

Beach Cleanup Drive Organised For TE Students

-Atique Kudchi

The winds were calm, the sky was serene and the waves were smooth on Sunday, the 25th of August, as a total of 77 students gathered on Dadar Beach at 9 AM sharp. They were all dressed in black clothes as part of the dress code, and they were all TE students from VESIT. They had gone out of their way to get up early on the weekend and travel long distances for one common objective: Cleanliness.

This Beach Cleanup Drive was initiated by Dr. Pooja Kundu and Dr. Sushil Duldhar. They reached out to Mr. Sreedhar, who is not only a VESIT Alumnus but also the founder of WeChange, a reputed NGO. Mr. Sreedhar suggested that they join hands with Jay Foundation, and thus the event came into being. The volunteers from WeChange present were Mr. Kabir Sachdev, another VESIT Alumnus from Instrumentation and Ms. Khyati. The students were also joined by Mr. Jay Shrirangpure, who is the founder of Jay Foundation, a businessman and a local resident, and had personally "adopted" Dadar beach and vowed to do his best to keep it clean. He had collaborated and conducted a lot of Drives previously and has a lot of experience. The other faculties present were Mr. Vivek Umrikar (HOD, H&S Department), Dr. Pooja

Kundu, Dr. Sushil Duldhar and Mr. Vijay Shejwalkar.

The students were asked to divide themselves into groups of five, and were given rubber gloves to wear and baskets to collect the garbage. They had been specially instructed to only collect plastic waste which does not decompose, and also cause a lot of harm to marine life. The students then had a great time collecting the garbage, as they made merry and enjoyed themselves too, under the amazing weather. The occasional short drizzles helped keep them cool.

"The major motive behind this drive was to make Third Year BCE students aware of the contemporary issues our society is facing today. Rather than having GDs and debates, we believe in action and giving firsthand experience to students, so that they will become better and more conscious citizens. It was a joint effort for saying no to plastic and encouraging proper disposal." said Dr. Pooja Kundu.

This was followed with another drive where some plastic waste was collected from the students and faculty, for which separate arrangements were made and it was sent for recycling. According to the report,

a total of 50kg of garbage was collected in this drive which lasted till 12:30 pm on that day. Soon enough, the teachers rounded up all the students and a short photo session followed, where everyone had jubilant expressions on their faces. Everyone clapped for themselves and each other for taking part in this different, but fulfilling and satisfying event. The teachers distributed sweets to everyone, and made sure that all the students left for home.



Approximately 50 Kgs of Plastic waste was collected over the course of the Drive.



Students of D12B with Dr. Pooja Kundu



L to R: Mr. Vijay Shejwalkar, Dr. Sushil Duldhar, Mr. Vivek Umrikar, Dr. Pooja Kundu, Mr. Jay Shrirangpure and Mr. Kabir Sachdev at the Cleanup Drive



The entire Team from VESIT along with Mr. Jay Shrirangpure

Cleanliness and order are not matters of instinct; they are matters of education, and like most great things, you must cultivate a taste for them.

-Benjamin Disraeli