

C.P.R. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE, CHENNAI

EVENTS

APRIL 2013 TO MARCH 2014

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS

Teachers selected by the state Departments of Education in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Goa, Odisha, Maharashtra and Tamilnadu are trained to teach environmental concepts. Updated resource materials were distributed.



Dr. P. Sudhakar, Joint Director, CPREEC addressing the teachers at Chennai

GREEN SCHOOLS OF INDIA

CPREEC's Green Schools of India (GSI) is an environmental management programme for school students, which aims to convert environmental awareness and education into action. This scheme involves students from schools in five areas of environmental management: reducing energy and water consumption, waste management, greening the campus and animal welfare. Several schools have introduced the concept of GSI and have reduced their consumption of water and energy. Composting pits for effective waste management, rain water harvesting pits to harness nature's bounty, and greening the campus are included in their activities. Some schools maintain herbal gardens. Green School Awards are given annually to the best performing schools.



Principal and students of Sri Sankara Vidyalaya Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Pammal, Chennai receiving the Best Green School Award from Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Chairman, CPREEC

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Workshops on biodiversity conservation education were conducted for teachers, students, women and villagers in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamilnadu. The focus was on tropical forests, degraded eco systems and wetlands. The participants were taken on field visits to reserve forests. Teachers and students were trained in the preparation of biodiversity register.



Mr. M. Kumaravelu, Officer in charge, Ooty Field Office addressing teacher trainees on biodiversity conservation at Ooty

SACRED GROVES

CPREEC has been conserving and restoring sacred groves since 1993-94. Tree plantation and maintenance have been going on in the existing eight sites in the states of Karnataka and Tamilnadu. Orientation programmes for school students were organized at the sacred grove sites to motivate them towards sacred grove conservation. CPREEC has established a nakshatra van on the lands of the Meenakshi Temple at Madurai. This has been extended to a grove of kadamba and mahua trees, sacred to Goddess Meenakshi.



Madurai Meenakshi Amman temple lands at Koodalchengulam

WOMEN AND THE ENVIRONMENT

CPREEC trained women of selected villages in waste management, vermicomposting, organic farming, health and nutrition in the states of Tamilnadu and Karnataka and the Union Territory of Puducherry. Saplings and seeds were distributed to the participants and seed banks of local varieties were established by the women self help groups.



Mr. R. Selvapandian, Environmental Education Officer conducting a programme for women

NILGIRI BIOSPHERE RESERVE CONSERVATION EDUCATION

The importance of the Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve was conveyed to the teachers, teacher trainees, villagers, women and students in the districts of the Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Thiruppur and Erode in Tamilnadu, Wayanad in Kerala, Mysore and Chamraja Nagar districts in Karnataka. The annual Anti Plastic Campaign of CPREEC was organized at the Botanical Garden in Ooty in the Nilgiris. Ozone day celebrations and wildlife week celebrations were also organized.

As part of the Tamilnadu Biodiversity Conservation & Greening Project, Department of Forests, Government of Tamilnadu CPREEC organised a series of awareness programmes on Participatory Rural Approach in the Nilgiris.

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Teachers, teacher trainees, students and women were chosen for programmes on the importance of the island ecosystem. Exhibition on Coastal and Marine Biodiversity was put up for the benefit of the islanders.

EXHIBITION

“CLEAN ADYAR, CLEAN COOUM, SOLVE MADRAS’ WATER PROBLEM”

As part of Madras Day Celebrations, CPREEC conducted an exhibition on **“Clean Adyar, Clean Cooum, solve Madras’ water problem”** from **August 22 to 30, 2013**. The exhibition was sent to various city schools and thousands of children viewed and benefitted.

THE ELEPHANT

Exhibition on **The Elephant** was put up at Chennai from October 24 to November 1, 2013 at CPREEC. Shri. Lakshmi Narayan, IFS., Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden, Tamilnadu Forest Department, Government of Tamilnadu inaugurated the exhibition on **November 24, 2013**.

Dr. R. Sukumar, Professor, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, delivered a talk on **Elephants: Biology, Culture & Management**. A booklet on Elephants (developed and printed by CPREEC) was distributed to all the visitors of the exhibition. An inter school quiz competition on Elephants in English was conducted on **October 30, 2013**.

GREEN PILGRIMAGE

The exhibition on **Green Pilgrimage** was put up at Chennai from February 18 to March 1, 2014.

Shri. G. Vasudeo, Secretary, Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari inaugurated the exhibition on **February 18, 2014**. He also made a presentation on **Green Pilgrimage to Rameshwaram** and spoke on the initiatives of the Vivekananda Kendra in renovating the tirthas.

