

Bhoomithrasena Report

Govt. Victoria College

Palakkad

2019 – 2020

301/PKD/16/16

Coordinator,

Alen Alex Philip

Assistant Professor in Botany

GVC, Palakkad

Annual Report for the year 2019- 2020

1. First meeting of the club members – 23/10/2019

- Circulation of online forms and membership forms
- Agenda and proposals of the upcoming year were discussed.
- Planned to select office bearers in the next formal gathering.
- Total joined members : 170
- The official coordinators from the teaching staff for this year is as follows
 - Coordinator : Mr. Alen Alex Philip, Asst. Prof. in Botany, GVC
 - Co-coordinator : Dr. Sreepriya R., Asst. Prof. in English, GVC
 - Co-coordinator : Mr. Ajeesh P. V., Asst. Prof. in Physics, GVC

2. Inauguration of the club activities for the academic year – 24/10/2019

Observance of International Day on Climate Actions

- The formal inauguration of the club activities began by the inaugural function conducted on 24th October 2019.
- The chief guest was Mr. Suresh Kumar, Head of the department of Botany, Govt. college, Chittur. The formal inaugural session was chaired by Smt. Maya Nair, Principal in-charge. Felicitation was given by Dr. C. V. Sreeranjithkumar, IQAC Coordinator.
- The formal inaugural session was followed by a talk by the chief guest on the topic **“Change your Life, Save our Earth”**. The speaker added sufficient interest and motivation to the members and participants that prompted the audience to change their lifestyle so as to cater in the building and sustenance of a pleasant, habitable and clean environment through our carefully manipulated actions and day to day practices.



3. Observance of the World Vegan day – 01/11/2019

Addition of new members and election of office bearers

- The coordinator, Mr. Alen Alex Philip, spoke to the gathered members of Bhoomithrasena in regard with the observance of World Vegan Day and urged the members to contribute their part and parcel through whichever possible ways to keep in par with the motive.
- The meeting of the members of this year catered in adding more members to the GVC Bhoomithrasena club. The club now hosts around 170 members, primarily undergraduate students of various departments and many interested Post graduate students. The office bearers of the team is as follows
 - President : Mr. Mohammed Shaheem, 1st yr BSc. Botany
 - Vice-President : Anshif Rahman, 1st Yr BSc. Zoology
 - Secretary : Muhammed Basil K., 1st Yr BSc. Zoology
 - Joint Secretary : Aswathi B., 1st Yr. B.Sc. Physics
 - Treasurer : Shibina S., 1st Yr. B.Sc. Physics
- A whatsapp group was created to act as a common platform for all the members and also new interested member were made to join with the help of online forms and QR Codes.

4. Cleaning of the existing premises in the front area of the college, where the Bhoomithrasena already nurtures shade tree saplings – 05 and 06 /11/2019

- The members of the club assembled and contributed their part in cleaning and maintaining the front region of the campus where two rows of shade tree saplings have been previously planted and maintained by the Bhoomithrasena Club. The students contributed their free time and evening hours for doing the same. The beautification of the region was planned to be made more effective through planting some flowering plants that are heat tolerant so that the new plants can also add to the increase in the butterfly fauna of the campus. Ixora and Pseuderanthemum were suggested as suitable plants by the students.
- While the cleaning procedures were being monitored, the students actively contributed their part to debate over the topic of **observance of the International day for preventing the exploitation of the environment**. They actively added in their views regarding what and where exploitation happens.

5. Coordinated the management of green protocol for a tour in collaboration with the department of Botany – 15/11/2019. The students of the class are all active members of the Bhoomithrasena Club.

- The PG1 students of botany department had a tour during last 3 days. Throughout the tour, the staff and students tried to stick to green protocol wherever/whenever possible. The 3R Concept- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle was highly promoted and practiced through various methods possible.

- The faculty and most students even though they had to walk distances for plant collection preferred to carry steel water bottles rather than plastic ones. No water bottles were purchased throughout the tour, instead water was always refilled from hotels and places of stay.
- All the plastic, paper and plant wastes produced throughout the tour was segregated and brought back to the department for Green waste management.
- The plant and paper wastes were used as mulch for a tree adjacent to the green house.
- The majority of plastic bags used for plant collection in this trip were those used for the previous trip from the department last month. They were cleaned, washed, dried and were reused for this trip also.
- After the usage for this tour, again most of the covers were segregated for the cleaning procedures, to be used for the next tour.
- Throughout the tour, care was taken to have tea in reusable steel or glass tumblers only. Tea was not purchased from sellers serving them in disposable cups. No disposable paper or plastic cups was used by any of the members.
- When the students were served with 'payasam' from a vendor, they preferred to have it in reusable coconut cups rather than using paper cups, which were also available.
- The tour was mainly aimed for collection of algae. This year, the algae were collected from the sea with caution such that no unwanted species were collected and those collected were gathered in minimal amount.
- The collected algae were pressed at the spot and all the excess algae collected were released back into the sea. This helped to promote an idea of conservation and minimal damage to nature for the sake of academic studies, to the students.
- We couldn't avoid or resist usage of plastic nor producing wastes, but whenever possible, we tried to reduce and reuse. We hope, that the efforts of these students creates a spark among their friends too.



