



JUNE 2023 | BENGALURU

FIRST & FOREMOST...



On June 22, a panel discussion on 'Green Events' was organised by BBMP in association with SWMRT and BMSCE ISRC. The panel members included Chairperson of Adamyia Chethana Foundation Dr Tejaswini Ananthkumar, SWMRT member, gynaecologist and environmentalist Dr Meenakshi Bharath, and Zonal Commissioner, BBMP South Jayaram Raipura.

Jayaram pointed out that event organisers often rely on caterers who may not be aware of sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics and shared his belief in the power of education as a foundation for creating a better world.

Dr. Tejaswini, emphasised the importance of practical implementation and being the change we want to see.

Dr Meenakshi Bharath stressed the need for conscious consumption and proper waste disposal.

During the discussion, audience members raised concerns about the production of single-use products and called for stricter laws to ban them. Wedding representatives shared their commitment to segregation and avoiding single-use materials, while others suggested government subsidies for eco-friendly alternatives.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT



SWMRT member Dr Shanthi Tummala's efforts in Telangana's Siddipet district were recognised by the government.

She has been actively involved from setting up segregation at source to conceptualization of Swachh Badi. The Government of Telangana felicitated her for all her achievements in setting up sustainable waste management practices.

WtE WRAP-UP



Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) versus Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) was examined as feed for WtE since most plants in India run on mixed MSW. We compared the material composition and calorific value of each. We also discussed co-processing. It was found that almost all MSW items can be handled in the cement industry. Using this existing infrastructure of co-processing could be a better way to handle non-recyclables compared to setting up new WtE plants which are far more polluting. The Delhi government's efforts to manage nearly 8,000 tons of waste that the city generates in large WtE plants is ill-advised. The WtE capacity should be approved for managing only the non-recyclable portion of the MSW generated in a city. The rest must be composted or recycled by adopting sustainable alternatives.

'Coming soon: Swachh Badi' in 142 ULBs

On Friday, Minister K T Rama Rao, UD & IT Minister of Telangana, announced that the Swachh Badi initiative will be launched across 141 municipalities and corporations in Telangana.

A concept born in Bengaluru's SwachaGraha Kalika Kendra is gathering momentum in Siddipet.

In April 2021, Siddipet, Telangana inaugurated the Swachh Badi learning center. The center is curated by SWMRT and modelled on the lines of the SwachaGraha Kalika Kendra. Finance Minister T Harish Rao inaugurated the learning center and has been the force behind driving the decentralised movement in Siddipet.

Guiding children towards a cleaner, greener future with Swachh Badi campaign

Schoolchildren will be taught waste segregation, compost generation, recycling and reducing plastic usage, says KTR at Telangana Pratana Pragathi Dinotsavam in Hyderabad

The Hindu Bureau HYDERABAD

Swachh Badi programme will be launched across municipalities in the State to educate children about sanitation and environment, Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister K.T. Rama Rao said. As part of the programme, school children will be taught waste segregation, compost generation, recycling and reducing plastic usage. The Minister was participating in 'Telangana Pratana Pragathi Dinotsavam' celebrations at Bhikshala Veekha here on Friday, as part of the 10th anniversary celebration of Telangana State.



During his address, Mr. Rama Rao spoke about the rapid development witnessed in the State, especially in cities and towns, and thanked the 0.5 lakh State government employees for their efforts. Highlighting the importance of urban area, he described cities as economic engines for the nation Hyderabad and its surroundings contribute 45-50% of State's government revenue, he said. Introduction of administrative reforms, new Municipalities and Panchayat Raj Acts, and streamlined permissions for construction projects, such as IS-BANS, have revolutionised governance, he noted. Mr. Rama Rao expressed appreciation for GIMC,

whose commitment to progress was evident during the pandemic, when road development was taken up extensively, and sanitation was managed efficiently. Sanitation is prioritised in cities, as touched by various initiatives such as City Resource Collection Centers, local sludge management and treatment plants, and provision of public toilets. Setting up of parks, nurseries, and creation of urban lung spaces have contributed to 7% increase in green cover across towns. K.T. RAMARAO, Minister

World Environment Day: It's in their nature

By Y Maheswara Reddy / Updated: Jun 5, 2023, 06:00 IST



This Environment Day, we feature 4 citizens who would do anything to keep Bengaluru green Green thumb

Savita Hiremath is a city-based independent journalist, who has been contributing to environmental conservation through a zero waste system that she put in place in 2012 for her community.

