## **Brief Report of National Seminar on Environmental Education**

National Seminar on Environmental Education for Sustainable and Harmonious Living with Nature was organized by Regional Institute of Education, NCERT, Ajmer from Oct. 04, 2023 to Oct.06, 2023. The seminar was inaugrated by Chief guest, Padam Shri Kalyan Singh Rawat by lighting the lamp and garlanding Maa Saraswati.



Welcome address by Chairperson, Prof. S.V.Sharma, Principal



Introduction about the Seminar by Dr.O.P.Meena, Convener



Release of the Souvenir of the Seminar by the Chief Guest



Address by the Chief Guest PadamShri Kalyan Singh Ji Rawat



Address by Prof M K Pandit , Eminent Scientist and member of India's Antarctica Expedition, Guest of Honour

Address by Shri Rajendra Singh Ji, Waterman of India and Ramon Magsaysay Awardee, Chief Guest



Felicitation of Chief Guest by Principal, Prof. S.V.Sharma



Address by Prof. Girishwar Mishra, Former V.C. Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha, Guest of Honour

Address by Shri Virendra Rawat Ji Founder of Green School



Valedictory function of the Seminar



Address by Prof P.C.Trivedi Former V.C., JNV University Jodhpur, Chief Guest



Address by Prof. K.K.Sharma Former V.C., MDS University Ajmer, Guest of Honour



Address by Prof. Subroto Dutta, Head ,Environmental Science, MDS ,University ,Ajmer



Address by Prof.M.M. Ranga, Former Head, Department of Environmental Science, Sant Gahira Guru University, Ambikapur.



**Group Photo with Chief Guest and Keynote Speakers** 



Felicitation of Chief Guest and Guest of Honour by Chairperson

Padmashri Sh. Kalyan Singh Rawat, Founder of Maiti Andolan and Prof. M.K. Pandit, Eminent Scientist and member of India's Antarctica Expedition were present as Chief Guest and Guest of Honour, respectively for the inaugural session. The guests were welcomed by Prof. S.V. Sharma, Principal of the Institute & Chairperson of the seminar, and Prof. Rajesh Mishra, Dean of Instructions. Prof. Sharma highlighted the National Education Policy 2020 with respect to environmental education and expressed his expectations for fruitful deliberations and recommendations during the seminar in line with the focus of NEP 2020 and Dr. O.P. Meena, Convener of the Seminar explained the objectives and schedule of the Seminar. Guest of honour Prof. M.K. Pandit, in his inaugural address, said that the phrase "Save Mother Earth" is not justified. He said that mother earth was born through harsh conditions and can survive anyhow. It is us humans who have degraded her and we have to save ourselves. He called for collective efforts to work towards maintaining environmental values so that environment is protected. Chief Guest of the occasion, Padmashri Kalyan Singh Rawat, stressed that education system must orient the children to connect with environment and society. He told that the curriculum needs to design in such a way that the students are linked with nature. The must be advised to plant saplings. Being the founder of Maiti Andoan, he reflected/suggested that one should plant trees on occasion of marriages to strengthen and sustain the emotional bonding of the married girl with the parental home and village.

Three plenary sessions were held in the seminar. Plenary lectures were delivered by the eminent speakers of their respective fields namely Prof. M.K. Pandit, Eminent Scientist and member of India's Antarctica , Dr. Rajendra Singh, Ramon Magsaysay Awardee and Waterman of India, Prof. Girishwar Mishra, Former Vice-chancellor, Mahatama Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha. Dr. Rajendra Singh, in his deliberation, focused on the difference between Shiksha and Vidya and stressed that education must strive towards linking the young minds with environmental aspects and sustainable developments. He said that due to climate change resulting from human activities, rain cycle has changed drastically and we have to conserve water by inculcating environmental values and adopting judicious techniques. He also opined that the society should work towards non-violence economy where all the components of environment are in harmony. Several keynote speakers also delivered their deliberations on various themes of environmental education. These speakers include Prof. Amit Kumar Jaiswal, Sri Dev Suman Uttrakhand University Gopeshwar Parisar Chamoli, Uttrakhand, Prof. Praveen Mathur, Former Professor and Head, Dept. of Environmental Science, MDS University, Ajmer: Prof. M.M. Ranga, Prof. & Head (Retd. Department of Environmental Science Sant Gahira Guru University, Ambikapur Chhattisgarh, Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta (Tree man), Ms. Alka Tomar, Centre for Environmental Education and Chairperson, Centre for Youth (C4Y), New Delhi, Prof. R.K. Parashar, NCERT, New Delhi: Sh. Virendra Rawat, Originator, Global Green School, Prof. Subroto Dutta, Head Department of Environmental Sciences, MDS University, Ajmer, Prof. Alok Chaturvedi, Dept. of Chemistry SPC Govt. College, Ajmer, Prof. K.K. Sharma, Former V.C., MDS University, Ajmer. Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta has vowed to plant one tree every day and has planted thousands of trees by now. He shared his experiences about this unique plantation drive and stressed to link education with local environmental issues.

Valedictory session of the seminar was graced by Prof. P.C. Trivedi, Former Vice-chancellor, and JNV University, Jodhpur as Chief Guest and Prof. Girishwar Mishra, Former Vice-chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha & Prof. K.K. Sharma, Former Vice-chancellor, MDS University Ajmer as Guests of Honours. Prof. Mishra said that humans are caretakers of this land, not owners. The philosophy of Nishkam Karma may help in a great way to protect our environment. Prof. K.K Sharma stressed on the importance of biodiversity for sustainable and balanced environment. Chief Guest of the session, Prof. P.C. Trivedi, highlighted that our biodiversity is on verge of extinction. Our luxurious life has put a burden on our environment and is responsible for climate change. A check should be put on our need and greed. He told that Bharat is mega diversity region in the world and different government policies related to the environmental protection need to be implemented in its true sense.

There were 14 themes of the seminar which were identified in a workshop held on May 29, 2023. These themes include Ecological awareness and conservation, National Education Policy 2020 and Environmental Education, Integrated approach of Science and Technology for sustainable future, Indigenous Knowledge and Traditional Practices, Sustainable Lifestyle and Waste management, Environmental Education through multidisciplinary approach, Environmental Ethics and Values, Innovative practices and approaches in Environmental Education, Sustainable development and Smart Cities, and Conservation, Approaches for Green Environmental conservation, Innovative Approaches in Pollution Management, Judicious Resource Management for future, and Case studies on Environmental Education. Around 300 Papers were received for these themes, out of which 114 papers were finalized by the reviewer team in a review workshop (August 23-25, 2023).

14 technical sessions were held in the seminar, in which total 77 papers were presented by the participants hailing from different states of Bharat including Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal, Tamilnadu, Telangana, Goa, Kerala ,Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Delhi and Punjab. Dr.O.P.Meena, Convener of the Seminar presented the brief report of the Seminar. Vote of Thanks proposed by Co-convener of the Seminar Dr.V.P.Arya. The Seminar concluded with the National Anthem. The full papers received have been edited in workshop mode during January 15-17, 2024. and the finalized Paper will be published in Institute Journal "Educational Trend" the Journal of RIE, Ajmer.

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