

EIACP NAGALAND



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8 ditorial

Earth Day is a global event dedicated to raising awareness and promoting environmental protection and is celebrated annually on April 22nd. This day originated in the United States in 1970 and has since grown into a worldwide movement involving millions of people in various activities to demonstrate support for environmental conservation.

The purpose of Earth Day is to encourage individuals, communities, governments, and organizations to take action to address pressing environmental issues, such as climate change, pollution, deforestation, and habitat destruction. It serves as a

reminder of the importance of preserving and sustaining our planet for future generations.

Each year, Earth Day focuses on a specific theme or issue, highlighting different aspects of environmental sustainability and resilience. Through collective action and ongoing commitment, Earth Day aims to inspire lasting change and promote a more sustainable relationship between humanity and the Earth.

This issue highlights the workshop conducted to commemorate Earth Day under Mission LiFE in collaboration with the Newsbites Team and the Institution's **Innovation Council from** St. Joseph University, Chumukedima.



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mation, Awareness, Capacity building and livelihood the Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change,

EIACP (Environmental Infor-



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EIACP (Environmental Information, Awareness, Capacity building and livelihood Programme) is a project of the Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India

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Earth Day or International Mother Earth Day is an annual celebration that honors the achievements of the environmental movement and raises awareness of the need to protect Earth's natural resources for future generations. This year's theme is "Planet vs. Plastics." It is also the 54th anniversary of Earth Day. EARTHDAY.ORG (formerly known as Earth Day Network) globally coordinates a wide range of events which includes about 1 billion people in more than 193 countries, to protect the planet. In line with this year's theme, EARTHDAY.ORG is unwavering in its commitment to end plastics for the sake of human and planetary health, demanding a 60% reduction in the production of all plastics by 2040. It calls to advocate for widespread awareness of the health risks of plastics, rapidly phase out all single-use plastics, urgently push for a strong UN Treaty on Plastic Pollution, and demand an end to fast fashion.



This year the theme for Earth Day is "Planet Plastic". The theme emphasizes the urgent need to address the global plastic pollution crisis for Earth Day. The theme underscores the detrimental impact of plastic pollution on the environment, wildlife, and human health, while also highlighting the importance of taking action to reduce. reuse, and recycle plastic to protect our planet.

IMPORTANCE OF THE THEME "PLANET VS. PLASTICS":-

- **Plastic Pollution Awareness:** The theme raises awareness about the scale of plastic pollution and its devastating effects on ecosystems, oceans, and biodiversity. It highlights the staggering amount of plastic waste that ends up in landfills, rivers, and oceans each year, posing a serious threat to marine life and wildlife.
- Environmental Conservation: "Planet vs. Plastic" emphasizes the need for environmental conservation efforts to combat plastic pollution and protect the health of our planet. It encourages individuals, communities, governments, and businesses to adopt sustainable practices and policies to reduce plastic consumption and waste generation.
- **Promoting Solutions:** The theme promotes solutions to the plastic pollution crisis, such as reducing single-use plastics, promoting recycling and waste management initiatives, advocating for policy changes to regulate plastic production and consumption, and supporting innovative alternatives to plastic.
- **Individual Action:** It empowers individuals to take action in their daily lives to reduce plastic pollution. It encourages people to make conscious choices, such as using reusable bags, bottles, and containers, avoiding plastic packaging where possible, and participating in community clean-up efforts.
- Global Collaboration: The theme emphasizes the importance of global collaboration and collective action to address the plastic pollution crisis. It calls for partnerships between governments, businesses, civil society organizations, and individuals to work together towards a more sustainable and plastic-free future.

CURRENT STATE OF PLANET EARTH:-

- **Climate Change:** Earth is experiencing significant changes in climate patterns due to human activities, primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial processes. These changes are resulting in rising global temperatures, sea level rise, and disruptions to ecosystems and biodiversity.
- Biodiversity Loss: Human activities, such as habitat destruction, pollution, overexploitation of resources, and climate change, are leading to a rapid decline in biodiversity worldwide. This loss of species and ecosystems has profound implications for ecological stability, food security, and human well-being.
- Environmental Pollution: Pollution of air, water, and soil continues to be a major environmental concern, impacting human health, ecosystems, and biodiversity. Sources of pollution include industrial emissions, agricultural runoff, plastic waste, and chemical contaminants.

SOME WAYS TO PROTECT OUR EARTH:-

- **Reduce, Reuse, recycle:** Minimize waste by reducing consumption, reusing items whenever possible, and recycling materials like paper, plastic, glass, and metal.
- Conserve Water: Use water efficiently by fixing leaks, taking shorter showers, and watering plants during cooler times of the day. Consider installing water-saving devices and appliances.
- **Conserve Energy:** Reduce energy consumption by using energy-efficient appliances, turning off lights and electronics when not in use, and utilizing natural light and ventilation.
- **Promote Sustainable Transportation:** Reduce carbon emissions by walking, cycling, carpooling, using public transportation, or driving fuel-efficient vehicles. Consider alternatives like electric or hybrid vehicles.
- **Support Renewable Energy:** Advocate for and invest in renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and hydroelectric power to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and mitigate climate change.
- **Protect Natural Habitats:** Preserve forests, wetlands, and other natural habitats that provide essential ecosystem services, support biodiversity, and regulate the climate.
- **Promote Sustainable Agriculture:** Support organic farming practices, reduce food waste, and choose sustainably sourced and locally grown food options to minimize environmental impact.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Along with the rest of the world, the Environmental Information Awareness Capacity Building and Livelihood Programme (EIACP), Nagaland Pollution Control Board, in collaboration with the Newsbites Team and Institution's Innovation Council from St. Joseph University, Chumukedima, organized a workshop on Plastic Waste Management under Mission LiFE in commemoration of Earth Day dated 22nd April 2024 under the theme "Planet vs. Plastic." Additionally, a Model Making Competition/Exhibition was held under the theme "Recycle and Reuse", which was participated by 12 different departments of 2nd Semester students from St Joseph University.



