



University : Sri Sri University

Country : India

Web Address: www.srisriuniversity.edu.in

**SDG 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION** 

### **6.5.** Water in Community

Water access in rural areas in India unlike the urban cities is governed by presence/lack of pipelines, potability, approachability, etc. Water conservation practices, water-related ecosystems, water and energy nexus, conservation, remediation, water-use efficiency, and sustainable water management cum sustainable withdrawals are integral part of Sri Sri University. We provide water access (free and safe water), hygiene and sanitation by applying 5R principles (reduce, reuse, recover, recycle, replenish). University has taken many steps aligned with the United Nations SDG goals. Efforts at global, national, regional and local level are being made by the University to sensitize stakeholders on the ecological importance of Rivers, need for water pollution control, and water conservation. University through its NSS, NCC, Rovers and Rangers, and Clubs is involved in sensitizing people about sanitation and good hygiene practices, reducing pollution, solid waste management, water management, and health. These awareness programmes and cleanliness drives are conducted free of charge. We celebrate important days such as International Day for Action on Rivers, World Water Day, World Environment Day, Forest Week, etc. Students participate in debate competitions, plantation drives, quiz competitions, rallies, etc. and spread the message of water conservation and safe drinking water. The following actions are being taken by us to ensure water conservation and water access to the community:

## 6.5.1. Water Management Educational Opportunities

University is sensitizing the local rural populace about sanitation and good hygiene practices, reducing pollution, solid waste management, water management, health and nutrition. The NSS, NCC, Rovers and Rangers, and Clubs of the University are conducting these educational and awareness programmes completely free of charge. Several Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs), webinars, seminars are conducted by the teaching staff both at national/international level. Many of these FDPs and seminars are free. On several occasions these programmes are related to pollution prevention/control. The academic program offered by our Faculty of Agriculture





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involves natural resource management, water management practices, dryland farming practices, and traditional rainwater harvesting practices as part of the curriculum.

- On 12<sup>th</sup> August 2023, school children were educated about "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" by the Rovers and Rangers Unit, Sri Sri University. The Unit members and students organized a drawing Competition for class 1<sup>st</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> and a spot elocution competition for class 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> Godisahi Government High School, Cuttack (Plate 1).
- Literacy awareness program was organized on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022, by the Rovers and Rangers Unit, Sri Sri University. Through street play (*Nukad Natak*) villagers were sensitized about education and its importance to make the planet Earth livable and sustainable development. Quiz completion was also organized for the children and masters about education (**Plate 2**).
- Rural awareness program was organized on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2022, by the Rovers and Rangers Unit, Sri Sri University. The target group was agriculture workers and labourers in nearby villages of Cuttack (**Plate 3**).
- Farmers awareness and seedling program was organized by the Rovers and Rangers Unit, Sri Sri University, at Shandapur village in Cuttack on National farmers day i.e. 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2023 (**Plate 4**). Youth and villagers were the targeted audience and were sensitized about important fruits, avenue plantation. Subsequently, tree seedling distribution among the farmers and villagers was conducted.
- "Ban on Single Use Plastic" Awareness and Cleaning program was organized by the Rovers and Rangers Unit, Sri Sri University, Cuttack at Nandankanan Zoological Park, Bhubaneswar on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 (**Plate 5**). Tourists and shopkeepers were sensitized about plastic pollution. Subsequently, a cleanliness drive in its vicinity was also carried out.
- The university has 47 active Clubs under which various activities are undertaken. Many clubs conduct water conservation awareness programmes. Mass tree plantation, awareness programmes, water conservation, water pollution control, etc. are conducted by us. Awareness





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campaigns on water conservation, groundwater depletion, ecosystem protection, cleanliness drives, plantation, sanitation and hygiene open defecation free villages are carried out for the local community and university students/staff. New batch students participate in mass plantation drive within a few weeks from joining. An extempore speech competition on "Groundwater contamination and Conservation" was organized on the World Water Day i.e. 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 (**Plate 6**). Slogan writing competition on "Beat Plastic Pollution" was also organized by us on the World Environment Day i.e. 05<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

- Sri Sri Centre for Advance Research in Water Resources & Environmental Management has
  conducted an 08 weeks certificate course in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and
  imparted knowledge to several people (Plate 7). Through FDPs, our teaching staff impart
  knowledge on water conservation, rainwater harvesting practices, climatic uncertainties,
  water education, water diseases, disasters, living infrastructure, etc.
- The University has a state-of-art Central instrumentation Facility for testing water quality. Additionally, the Faculty of Agriculture, Sri Sri University Cuttack has an Environmental Sciences laboratory for testing water quality and other matrices (**Plate 8**).
- Curriculum of Faculty of Agriculture, Sri Sri University is designed to involve students in community related activities such as Rural Agriculture Work Experience (RAWE), KVK (Krishi Vignan Kendra), Industrial attachment, and KUS (Krushi Unnat Sahjogi). As per the need, students connect with locals, share knowledge and experience through interactive sessions on environmental issues including water security and good water management.





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Plate 1. Awareness program in school



Plate 2. Rural awareness program by SSU



Plate 3. Rural awareness program by SSU



Plate 4. Farmers awareness and seedling program





Plate 5. Ban on single use plastic, awareness and cleaning program organized by SSU at Nandankanan Zoological Park, Bhubaneshwar





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Plate 6. Awareness tours/program/extempore speech, cleanliness drive by students





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Plate 7. Certificate course by SSU



Plate 8. State of the Art Lab in SSU