

Report of the activities undertaken as part of Gandhi Jayanti celebrations at ICAR-CPCRI, RS Kayamkulam on 2nd October 2021

To commemorate the 152nd birth anniversary of the Father of Nation-Mahatma Gandhi, and 117th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister, Lal Bahadur Shastri, the celebrations at ICAR-CPCRI, Regional Station, Kayamkulam started with Swachhta Pledge administered by Dr. S. Kalavathi to all the staff members on 2nd October 2021. After administering the pledge, she exhorted all the staff members to carry out the sanitation activities in the true spirit as envisioned by the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi, in the current crisis situation due to COVID-19 pandemic. The staff members were called upon to take this as an ideal moment to focus on Gandhian principles of *swachhata viz.*, practice of personal hygiene, promoting and ensuring community sanitation and living in harmony with our environment so as to regenerate our planet earth for a healthy and peaceful living.

Swachh Bharat campaign and online session on ‘Health and hygiene in the wake of COVID 19 pandemic’ were organized after the pledge. Dr. B. Padmakumar, Head, Internal Medicine, TD Medical College, Alappuzha delivered an online message on cleanliness and sanitation as an integral part of the Gandhian way of living, wherein, he emphasized the need for personal hygiene and healthy environment (clean water, adequate sanitation, vector control, shelter) to ward off communicable diseases. A recorded talk on ‘Post Covid Health management’ by Dr.Padmakumar was also delivered.

The celebration was also enriched by a short message on recycling of crop residues as a means for keeping the farm and surroundings clean and at the same time for facilitating climate smart farming by Dr. A. Joseph Rajkumar, Principal Scientist, Agrl. Entomology, which was followed by rendering of patriotic songs by Dr.G.Rajeev, Smt.Prasanna and Smt.Arathy R.Pillai. Dr. Jeena Mathew, Senior Scientist proposed the vote of thanks. The meeting ended with National Anthem.

A “Clean Campus drive” was also organized and the staff members under the leadership of Dr.S.Kalavathi, cleaned the campus premises, segregated the plastic and non plastic wastes as well as bio degradable wastes for disposal.

Dr.Jeena Mathew, Dr. Anes KM and Dr.S. Kalavathi, co-ordinated the activities.



Swachhtha pledge being taken by staff members



Talk on '*Health and hygiene*' by Dr.B. Padmakumar followed by singing patriotic songs by staff members



Clean Campus Drive

