

Minutes of Participation
into
“PRAKRUT”
THE ORGANIC FOOD FESTIVAL
2015

3rd – 5th Jan. 2015
Bal Bhavan, Rajkot

Submitted by
Students of 6th Semester
Dept. of Environmental Science and Engineering

Under the Guidance of
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Submitted to
Department of Environmental Science and Engineering
Faculty of Engineering
Marwadi Education Foundations' Group of Institutions (MEFGI)
At & Po. Gauridad, Rajkot-360003

Broad thematic areas and detailed Agenda:

1. Agricultural Waste Management and Disposal
2. Sustainable Development Challenges (India and Globe)
3. Sustainability Science: Applications and Challenges
4. Global Agricultural Changes
5. Social and Ethical Approach to Sustainable Agriculture
6. Leadership for Biodiversity Sustainability
7. Sustainable Agriculture and Biodiversity Settlements
8. Career Opportunities in Organic Agriculture
9. Regulatory and Policy Drivers
10. Innovation for Sustainability

With reference to an invitation regarding participation into the PRAKRUT- 2015; we actively participated into the same. The main theme of this event was to create an awareness regarding the use of organic food and organic material and consequently saving the environment. In today's era our environment is facing a major threat due to various reasons. The philosophy of organic food production maintains certain principles of biodiversity, ecological balance, sustainability, natural plant fertilization, natural pest management and soil integrity.

Day 1: , Saturday, 3rd January 2015

Session 1: Inauguration

The program started at around 11:00 am and the function was inaugurated by Miss Amanjyot kaur from Punjab. She is a green revolutionist and has done many noticeable work and has done immense efforts in protecting the environment. Shri Kapilbhai Shah (Jatan Trust, Vadodara), Shri Rameshbhai Patel (Shrusti, Ahemdabad)

Session 2: Introduction of Program

There were many stalls of various organic foods and various organic materials used in our daily life. The main focus was to create the awareness about the encouragement of using organic food. Visitors started visiting the various stalls. There were many different types of people coming from various NGO's, school, colleges, various environmental institutions, farmers, many environmentalists, many nature loving people and there were also people associated with forestry.

Session 3: Creating Awareness amongst People

We were provided with a small hut like stall in which all the posters made by us were put up. We worked on mainly three topics: **Loss of biodiversity (effect of urbanization), Bio-agriculture,**

Effects of pesticides on human health: The main aim of our participation was to make the people aware about the depleting environment and its effect on the flora and fauna- the residents of world, and to gain maximum knowledge from the environment experts about the current and future situations of environment.

Loss of Biodiversity: As many species of plants, animals, birds and insects are becoming extinct. Some of them are **Siberian tigers, ivory billed woodpecker, amur leopard, javan rhinoceros, greater bamboo lemur, northern whales, western lowland gorillas, leatherback sea turtles, kakapo parrot, chinese giant salamander** etc. The main reason for their extinction lies in pollution and urbanization, pollution is increasing at a very high rate that directly increases the earth's temperature as a result the imbalance is caused in the environment of animals and plants, making it unsuitable for them to survive. And urbanization leads to destruction of various forest and farming lands.

Bio-agriculture: the main concept of bio-agriculture lays emphasis on the strict use of pure organic products for farming and consumption of organic food. It highly restricts the use of insecticides and pesticides. Which in long run affects adversely on human health and destroys the fertility of soil.

Effects of pesticides on human health: the use of pesticides and insecticides in farming can cause lethal diseases and some can be un-curable. It can also reduce the fertility of land and making it unsuitable for further future use.

We started explaining the concepts and involved ourselves in interaction with the visitors. There were many questions and answers going on between the students and visitors, not only did we impart the knowledge to the people but also gained knowledge about the current scenario of environment and newer technologies, upcoming sciences. The interaction with the farmer was

very interesting as their present situation came into light as how they are suffering from urbanization and industrialization. We also met biodiversity affected people.

