

Echoes of Eco



August, 2019

Vivekananda Kendra- nardep Newsletter

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Green warrior - Sunderlal Bahuguna



Sunderlal Bahuguna is a noted Garhwali environmentalist and Chipko movement leader. The idea of Chipko movement was of his wife and the action was taken by him. For years he has been fighting for the preservation of forests in the Himalayas, first as a member of the Chipko movement in the 1970s, and later spearheaded the Anti-Tehri Dam movement starting 1980s, to early 2004. He was one of the early environmentalists of India, and later he and people associated with the Chipko movement started taking up environmental issues, like against large dams.

Sunderlal Bahuguna was born in village Maroda near Tehri, Uttarakhand on 9 January 1927. Early on, he fought against untouchability and later started organising hill women in his anti-liquor drive from 1965 to 1970. He started social activities at the age of thirteen, under the guidance of Shri Dev Suman, who was a nationalist spreading message of non-violence. Bahuguna also mobilised people against colonial rule before 1947.

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Kurma - the Tortoise

All glories to you, O Lord of the universe, who took the form of a tortoise. When the ocean of milk was churned, you become the pivot beneath the churning rod of Mount Mandara leaving a beautiful impression on your back.



"A man is born alone and dies alone, and he experiences the good and bad consequences of his karma alone, and he goes alone to hell or the Supreme abode"

- Chanayka



He adopted Gandhian principles in his life and married his wife Vimla with the condition that they would live among rural people and establish ashram in village. Inspired by Gandhi, he walked through Himalayan forests and hills, covering more than 4,700 kilometres on foot and observed the damage done by mega developmental projects on the fragile eco-system of the Himalayas and subsequent degradation of social life in villages.

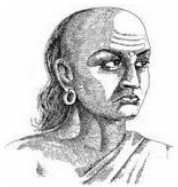
Chipko movement was started in 26 March 1974 spontaneously in Uttar Pradesh, in an effort to save areas of trees and forests from cutting by forest contractors. In Hindi, "Chipko" literally means "stick" and people started sticking to trees when it was being cut. Chipko movement later inspired Appiko Movement in Karnataka. One of Sunderlal Bahuguna's notable contributions to that cause, and to environmentalism in general, was his creation of the Chipko's slogan "Ecology is permanent economy." Sunderlal Bahuguna helped to bring the movement to prominence through 5,000-kilometer trans-Himalaya march undertaken from 1981 to 1983, travelling from village to village, gathering support for the movement.

A protest message against Tehri dam, which was steered by Sundarlal Bahuguna for years. It says "We don't want the dam. The dam is the mountain's destruction."

He has remained behind the anti-Tehri Dam protests for decades, he used the Satyagraha methods, and repeatedly went on hunger strikes at the banks of Bhagirathi as a mark of his protest. However, the dam was constructed against his will. Sunderlal Bahuguna has been a passionate defender of the Himalayan people, working for temperance, the plight of the hill people. He has also struggled to defend India's rivers.

He has received many prestigious awards like Jamnalal Bajaj award, Padma Vibhushan etc. He has also written a few books on Ecology and Environment.





"We should not fret for what is past, nor should we be anxious about the future; men of discernment deal only with the present moment"

- Chanakya



**Happenings this month:
Sustainable Agriculture**



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month:**



**Happenings this month:
Sustainable Agriculture**

Training programme on "Composting technologies" was held at Technology Resource Center on 3rd August. 13 participants attended the training. Shri.S.Rajamony was the resource person.



Camp participants visiting our Vermi wash units

Training programme on "Bio-pesticides and Growth hormones" was held at Technology Resource Center on 17th August. 04 participants attended the training. Shri.S.Rajamony was the resource person.



Participants at J.C.Bose nursery

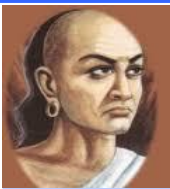


**Doubtful Passion turns into
Hobby**

**Ms.Saradha
Ramakrishnapuram
Rameswaram
Mob: 8098866523**



Ms.Saradha, 40 years is a resident of Ramakrishnapuram, Pudhu Road area. She had a passion for growing plants. However due to several difficulties she was not successful. She attended our training programme on 30th November 2018 and cleared all her doubts. Training kit given after the completion of the training programme further motivated her to opt for gardening. She used grow bags for growing flowers and planted all the vegetables in the backyard in the soil. She could reap a good harvest in her 1st attempt itself. She is a classic example of turning her passion into reality. Her love for nature and organic way of growing has reaped her good benefits. She has planted Tomatoes, Pumpkins, Cluster Beans, Brinjals, Chilly, Bitter gourd etc. Her eyes were sparkling when she said that Brinjals were huge in size and she proudly holds it in her hands.



