

Academic Year 2019 -2020

Best Practice – I

Title: Conservation of kaamwari River, Bhiwandi.

Objective:

- To sensitize the students regarding the importance of river and its management.
- To conduct activities to protect the kaamwari river.
- To remove filth from the river.
- To plant trees around the river.

The Context:

Bhiwandi, the state's largest power loom hub, has almost 90% of the taluka's population working in the looms. However, all effluents from the looms are released into the water bodies, which are dying slowly. Kaamwari river is one of polluted water bodies in the city. The river existed since the 16th century and used to be a port during the British-era. Once a big river used to transport cargo, it is now the size of a nullah. The growing industrialization and urbanization on the banks of the river has led to more pollution.

Climate change is real and its catastrophic effects are increasing with each day passing. Maintaining Cleanliness of the Rivers is always an issue. We have seen that, these days, lots of plastic and other waste material which we throw into the river gets accumulated. It makes the river water toxic, unclean and unattractive.

Cleanliness of the river is highly important to maintain hygiene and keep the environment disease free for human beings and animals.

Definitely, nowadays we citizens are more careful about garbage and we do throw it at appropriate places. But still majority of garbage is thrown into the Kamwadi River. Indirectly, we all are responsible for these unclean and polluted river conditions.

The Practice:

We, the staff and students from Aqsa Women's Degree College, thought about this issue and started "Kamwari River Cleaning Movement" in association BNCMC.

Aqsa women's Degree College had undertaken the project of protecting Kamwadi river, flowing along the Bhiwandi area behind Aqsa college. The project is assigned in collaboration with B.N.C.M.C.

NSS Unit Aqsa Women's Degree College has undertaken the responsibility of cleaning the river under the "Kamwadi River Cleaning Movement". Project initiated in the year 2018-19 in collaboration with B.N.C.M.C Bhiwandi under the management of Former Additional Commissioner Mr. Ashokumar Rankhamb.

NSS Unit with the support of Department of Zoology conducted biochemical analysis of water since 2015 and Volunteers from faculty of science worked on the project undergoing detection of biochemical, physical and

biological parameters. Assistant Professors from faculty of science also working on the project by presenting and publishing research papers on detection of river.

NSS Unit of Aqsa college has commenced this project and will further work on it for the protection of Kamwadi river.

Problem Encountered:

- Lack of awareness among the local people regarding the river pollution.
- Lack of funds.

Best Practice – II

Title: Composting: one person's trash is another person's treasure.

Objective:

- To reduce the use of chemical fertilizer.
- A step towards eco-friendly use of fertilizer.
- To replenish soil and prevent soil erosion.

The Context:

Bhiwandi city discard tons of organic waste every year. Primarily food scrap, waste from vegetable market, fish market, household waste etc. most of the waste is thrown on open landfills and dumping ground. Almost none of that material is composted. As a time changes B.M.C.M.C are working toward the healthy decomposing of organic waste. Aqsa College along with B.N.C. M.C. installed first compost plant in backyard of Aqsa Women's Degree College on 16th December 2018.

The Practice:

The compost plant was maintain in the back yard of college was maintained for the one more year that is from June 2019 to March 2020. The garbage from the botanical garden, ground, canteen kitchen waste was collected and used to prepare compost.

The team of NSS unit worked very hard for the completion of the task and their efforts were appreciated. The installation of the Compost plant was accomplished successfully.

Problem Encountered:

- Lack of awareness regarding the hazardous effect of using chemical fertilizers.
- Lack of funds to implement what is planned.

Evidence of success:

Lot of manure was obtained from the garbage collected. Manure acquired was regularly collected by B.N.C.M.C officials. NSS unit of Aqsa College is planning for permanent compost plant in future.