



भाकृअनुप – भारतीय जल प्रबंधन संस्थान
ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management
भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद / Indian Council of Agricultural Research)
रेल विहार के सामने, चंद्रशेखरपुर, भुवनेश्वर - 751023, ओडिशा
Opp. Rail Vihar, Chandrashekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023, Odisha



Subject: Report of Day-16 (31.12.2024): Celebration of the Concluding Function and Prize Distribution ceremony of the "Swachhta Pakhwada" by ICAR-IWM, Bhubaneswar - reg

The closing function of the *Swachhta Pakhwada* (16-31 December, 2024) was held in the conference hall of the Institute on 31.12.2024. Hon'ble MP of Balasore, Odisha **Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi Ji** graced the function as the Chief Guest. In his address, the Chief Guest shared his thoughts, life experiences and vision on making India a *Swachh* and developed nation. He discussed the transformations that have taken place in rural and urban areas in terms of greater awareness creation, behavioral changes in people regarding *swachhta*, improvement in social and natural environment, health outcomes and reduction of vulnerability to communicable diseases since the beginning of *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* (SBA) in 2014. He also nicely discussed the significance of *swachhta* as embodied in 'Lakshmi Purana' with the example, how Goddess *Lakshmi* chose *swachhta* over everything else to stay with *Sriya Chandaluni* and the initiatives taken by Shri Vinoba Bhave for keeping the village clean.

Shri Sarangi also underlined the importance of *swachhta* in reducing the ill effects of water pollution, air pollution, and soil pollution and urged people to stay aware of the negative health impact of growing noise pollution. He also cautioned the participants about growing concentration of micro-plastics in water and its risk to human and aquatic animals, and stressed the need for greater public participation (*Jan Bhagidari*) and collective efforts in planning and implementing *swachhta* related activities and inculcating a sense of responsibility for maintaining *swachhta* and sustaining *Swachha Bharat Abhiyan* activities. The Chief Guest gave away the certificates and mementoes to the winners of various competitions held amongst school children, winners for best *swachh* quarters, best *swachh* rooms and best *swachha* laboratory. Earlier, the Chief Guest planted a sandalwood (*Santalum album*) sapling in the campus in presence of Director and other staff of the Institute and administered *swachhta* pledge to all the participants.

Dr. Arjamadutta Sarangi, Director of the Institute in his welcome address, described various *swachhta* related activities such as sensitization programmes in villages and schools, importance of *swachhta* in creation of healthy society, recycling of waste water, scientific waste management including process of converting waste to wealth, plantation drives in villages and 'clean and green drive' in campus including generation of solar power etc being implemented by the Institute in both letter and spirit.

Dr. S.K. Mishra, Chairman, SBA Committee made a brief presentation on day-wise activities carried out during the *swachhta pakhwada* in different places. Dr. H.K. Dash, Member, SBA Committee coordinated the event and proposed the vote of thanks. About 100 persons including Institute staff, scholars, school children, teachers and family members attended the programme. Some of the activity photographs of the day are presented below.



Chief Guest Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi Ji administering *swachhta* pledge to all participants



The Chief Guest and Hon'ble MP addressing on the occasion



Participants listening to the Chief Guest & Hon'ble MP Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi



Director Dr. Arjamadutta Sarangi giving his opening remarks



Winners of various school level *swachhta* competitions being awarded by the Chief Guest



Chief Guest giving awards to staff members for best *swachh* rooms, quarters and laboratory



Hon'ble MP & Chief Guest planting a sapling in the ICAR-IIWM campus



Hon'ble MP & Chief Guest Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi Ji being felicitated by the Director