste by its nature (dry/wet) and their dumping location in the city was also shared with them. This event was needful in the means to avoid the spreading the solid waste in open roads, grounds, parks and lakes so that we can stopped this threatening problems causing the water pollution and other community spreading diseases.

VICHAR GOSTHI AND PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

On 14th Sept 2021, Vichar Gosthi and prize distribution have been organized in auditorium of DSB Campus, Kumaun University, Nainital in a very extravagant manner. The Chief Guest of the event was Prof. N. K. Joshi (Vice Chancellor of Kumaun University) and Co-ordinator of the event was Prof. N. G. Sahoo. The other dignitaries present in the program were Prof. A. B. Melkani (Head of the Department of Chemistry, DSB Campus, Kumaun University, Nainital), Mr. Sanjeev Arya (M.L.A Nainital), Mr. Prateek Jain (SDM Nainital), Prof. L. M. Joshi (Director, DSB Campus Kumaun University, Nainital), Prof. A. B. Melkani (Dean Science, DSB Campus Kumaun University, Nainital), Mr. K. C. Chaturvedi (AAO Nainital, DSB Campus Kumaun University, Nainital), Prof. Lalit Tewari, Padam Shri Mr. Anup Shah, Dr. Shekhar Pathak (Environmentalist), Dr. Reetesh Shah (Environmentalist), Mr. Yashpal Rawat (Environmentalist), Mr. Vinod Pandey (Environmentalist), Mr. Rajiv Lochan Shah (Environmentalist), Prof. Sanjay Pant, Mr. Ashok Kumar Verma (EO Nagar Palika Parishad), Dr. Daramsattu (Health Officer Nagar Palika Parishad), Mr. Kuldeep Sanitory (Sanitary Inspector Nagar Palika Parishad), Mr. Hemant Bisht, Mr. Suresh Lal. Chief Guest in his speech spoke about the dedication of the students towards their work and their responsibilities towards the society and nation. Other dignitaries also spoke about waste management and cleanliness of surroundings, how project **AMRITAM** is working in making wealth from waste. Many ideas for making Nainital green and plastic free were also shared. Then prizes were distributed to students who got selected in painting and speech competition.

In this way a big programme on the occasion of “AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV” was successfully done.



Cleanliness drive at DSB Campus, Nainital under AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV

Clean environment is an indicator of progress of human being and with the motto of clean environment Government of India has initiated ‘Swaccha Bharat Abhiyan’. As part of the Nainital mega clean up event, we organized a cleanliness drive with in and around the campus under the mega clean up event “Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav”: a campaign initiated by the project Amritam along with NPP on 16th sept 2021 to eliminate open defecation and improve solid waste management”. This drive was inaugurated by Prof. L.M. Joshi (Director, DSB Campus Kumaun University, Nainital), and Prof. A. B. Melkani (Dean Science, DSB Campus Kumaun University, Nainital). He said that Nainital mega clean up event organize

largest cleanliness drive which aims to make city more sustainable, clean and plastic free. He said that this cleanliness drive is Nainital's largest cleanliness drive which aims to make Nainital more sustainable and eco-friendlier for living.

The process of cleanliness drive was conducted under the able guidance of Prof. N.G. Sahoo who carefully planned and implanted the target based eco-friendly methods and techniques to make the campus green and clean. He addressed the students by saying that it is the responsibility of every citizen to maintain the cleanliness and green areas in their homes and public spaces. In order to keep the campus clean, students and staffs of the Chemistry department are actively involved in various activities like cleaning the campus and its nearby area and creating awareness on waste disposal (degradable and non-degradable). We ensure the cleanliness of, not only the surroundings, but also the classrooms, library, laboratories and auditorium. We also invite locally available eminent speakers to interact with our student volunteers on their current interests.

All the volunteers of PRSNSNT Centre gathered to clean the surroundings of the individual buildings in the campus. NSS and NCC volunteers enthusiastically collected plastic wastes, tea cups, weeds, and dry leaves spread over the surrounding areas.



The volunteers gathered all the waste and trash bags to the place where the university arranged for the removal of collected wastes. The whole cleaning drive was quite inspiring and motivating for the NSS team members. NCC cadets also participated in this drive who carefully

planned and implanted the target based eco-friendly methods and techniques to make the campus green and clean. Registrar of Kumaun University, Nainital Mr. Dinesh Chandra while addressing the students said that it is the responsibility of every citizen to maintain the cleanliness and green areas in their homes and public spaces.

Cleanliness drive at Kumaun University

We have organized a cleanliness drive with in and around the Kumaun University under the waste management scheme of AMRITAM project of NMHS Kosi Katarmal, Almora. The NCC volunteers participated in creating awareness among public, informing them about the importance of cleanliness. The students took the initiative to clean the surroundings of vicinity. Students cleaned the University and raised the slogan ‘One step towards cleanliness’. Students are the real ambassadors of cleanliness and motivate others to keep their homes, schools, colleges and surroundings clean.