"I began participating in environmental preservation programmes in 2009. I took the zero-waste system forward in 2012 to reach more and more apartment communities across the city," said Savita Hiremath.

Hiremath is a member of Solid Waste Management Round Table (SWMRT). She is the founder of Endlessly Green - Solid Waste Management Solutions which specialises in designing and manufacturing aerobic composters, and promotes organic gardening essentials.

SWMRT member Savita Hiremath was featured in the Bangalore Mirror on the occasion of World Environment day. The feature included active citizens who keep Bengaluru clean. Savita was featured for contributing to environmental conservation through community initiatives, her organisation Endlessly Green and setting up zero-waste systems in communities.



THE HEARTBEAT

THE MONTH THAT WAS

- Community Volunteering Day: All weekends.
- Expert talks: Home composting by Savita Hiremath for Shell, Chennai | June 28.
- Panel discussion on green events: Organised by BBMP in collaboration with BMSCE and SWMRT | June 22.
- Webinar series: A panel discussion on Busting Myths and Unveiling Real Solutions to Plastic Pollution with Collen Salmat, Ecowaste Coalition, Miriam Azuring, GAIA Asia Pacific and Pinky Chandran | June 21.
- Expert talks: Waste segregation and composting for Shell, Bengaluru by Vasuki Iyenagar | June 21.
- Instagram Live & SGKK workshop: Sustainable living in Hindi with Monika Khanna Gulati | June 24.
- Expert talks: Sustainable living for One World International School | Number of participants: 160 | June 20.
- Expert talks: Sustainable living for Nandi Housing | Number of participants: 25 | June 17.
- SGKK visitor update: Composer, singer and SWM practitioner Vasu Dixit visited SGKK. The Happy Number song co-produced by him late last year educated several listeners on the role of Bengaluru's informal waste-pickers in the city's circular economy | June 12.
- Instagram live: Rent-a-cutlery, green events and low-waste living with Rishita Sharma from Rent-a-Cutlery, Nidarshana Das from The Bartan Company and Vani Murthy and Anuradha Govind from SWMRT| June 7.
- WED Expert talks: Session 1: Waste segregation and Composting in SLN Eden Gardens by Shalini Khanna Charles. Session 2: Waste management and sustainable living by Monika Khanna Gulati for Kenametal. Session 3: Waste management and home composting in Brigade Gateway by Aarthi Thoppae. Session 4: Menstrual Hygiene and zero-waste periods at St Francis College for Women by Dr Meenakshi Bharath. Session 5: Beat Plastic Pollution with ABB by Shanthi Tummala and Anuradha Govind.



(From top) 1. Vasu Dixit endorses the 2b1b bag campaign. 2. World Environment Day events. 3. Panel discussion on 'Busting Myths and Unveiling Real Solutions to Plastic Pollution' with Pinky Chandran. 4. Community volunteering at SGKK.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY



On the occasion of World Environment Day, SWMRT ran a social media campaign in line with the United Nations' theme of #BeatPlasticPollution. The campaign focused on cutlery renting as a solution to reduce plastic. The campaign covered awareness posters, cutlery renting guides and video from individuals, communities and entrepreneurs in this field.

On this occasion, Shalini Khanna Charles, Monika Khanna Gulati, Aarthi Thoppae and Dr Meenaksh Bharath from SWMRT conducted sessions for different stakeholders on diverse topics while staying true to our commitment to change the way people look at waste while promoting decentralised waste management.

BRAINSTORM



Bhavani, Deepthi, Nandhita, and Chaithanya from Govt. Polytechnic, Holenarasipura interned with SWMRT at SGKK from May 19 to June 5.

During their internship, they worked in the community composting and gardening area and participated in workshops and volunteering day activities at the learning center. Some of the skills that they were able to take back with them included harvesting and sieving compost and installation of DIY composters. SWMRT gifted cloth pads donated by StoneSoup.in to the interns to help them develop sustainable menstruation practices.

Their internship was part of the Skilling programme that we offer at SGKK. The skilling programme is curated to train Kelasagaararu / housekeeping staff, apartment supervisors and SWM champions to be equipped with green skills to implement waste management practices.

Write to us at info@swmrt.com to know more.

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