

Plantation drives mark World Environment Day

Institutions, organisations promote conservation, climate action and sustainable living

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 6: World Environment Day was celebrated across Guwahati on Friday through plantation drives, awareness campaigns, seminars, rallies and student competitions aimed at promoting environmental conservation and climate action.

Nature Environment & Wildlife Society (NEWS), in collaboration with Assam Forest School, Jalukbari, organised a programme attended by 73 participants. Assam Forest School Director Dr Priyasa Saikia welcomed the gathering, while Rajendra G Garwad, Chief Conservator of Forests, Research & Education Circle, Assam, highlighted the importance of biodiversity conservation and the role of youth in protecting nature. Dr Mayur Bawri of NEWS conducted a session on the theme "Inspired by Nature". Photography, write-up and extempore speech competitions for students were also held.

At Dispur College, the Students' Union, Eco Club and NSS Unit jointly organised a rally, cleanliness drive, awareness campaign and plantation programme. Principal Dr Navajyoti Borah said an awareness drive was conduct-

ed in the Ganeshguri area and saplings were planted to encourage a greener environment.

The College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara, observed the day with a plantation drive inaugurated by Dean Dr BN Saikia and a State-level seminar on "Inspired by Nature: For Climate, For Our Future". The seminar, organised by the Indian Association of Women Veterinarians (Assam Chapter), Teachers Association of Veterinary Faculty and CVSc Students' Union, featured lectures by environmentalist Rituraj Phukan and academician Dr Pallabi Sarma.

The Green Chapter Foundation organised an awareness programme at Cotton University involving around 100 students from schools across Guwahati. Speakers Dr Dilip Kakoti, Dr Pallabi Borah and Dr Rafiqua Ahmed discussed sustainable development and global warming. Quiz and poster-making competitions were also conducted, with students from TC Higher Secondary School, Kamrup Academy Higher Secondary School, Cotton Collegiate Higher Secondary School and Panbazar Higher Secondary School emerging among the winners.

Pragjyoti Communications

marked its 16th World Environment Day celebration at Mohan Bashi Das Junior College in Mayong, Morigaon. The programme featured a plantation drive, an environmental awareness rally and the launch of the 10th issue of the bilingual environmental magazine *Pobitora*. Morigaon District Commissioner Anamika Tewari and other officials attended the event.

Meanwhile, under the aegis of the Assam Pollution Control Board, the Lakhimi Nagar Mahila Samiti organised an awareness meeting and essay and drawing competitions among the students of the local schools on the occasion of World Environment Day on Friday.

The meeting was presided over by the president of the Samiti, Dr Santana Kakati. Eminent scientist Dr Ananta Madhab Dutta was present as the distinguished guest.

Ankuran Pathak, assistant executive engineer of Assam Pollution Control Board and Hrishikesh Bhattacharya, assistant engineer, were present as resource persons. They spoke on the occasion.

The event concluded with the distribution of prizes among the students followed by the president's speech.

