

## Green Beans Society, Annual Report, January to December, 2021

In the year 2021, the Green Beans society worked consistently to raise awareness amongst students and communities towards a sustainable environment.

The Society has been working on the theme of proper waste management and reduction of single-use plastics usage during the year. Students' meetings were held regularly to discourage the use single-use plastics and the importance of waste segregation was highlighted.

On January 27, 2021, the Society organised a lecture by Ms. Shubhra Puri "towards circular economy and reducing plastic waste". Ms. Shubhra Puri is an environmental enthusiast and has been working in the field of waste management for more than 15 years. During the lecture, she highlighted the concerns regarding the waste segregation and the environmental impact of different types of plastics/other commonly used packaging material.

The Society also conducted an online survey in the month of February and March, 2021 to study the behaviour of people towards the use of single-use plastics. The student members of the society circulated the questionnaire in their communities, wherever they are living during the lock down. We have gathered over 1000 responses for our questionnaire from across the country. The respondents were from different age group and gender. The results distinctly highlighted the willingness of people to switch to an environment friendly alternative, if available. The report of the study was published in the "Green Talk", annual magazine of the society.

To observe the World Environment Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2021, we organised a poster competition that was marked by the enthusiastic participation of students. The entries were shared on the Facebook handle of the society. This year the theme of the world Environment Day was "Ecosystem restoration". The UN also declared the decade from 2021 to 2030 as the decade on ecosystem restoration. This would help in poverty alleviation, combat climate change and prevent mass extinction. The decade will also mark the target for implementation of Sustainable Development Goals.

In the new academic session beginning in August, we organised a screening of three short films on how to reduce the use of single use plastics on 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2021. In September, the society had two information sharing sessions on the Ecology of Dragonflies and the Ecology of Butterflies on 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> September respectively. The sessions were conducted in association with Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) and World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) to mark the butterfly month. The guest speaker, Ms. Geeta Yadav, shared a lot of interesting facts and it was thoroughly relished by all the members of the society. Both sessions were very interactive and we also had Dr. Dinesh from DAV college Jalandhar and Mr. Karma from Bhutan who were carrying out research in the same field.

On 16<sup>th</sup> September, the society organized an intra college poster making competition based on the theme of "MONTREAL PROTOCOL-Keeping us, our food and vaccines

cool”, to mark the occasion of the World Ozone Day. The entries were shared on our Facebook and Instagram pages and the winners were given certificates.

In October, we had a session on Electronic Waste management and single use plastics in association with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Kamala Nehru College. It was held on 6<sup>th</sup> October from 1:30 to 4 pm. For the session, we had Prof. Madhav Govind from Jawaharlal Nehru University, who talked about the significance of e waste management. He gave some useful insights on how the problem can be addressed. The other speaker Ms. Neetu Joseph, CEO Declutter Solutions Private Limited, highlighted the statistics and trend on single use plastics and hazardous waste and the effects of plastic discharge by industries. It was an informative and interactive session attended by 70 students of the college.

On 13<sup>th</sup> November the society organized an inter college environmental quiz competition on the theme “how pure is your air”. The quiz was held in two phases of preliminary (through google forms) and final round of online quiz (on GMeet). The winners were awarded certificates.

In addition to these regular events held through the year, we also started an information-based initiative called “KUDRAT”. In this series, we regularly publish information sheets on our social media handles that are based on the environmental calendar. This helps students to depict their creativity and increase their knowledge base on variety of environmental issues.

In December the Society started working on an online survey about Carbon footprint calculation of the College students. For this, we have been collecting information from students and have collected data of around 200 respondents. The results collected and the analysis report would be published in the next issue of “Green Talk”. Through such surveys, we try and analyze the awareness and behavior of people regarding the use of energy resources and other natural resources.