

NOVEMBER 2021

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

HCL-F Supported SOCHARA's CWASH Project



Foreword

Every year November month is celebrated for Children's day and World Toilet Day. Taking account of CWASH SOCHARA objective which is making awareness, promoting and supporting community health, days were celebrated.

On Children's day, the awareness session was planned for two days and conducted by the resource person along with the CWASH Bangalore team and coordinated by the HCL foundation team in respective schools. The session was all about making students aware of hygiene practices through health talks and fun engaging activities. For World toilet day, Anandpuram and the Mayabazaar community in Bangalore were involved. The two days celebration was planned for creating awareness of and importance of using the toilet. The street play professionals acted on the importance of toilet use and its maintenance. Subsequently, play and learn activities were conducted.

In addition to the community awareness program, the SOCHARA team was also sensitized about the prevention of sexual harassment (POSH) at the workplace by Geeta Menon. She discussed the guidelines of the POSH act. 27th Nov. was celebrated as the Young Kalam science fest in collaboration with the HCL foundation. Selected students participated and showcased their science model on the theme of building climate ready community.

SOCHARA Chennai team was engrossed in providing flood relief support to flood-affected areas in Chennai. Several activities were also conducted for World Toilet Day in schools and Police clubs amidst the chaos that the floods brought forth.

Dr. Shikha Upadhyay
 Training and Research Assistant,
 SOCHARA, Bangalore



Activities

- Conducted a 2-day program for children's day in four schools.
- Conducted a 2-day program for global toilet day in Anandapuram and Maya Bazaar Communities.
- Facilitated the online drawing workshop conducted by HCL-F for school-going children.
- Organised a POSH Session by Geeta Menon, Co-founder of Sthree Jagriti Samiti for the team members
- Young Kalam Science Fest was organized at BBMP Boys High School, Austin Town for government schools supported by HCL Foundation.
- Conducted 7 Waste segregation and management awareness programs in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram altogether.
- 7 community volunteer meetings were conducted in total in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram.
- 52 Black spots were cleaned in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram communities, Bangalore
- 8 street lights were repaired in the Maya Bazaar community, Bangalore.
- Regular monitoring of waste management and segregation in Mayabazaar and Anandapuram.
- As a part of flood relief support, essential commodities distributed to Chintadripet, Kodambakkam and Perumbakkam Police Boys and Girls club
- As a part of "World Toilet Day", awareness programmes through games on safe toilet practices at Saidapet Police Boys and Girls club and Lakshmiapuram Government Higher Secondary School - 20 Participants
- As a part of "World Toilet Day", Poster distribution at Kodambakkam Police Boys and Girls club, Saidapet Police Boys and Girls club and Lakshmiapuram Government Higher Secondary School
- Board games distributed at Avadi Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Kodambakkam, Saidapet, Muthialpet Police Boys and Girls club
- Participated in "Child Protection - Self Audit Tool and Compliance Workshop" conducted by HCL-F Chennai team
- Infrastructure related follow-up visit to Lakshmiapuram Government Higher Secondary School, Kodambakkam Chennai middle school, Saidapet and Muthialpet Police Boys and Girls club



Jumping up the ladders of health and hygiene

Sreelakshmi Santhosh

November has been a tough month for the city of Chennai with intermittent cyclones and floods hitting the shore. Our communities have been severely affected by the floods and in the wake of the situation, the Chennai CWASH Team initiated flood relief support activities including distribution of essential commodities to Chintadripet, Kodambakkam and Perumbakkam Police Boys and Girls club. Upon surviving the floods, the team geared up with World Toilet day awareness activities in the Police clubs and Schools. The team had designed a large flex game of snake and ladder with messages on safe hygiene practices along with posters designed on the same theme.



The children were gathered under the Charminar arranged on the club ground, maintaining safe social distance. The session was filled with fun and learning as the children reiterated safe toilet practices as they jumped across the ladders. The team also engaged the children in another 'Reactionary game', where they analysed different toilet behaviour scenarios presented by the team. Together, the community and the team reflected on the day to day toilet practices, their challenges in accessing safe sanitation practices etc.

Children's Day

A two-day program was organized for the school children on the 15th and 16th of November by C-WASH Bangalore team as a part of Children's Day. Several activities, games, street play and awareness sessions were conducted to increase awareness around important topics in a fun and engaging way.





Raising Awareness: POSH Session

Aadira Stephen

A session on POSH was conducted for the SOCHARA team members by Geeta Menon, the cofounder of Stree Jagruti Samiti. The session focused not only on making the members aware of the POSH act but also to sensitize them on the reasons that lead to the formation of the act. It covered topics such as the discrimination that happens at the workplace due to cultural upbringing, wrong notions around sex and sexuality and the hypocritical behaviour of society.

The importance of consent was reiterated several times during the session and given more focus through bringing out various examples from the resource person's professional experiences.



The members were also made familiar with the harassment behaviours, the four aspects of the law, prevention and how to deal with unwanted attention.

The session was concluded with an interactive question and answer session with the members.

