

AUGUST 2023 | BENGALURU



FIRST & FOREMOST...

SWMRT and Hasiru Dala celebrated the first of many successful fundraising events on August 23 which happens to be India Philanthropy Day. The daughters of waste-pickers Shamila attended the function held at DWCC in Marappanapalya where school supplies were distributed. Along with 16 other beneficiaries, Monika and Monisha received backpacks, uniforms, books and stationery.

N S Ramakanth, Sandya Narayanan, Aarthi Thoppae, Niveditha M M, Bianca Fernandes, Nirmala Shekar and Ramesh were among the SWMRT and Hasiru Dala members present.

Ramya, a member of our growing volunteer base, captured some of the priceless moments at the event. Ramakanth and Sandya spent time with the children and learnt about their aspirations.

This fundraiser has reminded us about the power of unity and giving. Let's continue spreading hope and education, one step at a time.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Give India for their assistance with the fundraiser and to Hasiru Dala for their support in organising the event.

WTE WRAP-UP



This time, Whyburnwaste dwelt over the hazards of installing sanitary pad incinerators in school toilets. Though small and a common sight these days, they cause serious harm to the health and environment. Most often these units flout the essential norms under the SWM 2016 rules like twin chamber operation and a minimal 950°C operating temperature. These are often missing from the tender terms being issued by the State or municipal authorities that install these across schools. An NGT case is underway in Maharashtra on these missing technical requirements in the State tender.

Citizens' whose tax money funds these initiatives must question the authorities. In the light of a new WTE plant being planned for Bengaluru, whyburnwaste shared a list of questions by @GAIA, which the citizens must raise. Citizens and judiciary need to step up vigilance on all WTE units—big or small—because of their long-term detrimental impact on our health and the environment around.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Knowledge transfer and skill exchange constitute a significant part of what we do at SWMRT. We are pleased to announce that Aarthi Thoppae and Niveditha MM from the team are now leading SWM sessions.

Aarthi Thoppae, who is passionate about sustainable living, conducts workshops at her community Brigade Gateway on segregation, composting, and various other subjects.



Niveditha MM conducts training sessions on sustainable menstruation. Through her interaction, she advocates the use of cloth pads and menstrual cups for safer and healthier periods.

Visitors at SGKK

On August 14, SwachaGraha Kalika Kendra hosted Abhi and Niyu, the husband-wife content creators duo, who started their journey with the purpose of creating positive news.

Today, they are social media influencers who curate topics like environment, economics, and social issues.

As practitioners of sustainable living, Abhi and Niyu have worked with SWMRT members in the past to create content on composting. The duo visited the learning centre to learn more about the work we do.



AT OOTA FROM YOUR THOTA



SWMRT set up a stall at the Oota from your Thota event on August 26 and 27. The stall was managed by our growing volunteer base: Vasuki Iyengar, Aarthi Thoppae, Niveditha MM, Siddu Chalawadi and Lokesh from SWMRT. Through the stall, awareness on composting, segregation and saying 'no' to single-use plastic was promoted.

BRAINSTORM



When the Covid-19 pandemic forced people to stay put in their homes, Monika Khanna Gulati turned the crisis into an opportunity and began having constructive conversations on Zoom with Almitra Patel and recorded the same. Almitra, who is known for her environmental policy advocacy and anti-pollution activism, was instrumental in the drafting of the Municipal Solid Waste Management Rule in 2000, which gave municipalities a clear direction towards handling city waste. At 87, Almitra is epitome of positive energy and enthusiasm, forever focusing on solutions with a 'can do' attitude rather than complaining of all that is not right.

Listen to the full series here: <https://youtu.be/613Bl1cy2EM?feature=shared>.

THE HEARTBEAT

THE MONTH THAT WAS

- Community Volunteering Day: Social media influencers Abhi & Niyu and AEE and HI from various districts across Karnataka at SGKK | Aug 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20.
- Meeting: Brand Bengaluru meeting was attended by SWMRT members | Aug 3.
- In situ workshops: Waste management, skilling and composting sessions by Aarthi Thoppae | Aug 15.
- Sustainable menstruation by Malini Parmar at Jyothi Nivas College | Aug 16.
- Expert talks: Webinar on green skills by Anuradha Govind for Giftabled | Aug 19.
- Sustainable menstruation by Shalini Khanna Charles at GSSS College | Aug 24.
- Workshop: Oota from your Thota stall by SWMRT | Aug 26 & 27.
- Hands-on workshop: Titan employees participated in an SWM workshop conducted by Anuradha Govind at SGKK | Aug 28.
- Expert talks: Webinar on the basics of aerobic composting by Vasuki Iyengar and Aarthi Thoppae for Dell employees | Aug 28.
- Expert talks: Sustainable menstruation session by Dr Meenakshi Bharath for SSMRV college | Aug 30.

Community Volunteering Day
Waste Management Awareness Program with

ACTIVITIES
Planting | Harvesting and Sealing Compost | Gardening-related activities | Sprinkling diluted Native Cow-Dung Slurry | Feeding cows | Recording reels

Aug 19 -20 | Sat & Sun | 8:30 am - 12 pm
SwachhGruha Kalika Kendra, HSR Layout, Bengaluru
info@swmrt.com



EXPERT TALKS

A session for GSSS Institute of Engineering & Technology for Women



Sustainable Menstruation
SHALINI KHANNA CHARLES, NIVEDITHA MM
28/07/2023

WRITE TO US AT - INFO@SWMRT.COM
[@SWMRTBENGALURU](https://www.instagram.com/SWMRTBENGALURU)

(From top) 1. Community Volunteering Day at SGKK. 2 & 3 Pinky Chandran and Anuradha Govind at Brand Bengaluru. 4. Sustainable Menstruation session Shalini Khanna Charles.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE & INSTAGRAM FOR INFO ON OUR UPCOMING EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & A LOT MORE.