



UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN

Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh

PROGRESS REPORT

Plastic-Free Campaign September, 2019

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Sr. No.	ADOPTED VILLAGES	TALUKA	DISTRICT
1	Attawa		
2	Badheri		
3	Maloya		
4	Kajheri		
5	Buterla		

List of Activities: Plastic-Free Village Campaign in Village Kajheri

ACTIVITY 1:

Name of Activity: Awareness Activity on Health, Hygiene and Sanitation among School Students and Villagers in Khajeri

September 11, 2019

Need of the Activity: The staff members and student volunteers of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan cell of MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh conducted an activity on Health, Hygiene and Sanitation at Village Kajheri on September 11, 2019. The activity was conducted amongst school students and villagers in order to create awareness on health and hygiene practices among women, adolescent girls and school children and motivate them to use and maintain sanitation facilities at schools and their community surroundings in the concerned village.

Description in 200 words (along with the Pictures): The lecture was based on health and wellness in which free counselling and consultation was provided by specialised doctors like Dr Sunaina Bansal (gynaecologist) and Dr Nirmal (paediatrician) from Cloudnine Hospital Chandigarh. The activity was aimed at inculcating better hygiene practices among the respondents and making the villagers understand the importance of keeping their schools, home and village premises clean thereby reduce the incidences of diseases and infections.



The school children were asked to share their daily routines and the steps they took everyday to maintain hygiene.

Dr Nirmal addressed the students and local people of Kajheri and apprised them about the negative impacts of junk food on our bodies. He explained various types of diseases caused by junk food and their symptoms for early detection. The children were also sensitised on how to prevent becoming victims of self- destructive behaviour like drug addiction and alcohol consumption. The health hazards of smoking and its debilitating effects on the body were explained and the students were urged not to take it at any cost. Special emphasis was laid on the increasing menace of drug abuse among children and how they could deal with it as there is no better and more powerful medical treatment as compared to the power of prevention.



ACTIVITY 2:

Name of Activity: Awareness Campaign regarding 'Plastic Free Zone' and Discontinuation of One-time Plastic use in Village Kajheri

September 17, 2019

Need of the Activity: An Awareness Campaign regarding 'Plastic-free Zone' and Discontinuation of One-time Plastic-use, was held at Kajheri Village and Government High School, Kajheri on September 17, 2019. The primary objective of the campaign was to make the people aware regarding the hazardous effects of using plastic on health and environment. The people and children were made aware of the importance of discontinuing one-time plastic use and the need for replacing the same with health and climate-friendly alternatives. The coordinator of the campaign was Dr Gurjeet Virk Sidhu, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, on behalf of Ms Vandita Kapoor, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh. The coordinator was assisted by 40 students from the College, while the number of stakeholders of the campaign was 25.

Description in 200 words (along with the Pictures): The campaign consisted of a lecture-cum-address by the resource person Mr Gopal Shukla Ji, representative of the village



councillor, Smt. Chandravati Shukla ji, regarding hazardous effects of using single-use plastics on health and environment.

The campaign also witnessed a useful demonstration of paper-bag making by a young, poor child of the village who already sells such paper bags for earning his livelihood.

Furthermore, an awareness rally was taken out by Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan volunteers, the councillor representatives and their team members in the school premises and at various places of village Kajheri, (market place and residential areas). The campaign was largely successful in disseminating awareness regarding the importance of shunning the use of plastic in daily lives. The village people and children were made aware of the potential disastrous effects of plastic on the flora and fauna as well as on our health. The people of the village exhibited a ready willingness and enthusiasm in discontinuing plastic from their lives.

However, there were a few people in the village who opined the lack of suitable and cost-effective alternatives to plastic bags and other essential commodities in their daily lives, and hence exhibited a resistance to discontinuation of plastic.