Global Toilet Day

A two-day program was organized for the Anandapuram and Maya Bazaar communities on the 18th and 19th of November as a part of Global Toilet Day. Several activities were conducted to create awareness around the importance of Toilet safety, Proper usage and Etiquettes. The program was conducted keeping the COVID-19 protocols in mind with proper physical distancing and usage of masks.





Imagine, Explore, Discover

Aadira Stephen

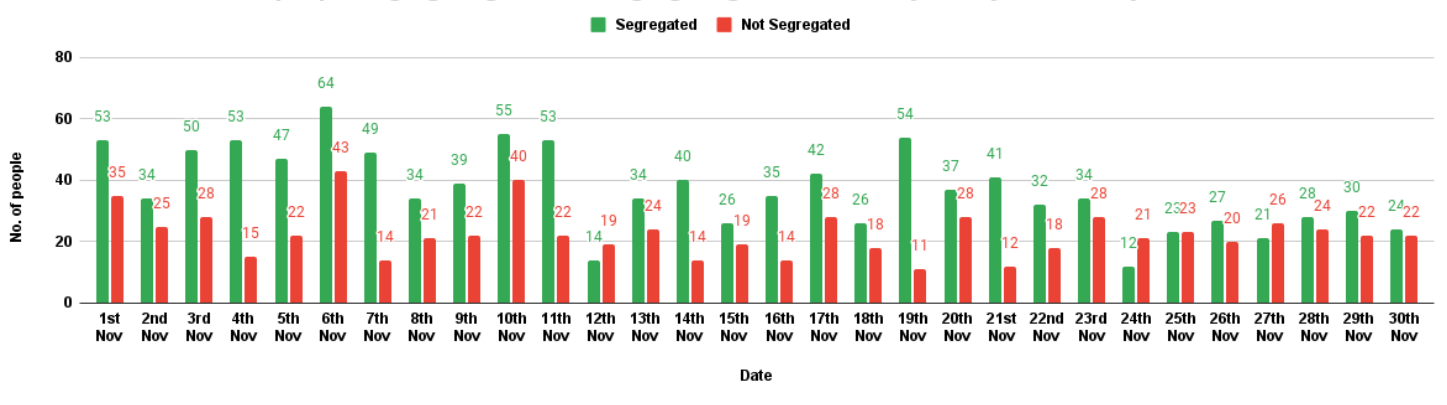
A Science fest was conducted on the 27th of November in BBMP Boys High School premises. The fest named 'Young Kalam Science Fest 2021' was a platform for students from government schools supported by HCL Foundation and HCL Gurukuls to display scientific models. The theme of this unique event was 'Building climate-ready communities' and the key objective was to encourage children to develop an inquisitive mind, to hone their creativity, develop a keen interest in Science and to nurture a scientific temper in the students. The program turned out to be a great success with the creative participation of the young minds.



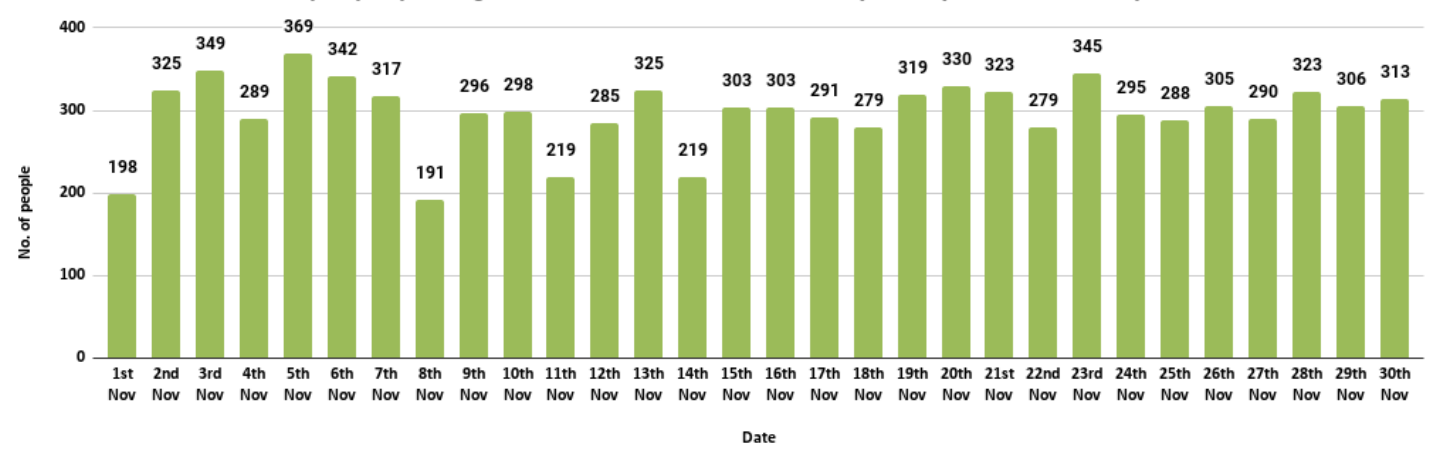


GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF REGULAR ACTIVITIES - NOVEMBER

No. of people segregating and not segregating waste on a day to day basis - Maya Bazaar



No. of people putting waste in BBMP vehicle on a day to day basis - Anandapuram



No. of milk covers collected on a day to day basis - Maya Bazaar