Newsbites team, St Joseph University along with the participating students, EIACP & NPCB officials

The program was chaired by Dr. Nishikanta Naorem, Head of the Department of JMC (Journalism and Mass Communication), followed by an Invocation by Rev. Fr. Anish, PRO of St. Joseph University. Rev. Dr. Fr. Sunny Joseph, Professor, Department of Education, delivered the welcome address, and the presidential address was given by Dr. A Robert Xavier, Registrar of St. Joseph University, who highlighted the importance of the Earth Day celebration. He shared insights on reducing the usage of single-use plastic (SUP) and emphasized the importance of embracing a sustainable lifestyle. Dr. Xavier also stressed the significance of prioritizing wet waste management and investing in alternatives to SUPs to protect and preserve our planet. Er. Kevisede Pucho, Assistant Environmental Engineer from NPCB, delivered the keynote address where he emphasized the urgent need to protect our planet, highlighting the responsibility of citizens to nurture and preserve it. Additionally, he addressed the global issue of plastic pollution. Ms. Lungbi, a 2nd-semester student in Political Science, presented a special number, and the vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Avinuo Chupuo, Associate Professor & Head of the Department of History.



Chairperson by Dr. Nishikanta Naorem, Head of the Department of JMC (Journalism and Mass Communication)



Invocation by Rev. Fr. Anish, PRO of St. Joseph University



Welcome address by Rev. Dr. Fr. Sunny Joseph, Professor, Department of Education



Dr. A Robert Xavier, Registrar of St. Joseph University



Keynote Address by Er. Kevisede Pucho, Assistant Environmental Engineer



Vote of thanks by Dr. Avinuo Chupuo, Associate Professor & Head of the Department of History.

During the technical sessions, various awareness presentations were presented during the workshop. Er Aghali A Swu, Environmental Engineer, NPCB, gave a PowerPoint presentation on "Platic Waste Management" wherein she highlighted the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2024, and the present scenario of the state of Nagaland. Ms Sentinaro, Senior Scientific Assistant, NPCB, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Ban on single-use plastics wherein she highlighted the alternatives to single-use plastic items and encouraged the students to be conscious of the choices they make daily in either protecting or destroying the planet Earth.



Plastic Waste Management by Er. Aghali A. Swu, Environmental Engineer, NPCB.



Ban on Single-Use Plastics by Ms. Sentinaro, Senior Scientific Assistant, NPCB

Ms Khriehunuo Rutsa, Programme Officer, EIACP gave a PowerPoint presentation on Earth Day wherein she highlighted the importance of celebrating Earth Day and how it is a mass movement to protect our planet Earth. Ms. Lashikali Chishi, Information Officer, EIACP, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Mission LiFE and highlighted the seven themes associated with Mission LiFE which were followed by a combined Pledge-taking moment with all the participants and teaching faculties.



Earth Day by Khriehunuo Rutsa, Programme Officer, EIACP



Mission LiFE by Ms. Lashikali Chishi, Information Officer, EIACP



Pledge Taking Moment during the programme

Pamphlets were distributed among the students and teaching faculties. The program was attended by approximately 400 students and 14 teaching faculties, including Heads of Departments from different departments attended the program.

The technical session was followed by a Model Making Competition/Exhibition in which the PG second-semester students of all the different departments took part in the competition. The model-making competition under the theme "Recycle and Reuse" was mainly based on environment-friendly models in which originality of design and motifs was recommended. Materials were made from recycled wastes preferably plastic wastes. There were 3 students each per group/ department. The models were judged according to their creativity, aesthetic, originality, skill, innovative use of materials, reusable value, and articulation (presentation skills, response to the jury).

PHOTO GALLERY OF THE MODEL MAKING COMPETITION & EXHIBITION:





Students from various departments participated in the Model Making Competition/ Exhibition. Certificates and cash prizes were distributed to the winners. The winner of the Model Making Competition is as follows:

- > 1st Prize Vikedo, Pajetkung Nring and Wangzei Konyak. (Department of Journalism and Mass Communication)
- > 2nd Prize Kelengonu Neikha, Merensangla Longchar and Rajesh Sinha. (Department of Chemistry)
- > 3rd Prize Lungba P. Phom, Athingli Sangtam and Imlitila Jamir. (Department of Social Work).









YouTube video of the observation of Earth Day 2024 at St Joseph University, Chumoukedima

IMPORTANCE OF EARTH DAY:

- Earth Day allows for a day of education about environmental issues affecting our planet every year.
- It also allows us to reflect and remember the significance of the health of the planet and ways to prevent or ensure that health.
- Demonstrations on Earth Day also help to signal to our representatives in government, how important action on environmental issues is to us.

66 PROTECTING our PLANET starts with YOU 33

All queries and feedback regarding this newsletter can be sent to:

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