ACTIVITY 3:

Name of the Activity: Follow-up Visit to Re-iterate ‘No Plastic’ in Village Kajheri

September 24, 2019

Need of the Activity: As a follow-up visit to the earlier awareness campaign regarding ‘Plastic-free Zone’ and discontinuation of one-time plastic-use, held in Village Kajheri on September 17, 2019, the UBA team of MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, once again organized a series of activities in the village on September 24, 2019. The activities were held under the common title of ‘Follow-up Visit to Re-iterate No Plastic’. The activities organized comprised of an informative lecture on the hazards of plastic use, a door-to-door campaign generating awareness regarding the need to shun plastic, raids conducted by the student volunteers in the market area to assess the number of shopkeepers and vendors still using polythene bags, distribution of paper bags to shopkeepers and encouraging people to



use cloth bags for shopping instead of plastic ones. The overall objective of the visit was to generate awareness amongst the residents of the village regarding the plastic ban.

The coordinator of the activities was Dr Purnima Bhandari, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany, MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh. She was assisted by 21 student volunteers from the College.

Description of the Activity (In 200 Words): Several interesting and constructive activities were undertaken during the UBA team's visit to Kajheri on September 24, 2019. First of all, a lecture was organized in Government Model School, Kajheri, where schoolchildren were made aware about the hazardous effects of plastic use among human and animals. The lecture was delivered by a talk and with the help of several informative video clippings. Next, a door-to-door campaign was held in the market area of the village in order to generate awareness among shopkeepers regarding the plastic ban. 'Surprise Raids' were also conducted by the student volunteers in the market area so as to check the usage and dissemination of polythene bags by shopkeepers, especially the vegetable vendors and general store shopkeepers. The shopkeepers who were still selling goods in plastic bags were urged not to do so. In exchange, students distributed paper bags made by them to several shopkeepers. People were encouraged to use cloth bags for shopping purposes instead of polythene ones.

The visit to Kajheri was a highly successful one as it adopted a multi-pronged approach in its strategy to re-iterate the 'No Plastic' objective. Since, there were a series of interesting and engaging activities held under the umbrella of one visit, it proved to be a highly productive one. The visit was a continuation and a follow-up to the earlier visit to the village held on September 17, 2019 and proved to be an effective sequel to the same.



Activity 4

Name of the Activity: Collection of Plastic Waste and its Disposal at Village Kajheri

September 28, 2019



Need of the Activity: The UBA team of MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, in collaboration with NSS, conducted a ‘Collection of Plastic Waste and its Disposal’ Drive at Village Kajheri on September 28, 2019. The primary objective of the drive was to ensure the successful culmination of the earlier ‘No Plastic’ drives conducted in the village. The UBA team members collected around 15 kg recyclable plastic goods from the village households and sold the same to Kabbadiwalas / raddhiwalas/junk dealers and the money obtained was handed over to the Municipal Corporation officials for the development of the respective village. The volunteers also distributed cloth bags to the village residents and made them aware about the urgency to stop using plastic. The Coordinator of the drive was Dr Gurjeet Virk Sidhu, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh. She was assisted by 34 student volunteers from the UBA and NSS units of the College.

Description of the Activity: Under the aegis of the UBA and NSS wings of MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, a ‘Collection of Plastic and its Disposal’ Drive was held at Village Kajheri on September 28, 2019. As a part of the drive, the village residents were made aware about the single-use plastic ban and plastic items such as bottles, broken toys, bags etc were collected from the households. After collecting the plastic, it was weighed under the supervision and guidance of Municipal Corporations inspectors and workers associated with village Kajehri. Due support was provided by Mr Gopal Shukla, representative of the village councillor, Smt. Chandravati Shukla.

Around 15 kg recyclable plastic was collected from the village households and sold to Kabbadiwalas / raddhiwalas/junk dealers and the money obtained was handed over to the Municipal Corporation officials for the development of the village.

As a part of the drive, cloth bags were also distributed to the villagers by the UBA and NSS volunteers. All the volunteers and residents of the village took a pledge to shun the use of plastic from their lives, as far as possible.





Note: All detailed Village-wise reports also uploaded on UBA Portal.

Action plan for next month:

Sr. No.	Activity to be conducted(along with reason)
1	
2	
3	