Honorable Vice Chancellor and Registrar of Kumaun University also participated in cleanliness drive in Kumaun University. Honorable Vice Chancellor told the students that cleanliness is most important for physical well-being and a healthy environment. “It is essential for everyone to learn about cleanliness, hygiene, sanitation and various diseases that are caused due to poor hygienic conditions. Cleanliness ensures a healthy mind and physique, he added.

“It is not the responsibility of only one person rather it is the duty of every citizen,” he added. The Registrar said: “We can maintain cleanliness at home by emptying the trash bin regularly, dust walls and ceilings periodically, wipe rest room floor to keep it dry and bacteria-free.” He also told the students not to litter on the roads and go for clean and green environment to nurture it for the future generations. The staff and students thanked the Honourable Vice Chancellor and Registrar of Kumaun University, Nainital and promised to abide by their advice.

Cleanliness drive from Ranibagh to Nainital

A clean and green environment is a basic ideology in sustainable development. A whole lot of diseases can be traced back to unhygienic environments and irresponsible waste disposal. Cleanliness is not social binding; it is rather responsibility of each and every citizen of the country. Thus, we have organized **Cleanliness Drive** towards a cleaner and greener environment, under **AMRITAM** project of NMHS to celebrate **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav** on the occasion of **Nainital Clean Up Day**, through which we make people aware of the importance and methods of handling waste responsibly and try to take a step towards a cleaner environment. The cleanliness drive also further leads to internalizing and inculcating cleanliness as a matter of habit and routine.

As part of ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ programme, a massive cleanliness drive was organized in Nainital district on 16th Sept 2021. The main purpose of this programme was to spread awareness among the people regarding cleanliness and its benefits. Under this programme seven locations were cleaned from Ranibagh to Nainital and special focus was laid on the cleanliness of water bodies and removal of waste from road sides. During the programme our team along with NPP and NGO interacted with the people and sensitized them about the importance of cleanliness. We also urged the people for proper utilization of dustbins. An awareness session regarding Covid-19 was also organized and it was stressed upon all to adhere to the Covid-19 SOPs in letter and spirit.



The main objective of this program was to spread the message of awareness among the native peoples that cleanliness is next to godliness, by way of sensitizing and educating the children, especially youth and tourists on various aspects of cleanliness and societal values. The drive was aimed to remove all the non-biodegradable wastes like plastic covers, plastic straws, rubber, and thermocouple. Before disposal, the plastic waste was segregated and sent for recycling and the rest of the garbage was collected by the Municipal Corporation to dumping yards. Many voluntary organizations like NPP and NGO (S₃ Foundation) also took part in the cleanliness drive. The cleanliness drive was conducted from Ranibagh to Nainital. We divided into several groups. Each group members were allocated with a particular area for cleaning. The groups were provided with gloves. They were asked to collect all bio degradable things such as dry leaves, twigs, papers and non-degradable wastes such as carry bags, plastic items etc. separately in different sacks. During the drives, due care, caution and safety measures are taken also followed Covid-19 guidelines. Mr. Prateek Jain (SDM Nainital) also gives their precious time to our cleanliness program and aware people about cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation and also praises us for doing novel work at such large scale.



Distribution of cloth bags, masks, sanitizers and other hygiene essentials

On the 6th day of Nainital mega clean up event, to spread the message of Swachhta and reducing use of single-use plastic, bags made of old waste clothes were distributed to the taxi

drivers of Nainital at Sukhatal taxi stand. This programme was conducted in order to aware people about waste management and how to make our city clean and green. Each taxi driver was given a bag made from waste clothes so that they can place them in their taxies and when any tourist or other person will eat anything they can throw the waste in those bags. This will help in proper disposal of plastic waste. NPP also participated in this programme and communicate with local people about waste management, how AMRITAM project is working in removing solid waste from Nainital so that we can get pollution free environment.

As part of the Swachhta Activities, on last day of the Nainital mega clean up event we distributed hand sanitizers, masks, gloves to the sanitation workers following all COVID protocols during the distribution.



Street Play for Swachhta Awareness

To spread the swachhta awareness message among the native peoples, street play (nukkar natak) was organized through 10 members of an NGO in different locations of Nainital like Tallital rickshaw stand, Sukhatal taxi stand etc. to encourage people to join the event so that most people can get knowledge about harmful effects of waste and how much important it is to make our Nainital clean and beautiful.



Swachhta awareness on social media handles

Project AMRITAM has also shared its Swachhta initiatives on its social media handles like Youtube, Facebook, Instagram, Whatsapp to spread awareness on the importance of cleanliness and hygiene, especially during pandemic period.