Swachhta Pakkwada Programme 2020

ICAR-CPCRI, RS, Kayamkulam

Swachhta Pakhwada programmes started with Swachhta pledge by all staff members of ICAR-CPCRI, Regional Station, Kayamkulam on 16/12/2020,10.00 am at the quadrangle of the campus, inculcating the spirit of cleanliness as envisioned by the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi. After administering the pledge, Dr.S.Kalavathi exhorted all the staff members to carry out the activities in the true spirit in the current crisis situation due to COVID-19 pandemic and briefed on the forth coming events earmarked for the Swachhta Pakhwada fortnight. The major activities carried out during the period include, stock taking of the files by the administrative section, weed clearing of the campus garden and replanting with new flowering plants marigold, celosia, portulaca, micky rose, balsams, pandanus etc. A kitchen garden utilizing the organic inputs, crop and weed residues. Seedlings of tomato, chilly, amaranthus, ladies finger and brinjal were planted at the recommended spacing in the area cleared adjacent to the guest house. All the water lines and sewage lines in the guest house, canteen, and institute were checked for any blockages.

The weed biomass (approximately 300kg) collected from the campus are being composted in concrete rings, using cowdung slurry, EM solution, poultry manure and earthworms.

Near canteen building the waste pipelines were cleaned and repaired, the tank for collecting waste water was cleaned and protected with lid. Cleaning of public places such as Lalitha Kala Academy, Krishnapuram was also undertaken by the staff members. The collected weeds were composted using EM solution and the technique was demonstrated to the staff members of the Academy. As a model for compost preparation, a pit (2-meter diameter and 45 cm depth) has been taken. The collected weeds were incorporated in layers spread with cow dung slurry and EM solution. The programme was well received by the academy people, with a promise to carry forward the message of cleanliness through residue recycling.

Metarhizium was applied to the compost pits in the adjoining areas of Krishnapuram panchayath.

Online webinars on topics such as 'Aerobic composting' by Dr. Girija, Professor (Retired), Kerala Agricultural University, 'Water quality assessment and management' by Dr. Harikumar, Scientist, CWRDM were also conducted during the period.

A webinar for the farmers in connection with the farmers day celebration was organized on 23/12/2020. The technical sessions included the topics: (1) Crop habitat diversification for plant health management handled by Dr.A.Joseph Rajkumar and (2) Residue recycling for sustainable crop yield handled by Dr.A.Abdul Haris. In order to enhance the utility of biowastes for the production of vegetables in an organic manner, a webinar was organised on the topic "Organic vegetable production" led by Sri.C.K. Venugopal, Assistant Director (Retired), Department of Agriculture and Farmers welfare.

The valedictory session as marked by a webinar was held at 2 PM on the topic "Health and Hygiene"on 31/12/2020. Dr.S.Kalavathi, Acting Head welcomed the gathering. The key note address on health and hygiene was delivered by Dr.R.Ajith, Assistant Professor, Department of Community Medicine, Govt.Medical College, Kottayam. An elaborate talk on the importance of personal hygiene as well as that in the work place, particularly under the current pandemic situation was imparted to all the staff members of Regional Station, Kayamkulam. Social vaccine protocol against COVID 19 was discussed in detail with active interaction by the staff members. Dr.Jeena Mathew, Scientist, presented the brief report of activities done under the Swachhta Pakhwada programme.

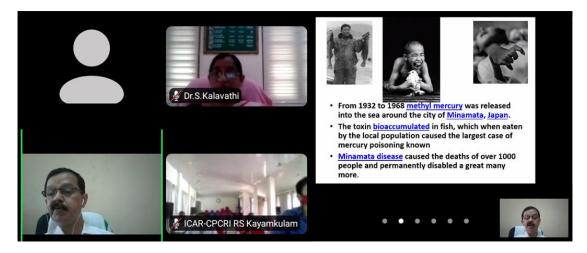Dr.Jeena Mathew, Scientist and Dr.K.M.Anes served as the overall co-ordinators of the programme.

Administering Swachhta Pledge by the staff members

Cleaning of campus garden

Swachhta activity at Lalitha Kala Academy

Webinar on water quality

webinar on aerobic composting

Webinar on clenliness and Valedictory