(Brought back wastes of the tour)

6. Initiating of Vegetable Garden in the campus - 22/11/2019

- The members of around 40 students assembled and cleaned plots in the backside of the campus and initiated the planting of vegetable crop plantlets. Plantlets of brinjal, capsicum, pea and spinach were planted. The tapioca was also planted along as

hedges for these crops. The leftover plastic sacks of cement, thrown out as waste from the on-going construction works in the campus were collected, washed and recycled as for growing spinach seedlings. They were arranged in rows near to the cleared plots on abandoned cement platforms.



7. Planting of ornamental plants in the front area – 30/11/2019

- Plantlets of Arachis, Ixora coccinea, Pseuderanthemum, Turnera, Techoma and Duranta were planted in the front are of the college, were tree saplings are being planted and maintained. The planted shrubs are flowering bushes and are intended to promote the inflow of butterfly fauna into the campus.

8. Campus cleaning in collaboration with the NSS – 02/12/2019

- The Bhoomithrasena members along with the NSS of the college, actively took part in cleaning the college campus. The members mediated the collection and segregation of plastic and paper wastes and handed them over separately to the NSS volunteers. The Bhoomithrasena members were actively involved in their respective departments too.





9. Observance of World soil Day – 05/12/2019

- The world soil day was observed in the campus by conducting a poster presentation competition. The Botany department laboratory served as the venue. The competition was conducted between 2:00pm - 3:30pm. 12 teams participated and 3 teams were awarded the first, second and third prize after judgement.



10. Training and Trip to IRTC Mundur - 11/12/ 2019

- A team of selected members of the Bhoomithrasena club made a trip to the IRTC, Mundur to facilitate training and to gain knowledge on the different types of Bio-composting systems. The students were given a theory lecture class by Dr. Musthafa and were led to the composting systems where they were provided with adequate on hand training to suitably contain and sanitize the organic waste materials produced by our activities. They were also given with training to carry out mushroom cultivation in the campus or at households. The trained students were then made to pass on this information and experience to the interested members at the campus.



11. Revitalizing the Biogas plant in the campus – 12/12/2019

- The already working biogas plant in the campus, established previously by the Bhoomithrasena Club was under repair. With the technical assistance from the IRTC, Mundur, it was made functional again. The college canteen disposes all their organic wastes through this Biogas plant and uses the biogas produced for cooking for over 2 hours.



12. Establishing composting units in the campus – 30/12/2019

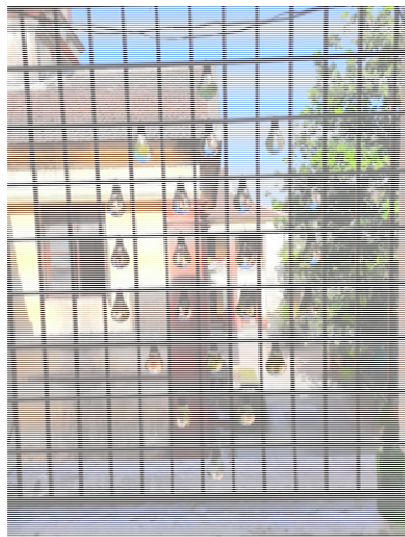
- With the help of the Govt. of Kerala's funding, Bio-composting units were purchased from IRTC Mundur and established in the college campus. The following bio-composting techniques were established
 - Bio-compositor Pot (Earthern) – 1 set
 - Vermi-composting system (Earthern) – 2 sets
 - Bio-bin – 1 set
 - Bio-digester pot – 2 sets
 - Pipe compost – 2sets
- The students were given adequate training and made to practice with the composting techniques.
- The students of the department of botany are initially made to use the composting system to standardize the procedure which is deemed to extend for the whole college in future.





13. Reusing waste bulbs for growing water plants – 10/01/2020

- The active member of Bhoomithrasena, Ms. Remya T. U. of 3rd B.Sc. Botany helped in imparting her knowledge as well as in setting up a wall filled with waste bulbs. These bulbs were collected from available households by the members and they were opened, cleaned, washed, and filled with water and plants. These bulbs are artistically displayed in a wall in the Tower building (in the premises of the department of Botany) of the college, where it serves as a picturesque model for the students.



14. Conduct of a Nature Quiz – 24/01/2020-

- A nature quiz was conducted on behalf of the Bhoomithrasena club on 24th of January. A total of teams participated and 6 teams were shortlisted for final rounds. 3 teams were appropriately ranked 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions.