"There is no austerity equal to a balanced mind, and there is no happiness equal to contentment; there is no disease like covetousness, and no virtue like mercy"

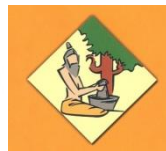
- Chanakya



**Happenings this month:
Renewable Energy
Sources**



Happenings this month



**Happenings this month:
Holistic Health**

Training programme on "Green construction technologies" was conducted at Gramodaya Park, Vivekanandapuram on 29th August. 37 students attended the training. The programme was sponsored Satyam College of Engineering and Technology, Aralvoimozhi. Shri.V.Ramakrishnan was the resource person.



A part of students posing for photo

Training programme on "Cowdung and Biomass based portable Bio-methanation technology" was held at Technology Resource Center on 20th August. 25 participants attended the training. Shri.V.Ramakrishnan was the resource person. The programme was sponsored by NABARD. Chennai.



Practical demonstration on "Biomass based Bio-methanation technology"

Green health home worked for 4 days and treated 171 patients.

"Siddha Varmam Network Members Meeting" was held at Gramodaya Park, Vivekanandapuram on 26th August. 145 Network members attended the seminar. Dr.V.Ganapathy and his team acted as resource persons.



Inaugural session is on

Workshop on "Traditional Siddha Varma Bone Setting Practices" was held at Technology Resource Center on 26th and 27th August. 27 Vaidyas, Students attended the training. Dr.V.Ganapathy and his team acted as resource persons.



Dr.V.Ganapathi interacting with the participants



"One whose knowledge is confined to books and whose wealth is in the possession of others, can use neither his knowledge nor wealth when the need for them arises"

- Chanakya



**Happenings this month:
Renewable Energy
Sources**



Happenings this month:



**Happenings this
month:
Networking**

42 students from Adarsh Vidya Kendra, Nagercoil visited J.C.Bose Nursery on 2nd August as part of study tour. They learned Vermi composting technologies.



Students visited at our J.C.Bose Nursery

17 students - mostly foreigners from Kanthari Institute, Thiruvananthapuram visited Gramodaya Park and J.C.Bose Nursery on 24th August as part of study tour. They learned Sustainable Development technologies.



Students at Terrace garden

Refresher course for "Aspiration" Staff was held at Technology Resource Center on 16th to 18th August. 25 Aspiration staff attended the training. Shri. Shri.Krishnamurthiji, Shri. Hanuji, Shri.V.Ramakrishnan Dr.V.Ganapathy and Sis.Saraswathi were the resource persons.



Dr.V.Ganapathy giving lecture on 'Health management'

100 SHG members from IFAD, Ramanathapuram visited Gramodaya Park and J.C.Bose Nursery on 29th August as part of exposure visit. They learned Renewable energy technologies.

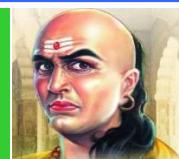


Shri.V.Ramakrishnan explaining 'Bio-methanation technology'



"As soon as the fear approaches near, attack and destroy it"

- Chanakya



Visions of Wisdom



Inhabitable Planet

Scientists and ecologists in the West are discovering the Gandhi's predictions are coming true, and that they need to reconsider their vision of progress and development. As Paul Ehrlich, the ecologist says, "Something is seriously wrong But if we wait for the full-scale catastrophe, we may or may not survive it. It's now crystal clear that we cannot solve the problems of keeping the planet inhabitable with our old ways of being racist, sexist, xenophobic, with great economic inequality and so on. We've got to bring the world together so that everybody wants to work for survival.



Paradigm Shift

There is now a growing sense of awareness that while the global move towards free trade, market economies and modern technologies has brought rapid economic growth and many benefits, it has also been responsible for sowing the seeds of economic, technological and social imbalance the world over. Redressing this imbalance will require radical changes in our present mindset and policy frameworks. The state and all other sections of civil society must engender a new paradigm of values, which will ensure an ethos of greater sharing and cooperation.



West need the real help

"All civilizations have decayed; only they have decayed in different ways; the decay of the East is passive and that of the West is active". "The East is sleeping over truths; the West lives in errors". Who is it that most requires aid? Unquestionably the West, because it is being helplessly driven on by demonic forces which may at any time destroy the world. In the names of individualism, freedom, and democracy it has abandoned the struggle against the evil propensities of human nature and is utterly unprincipled even where it is attempting to do good.

Kamla Chowdhry
An Eminent
Environmentalist, and
Consultant on issues
related with
Sustainable



John Kurien
Activist and
researcher. Organised
small-scale fishing
community
cooperatives in India



E.F. Schumacher
German statistician
and economist.
Famous for his book
"Small is beautiful"

