

Cleanliness and Anti-Single-use Plastic campaign on the occasion of 150th Gandhi Jayanti

The 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi is observed by UBA, IIT Bhubaneswar. The day long program commenced with garlanding the photo of Bapujee followed by a spirited address of honorable director Prof V Rajakumar to the students, faculty members and staff members in the main building of the institute at 9.30 AM. UBA Coordinator, Prof. R.K.Panda presented a Children's Book on environmental awareness "What a Waste" by popular author of Children's book, Jess French and a cloth bag prepared by UBA team to our Director, Prof. R. V. Raja Kumar. UBA Team will distribute copies of this book to all the schools adopted under UBA.

This was followed by a massive cleaning of the market place at the institute main gate as part of “**Swachhta Hi Seva**” campaign. UBA team interacted with the vendors outside our Main Gate and distributed trash bins to them. The volunteers of UBA participated in this cleanliness drive and then left for five nearby villages (adopted under UBA), namely Kansapada, Podapada, Aragul, Khudupur and Padanpur. Each of the five teams of student volunteers led by a faculty member visited the village households and explained the necessity of adopting alternatives for single-use polythene bags. The specially designed degradable bags with messages “**NO TO SINGLE USE PLASTIC**” and “**SANA SUBIDHA SE BADA BIPADA, POLYTHENE MUNI KALU BASANDA**” (Small convenience that is big danger, Let us deny polythene bags) were distributed to the families.





UBA team carried several placards highlighting the harmful effects of usage of single-use plastic, thermocol during their visits to the neighbouring UBA-adopted villages. The villagers responded enthusiastically to this initiative. UBA and NSS team member participated in the drive to create environmental awareness.

Among others present were Prof.

R. K. Panda (UBA Coordinator), Dr. T. Nayak and Dr. S Bahinipati (Co-coordinators, UBA), Dr. Srikant Gollapudi and Dr. Bankim Chandra Mondal (Coordinator and Co-coordinators – EAA), Dr. Snehasis Chowdhuri (NSS Programme Officer). and several UBA team members including Dr. Rajesh Roshan Dash, Dr. Manaswini Behera, Dr. Chandrasekhar Bhamidipati, Dr. Madhusmita Dash and Dr. Avijit Kumar.