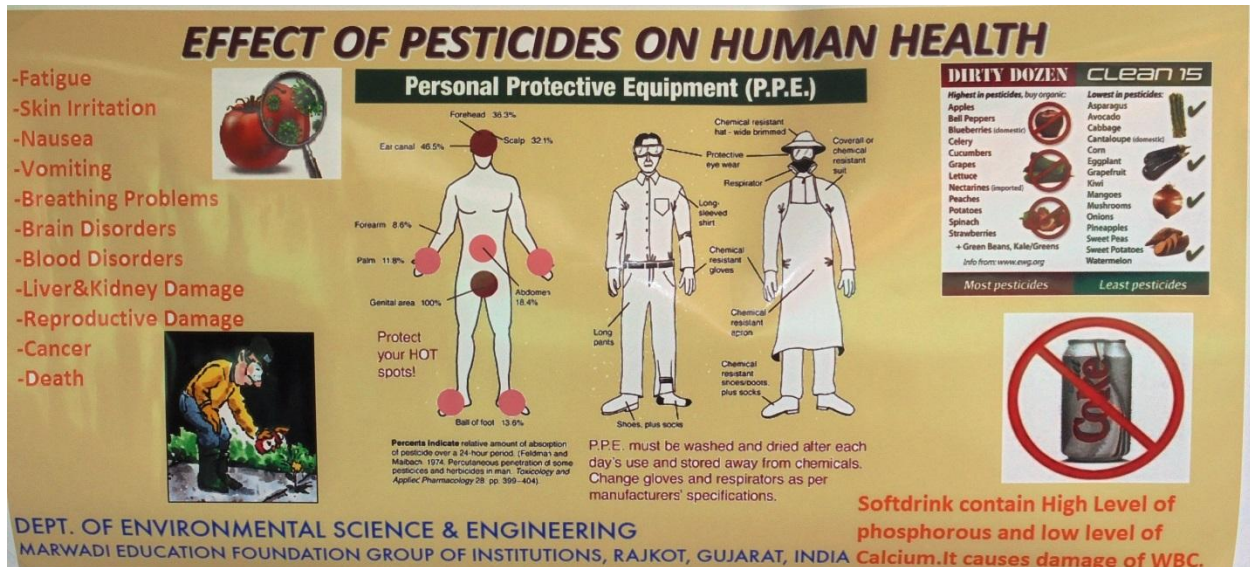
Session 4: Addressing the Community

Shri Umendra Dutt , green revolutionist gave the motivating speech to the all visitors, students, and various farmers regarding the importance of farming and effects of pesticides and insecticides on plants consequently attacking the human health. Then Dr. Virendra Bhatt, agricultural scientist addressed the people about the rising risk of genetically modified seeds and their effect on various species of plants, vegetables and fruits .

