

Aranya- The Nature and Environment Society 2023

Convenor: Prof. Ratnum Kaul Wattal

Aranya - The Nature and Environment Society initiated a thoughtful initiative and collected Paper and Plastic waste and E-waste from 10th August 2022 to 23rd August 2022. It organised an event on World Rivers Day on 16th September 2022. Three exciting 'What if'- A situation-based narration, Poster Making competition and Meme Making competition were held. A book collection drive was held from 6 October to 6 November 2022 and the books were donated to 'Gram Pustakalaya' (mission rural library) which is led by Mr. Ramveer Tanwar, the library man of India. On 8th February 2023, a speedball-making workshop was organised by the society. It was led by Mr Mohit Relan, the founder of the Yeh Mera Gaon initiative and co-founder of NGO Say Earth. In collaboration with NARGIS- The Botanical Society of Zakir Husain Delhi College, Aranya organised a lecture on "Exploring the Extremes: Journey of a Botanist" on 3rd November 2022. The lecture was delivered by Prof. Dinabandhu Sahoo - the first Indian student to explore Antarctica during 1987-88.

The volunteers from Aranya attended Ganga Utsav – The River Festival, which was celebrated on 4th November 2022 under The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, at Major Dhyani Chand Stadium in New Delhi in two sessions. A conventional debate competition was held on 14th November 2022 on "Human Extinction Will be a Blessing for Nature". Dhwanik-The Indian Music Society in collaboration with Aranya kickstarted Aaghaz with two amazing performances. A slideshow presentation of a montage of various events organised by the society - Nest-making Workshop, and Pankhudi-the annual fest of Aranya followed by a discussion with anthropologist Mr Anas Khan. On 27th January 2023, the workshop on the cultivation technique of Pleurotus mushroom was organised by Nargis- The Botanical Society of Zakir Husain Delhi College in collaboration with Aranya. The annual fest Pankhudi was organised on the 16th and 17th of February 2023. Various competitions like the singing competition, Mandala Art, Nukkad Natak competition, Paperless Artistry Competition, and COP-ZHDC commenced on the agenda- deliberation on eco-capitalism to achieve sustainable development goals. Young environmentalist Palakh Khanna, Founder/CEO of Break the Ice organization, a World Record Holder, Regional Officer for the Asia Pacific and an active environmentalist working towards Sustainable Development Goals delivered a lecture at the event. A pottery stall was also organized. The final event was a Stand-up Comedy Competition in which humour was inculcated in advocacy to bring environmental issues to the limelight.