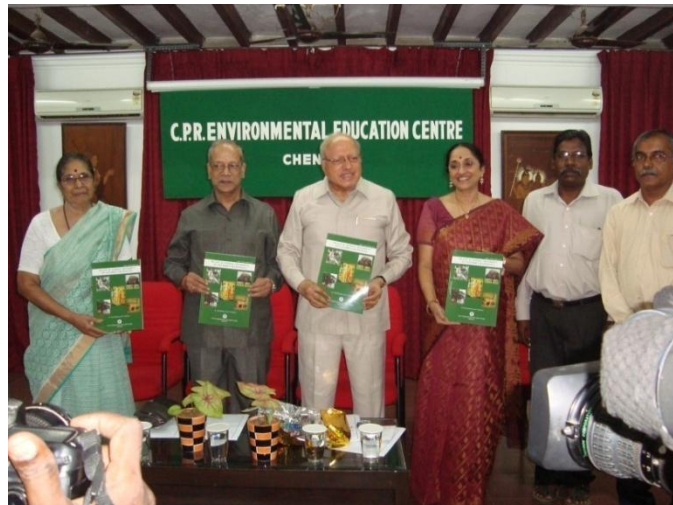
Shri. Gopal Patel, Bhumi Project, Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies & Green Pilgrimage Network, Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC) participated in the inaugural function and made a presentation on **Green Pilgrimage and The Bhumi Project**.



Students viewing the exhibition on Green Pilgrimage

BOOK RELEASE FUNCTION

CPREEC publication on **Plant and Animal Diversity in Valmiki's Ramayana** was released by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Chairman of CPREEC at a function held at the Centre on **September 23, 2013**.



Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Chairman, CPREEC releasing the book on Plant and Animal Diversity in Valmiki's Ramayana

E- Waste MANAGEMENT

CPREEC conducted a series of workshops on E- Waste Management for bulk consumers and recyclers in the states of Karnataka, Kerala, Odisha, and Pudhucherry. The workshops were organized in collaboration with the concerned State Pollution Control Boards, and Pollution Control Committee.

CPREEC developed a booklet on **E-waste Management** and printed **E-waste (Handling & Management) Rules, 2011** for distributing to the participants of the workshop

Sl. No.	State / UT	Place	No. of participants
1.	Karnataka	Bengaluru	102
2.	Puducherry	Puducherry	104
3.	Odisha	Bhubaneswar	61
4.	Kerala	Kochi	67
	Total		334



Dignitaries (L-R) – Mr. Nandakumar Chief Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Dr. Vaman Achariya, Chairman, KSPCB, Ms. Rita Kakkar, Director General, EMPRI, Bangalore, Mr. D. R. Kumarasamy, Member Secretary, KSPCB

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU

CPREEC organized orientation programmes for school students in the river basins of Tamilnadu under IAMWARM Project funded by the Public Works Department. CPREEC also organized mobile exhibitions at selected schools and colleges in the river basins of Tamilnadu.

CPREEC organized exhibitions on River basins of Tamilnadu at 4 colleges

- July 25, 2013 Madha Engineering College, Kunrathur, Chennai
- August 7, 2013 Mahalashmi Women's College of Arts and Science, Paruthipattu, Chennai
- August 13, 2013 Arulmigu Meenakshiamman College of Engineering, Tiruvannamalai District
- August 14, 2013 Thiruvallur College of Engineering & Technology, Vandavasi, Tiruvannamalai District



College students viewing the exhibition on River Basins of Tamilnadu at Madha Engineering College, Kundrathur

HUMANE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Humane Education Programme - a project funded by the Animal Welfare Board of India was carried out by CPREEC this year by organising workshops for teachers and orientation programmes for students Hyderabad and Ooty, thereby extending the scope of environmental education; the link between their food and environmental damage as well as the importance of kindness to animals. Competitions were organized for the participating school children. Prizes were distributed to the teachers and students during the valedictory function at both the cities.



Dr. Nanditha Krishna delivering the keynote address at the valedictory function held at BRR Girls High School, Hyderabad

SEMINAR ON ANIMAL WELFARE IN KERALA

Seminar on Animal Welfare in Kerala, supported by Animal Welfare of India was organised by CPREEC in Thiruvananthapuram, advocating three positive conditions: Living a natural life, being healthy, and being happy. The seminar was organized at the Hotel Maurya Rajdhani on Friday, January 24, 2014. College students, NGOs, Members of the Animal Welfare Organizations participated in the seminar. Major General Dr. R.M. Kharb, Chairman, Animal Welfare Board of India inaugurated the seminar and delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Kharb said that Kerala state must stop the inhumane and illegal mass killing of street dogs by local / civic bodies / civic society to control the over population of street dogs and rabies.



Dr. R.M. Kharb, Chairman, AWBI delivering the inaugural address

PLASTIC WASTE MINIMIZATION PROGRAMME

Awareness education programmes through street play on the ill effects of plastics were conducted in schools and public places of Chennai, Kanchipuram, Thiruvallur, and Vellore districts of Tamil Nadu, supported by the department of Environment, Government of Tamil Nadu.



Street play enacted before the Ekambareswarar Temple in Kanchipuram