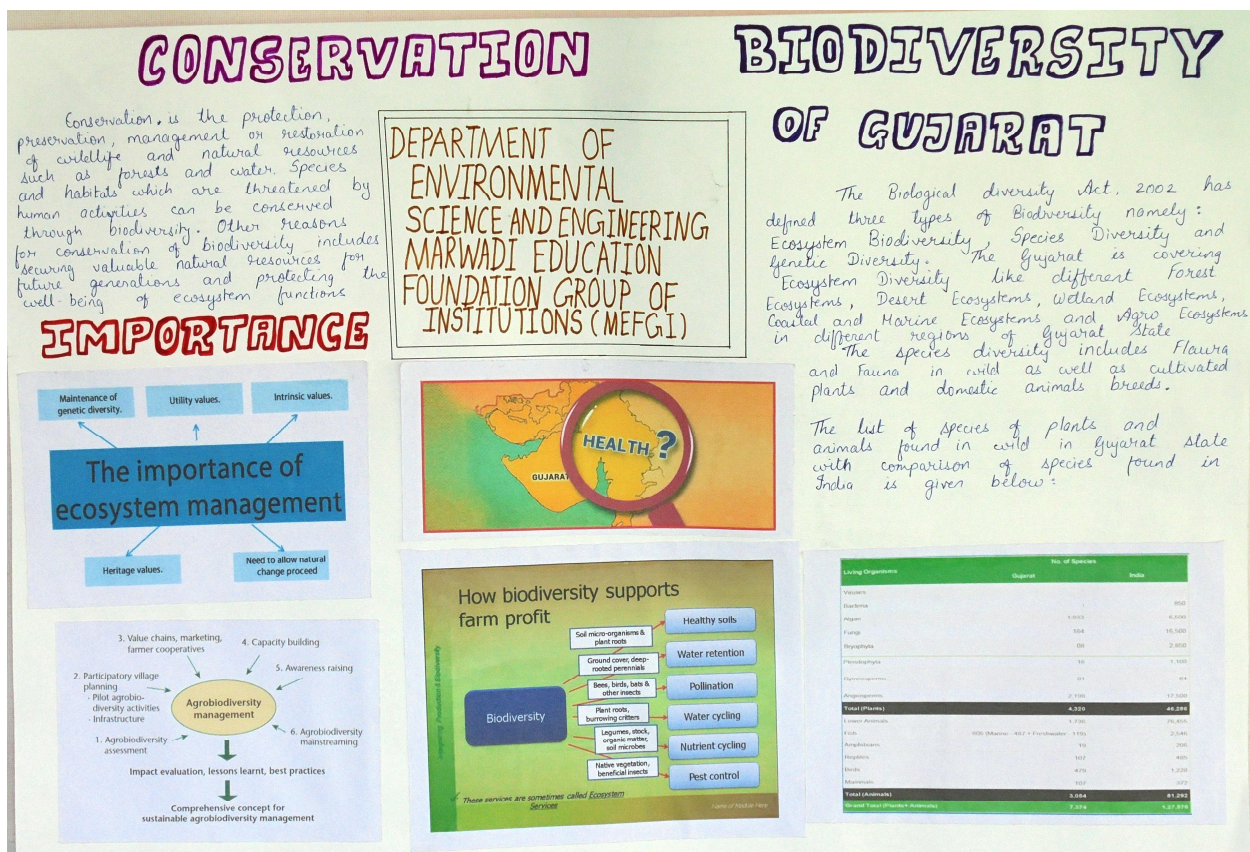
The cultural program was also hosted by the management every day in the evening from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm . which comprise of various environmental documentaries, movies related to saving of wildlife, dramas etc.



Sensitization to Diverse Group of People



Poster Presented



Poster Presented



Sensitization to Diverse Group of People



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Sensitization to Diverse Group of People



The Team



Work-up Moments

Major Learnings:

There is an increasing need of awareness amongst community regarding the present situation of the environmental conditions. Some concepts of our field were must more clear after participating in the festival. Newer technologies and new science came into our focus and increased our point of view towards the environment. Also we recognized our ability to deal with the various types of people and our presentation skills. Our Presentation skill also improved a lot. Following discussion, practical hearings and interaction have created a holistic understanding of the team of Dept. of Env. Sci. and Engg., MEFGI:

- There is an ever increasing need for information to guide environmental decision.
- Research should be realistic, holistic and comprehensive.
- Research in technological advancement provides business decision support in the context of sustainable consumption and production of natural resources.
- Sensitization in prospective assessments for policy making, is an effective tool to support multiple types of sustainability to the environment.

Acknowledgement:

We would like to express our deep felt gratitude to our chairman Shri Ketanbhai Marwadi for his encouragement. We also thank Prof. (Dr.) Rajendrasinh Jadeja, Dean, MEFGI; who gave us the immense support to make this festival a success. We are sincerely obliged to Dr. Debananda Roy and Dr. Chintan Pathak, Asst. Professor, Environmental Science and Engineering, for their continuous encouragement and inspiration. Special thanks are devoted to all the faculties of Dept. of Environmental Science and Engineering for their immense support and guidance.