



## ENVIRONMENTAL PROMOTION ACTIVITIES BEYOND THE CAMPUS

In pursuant to the vision of Swachh Bharath Abhiyan, History Association of St. Thomas College, Palai along with Mutholy Grama Panchayat conducted a cleaning program on 29 September 2018. The main objective of the program was to clean the adjacent areas of SH 32 from Palai to Mutholy. Swachata Hi Sewa, the cleanliness campaign announced by the Central government is to emphasize and enhance the importance of hygiene and proper sanitation among the public to pave the way for a national development. This campaign was initiated focusing the mobilization of people from all walks of life for achieving a clean society and to make the surrounding free from open defecation. The Clean Kerala campaign initiated by the Kerala government has made elaborate plan to reach out the poor and marginalized with an aim to provide them with sustainable sanitation services. The inaugural ceremony of this extension program was commenced with a welcome speech by Mr. Sreekumar K. S, Secretary of Mutholy Grama Panchayat. This was then followed by the presidential address, which was delivered by Mrs. Ruby Thomas. She spoke about the importance of cleanliness and its benefits. Then our principal Dr James John, inaugurated the function. He said that it is everyone's duty to keep their surroundings clean and hygiene and congratulated the association in taking such an initiative. The other dignitaries present were Mr. Rajan Mundamala and Mr. Ranjith. G (members of Mutholy Grama Panchayat), Prof. Manesh Varghese John (HOD, History department), Mr. Jommy Jose (coordinator, History association) and the teachers of history department. As per the directions given by the teachers, students of our department were divided into different groups. Each group members allotted with different areas for cleaning. They collected waste from these areas, segregated this into different kinds and collected it in different sacks. Finally the students

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gathered at Mutholy Panchayat office, where they were given refreshments by the Panchayat and hence the program successfully came to an end. As a token of appreciation, Mutholy Grama Panchayat awarded the history association with a memento; through this they congratulated all the students and teachers for their active participation in this campaign. This program also helped to create awareness among the students and the public about the importance of cleanliness.



Figure 1: Inauguration of cleaning campaign at Mutholy Grama Panchayat, Sept.29, 2018



Figure 2: Students transferring collected solid wastes to vehicles, Sept. 29, 2018

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Members of Bhoomitra Sena Club of St. Thomas College, Palai celebrated World Environment day on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018. It focuses to upkeep the campus and nearby places in clean and green and thus initiate a campaign for green and clean philosophy. The volunteers and co-ordinator along with faculty members from various departments took the oath to preserve the environment.



**Figure 3:** World Environment Day-5<sup>th</sup> June 2018



**Figure.4:** World Environment Day-5<sup>th</sup> June 2018

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## Training of making paper bag, pen and file to the BMS members- 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018

A training camp of making paper bag, pen and file was organized for BMS member on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018. BMS unit of the college invited trained students from St. Stephan's College, Uzhavur, Kottayam to conduct the classes. It was organized for the students to promote and encourage the use of paper made materials and to reduce the use of plastic made materials in the campus. The training camp also aims to develop our own trained volunteers who can teach the method of making paper pen, bag and file to other students within the campus and outside the campus.



Figure.5: Training camp for making paper bag, pen and file held on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2018

## National Pollution Prevention Day-2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018

National Pollution Prevention day was organized by Bhoomithrasena unit on 2 December 2018. It was organized in collaboration with Municipality of Pala and Pala Social Welfare Society. A meeting was organized at the office of the Municipality and was presided over by





Celine Roy, Municipal Chairperson. A talk on need for pollution prevention and plastic waste management was given by Mathew Pullukalayil, the Director of Pala Social Welfare Society. All members of the unit were participated in it. They divided into twenty five groups and visited each shop in the city and even houses to give awareness and to distribute a leaflet on plastic prevention and waste management.



Figure.6: National Pollution Prevention Day-2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018

### Trekking to Kattadippara hill station and cleaning activities on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Kattadippara is a tourist spot located near Panickankudi in Idukki District of Kerala. BMS unit has organized a trekking for its members to Kattadippara and cleaned the hill station premises on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Fifty BMS volunteers have participated in it. The plastic waste and other bottles were collected from the site and hand over it to the Sujithwa Mission team of Konnathady Grama Panchayath. Trekking and cleaning activities were organized with the support of Ms. Bindu Asokan, member of ward VI of Konnathady Grama Panchayath, Idukki district.





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Figure7. Trekking to Kattadippara, Idukki District



Figure8. BMS Volunteers at Kattadippara, Idukki District

## Training for making paper pen, bag and file by BMS Volunteers-31<sup>st</sup> January 2019

BMS unit of St. Thomas College, Palai has organized a training camp for making paper pen, bag and files to students of St. Aloysius High School, Manalunkal on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019. Ten trained BMS volunteers gave training to thirty children of the school. The idea behind the training camp is to spread the green initiatives of BMS unit of St. Thomas College Pala to outside the campus.





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**Figure.9:** Training camp by BMS volunteers at School

## **Samksham Movie released in the campus on 22 January 2019**

M.G. University, Kottayam has released an edutainment film 'Samaksham' with the aim of re-establish the lost connect of the people with the soil, agriculture and ecosystem. It spread the message of organic farming and narrates nature friendly agriculture which provides toxic free edibles, clean air and water. The campus release of the movie was held with the initiative of BMS and NSS units of the college on 22 January 2019. A meeting was organised before the release of the movie. Dr. James John, Principal, St. Thomas College, Palai was the chief guest for the function. The first show of the movie was exclusively for BMS students and National Service Scheme students of the college.



**Figure.10:** Samksham movie campus release on 22 January 2019

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**Figure. 11:** BMS members watching the movie Samksham on 22 January 2019

A summary of various activities organized by the college with a view to propagate the message of environmental protection and care among the school students, Government local body authorities, industrialists, merchants and the public as part of the activities under the tagline '**Environmental Promotional Activities Beyond the Campus**' during the period 2014-2015 to 2018-2019 are summarized below:

**Table 1: Environmental Promotional Activities Beyond the Campus (2014-2019)**

Name of the activity	Organising unit/ collaborating agency	Date/Year	Summary of Programme
Cleaning the premises of General Hospital, Palai	NSS	2014-15	To create a healthy environment in the hospital premises
Field Visit and talk on organic farming	Department of Economics	27th November 2014	A field visit to an organic farm at Plassanal near Bharanaganam
Sastrapadham Science Experience Camp- FARMFEST 2014	Centre for Nano-Biopolymer Science & Technology, Department of Physics/ Corporate	11-13 September 2014	For High School and Higher Secondary School students on the theme Sustainable agriculture







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	Educational Agency, Diocese of Palai		
Seven Day Special Camp	NSS	5 to 11 September 2014	Making organic farm and kitchen garden in every house of the selected ward was the major agenda of the camp.
Chinnar Nature Camp	NSS/Chinnar Wildlife Santury	2014-15	Volunteers could experience the dry nature of the forest and could see the special fauna and flora in the region. The day long trekking gave the volunteers a new experience.
Study on the Critical habitat of western Ghats	Department of Botany/Kerala State Forest Department	2014-15	To familiarize the critical habitat to students and teachers
World biodiversity day celebration at Kumarakam Bird sanctuary	Department of Botany/Kumarakam Bird sanctuary, Kerala State Forest Department	22-05-2015	Filed survey on World Biodiversity day conducted by Department of Botany in collaboration with Kumarakam Bird Sanctuary and Kerala Tourism Department
Cleaning of the main road	NSS	15 August 2015	NSS Volunteers cleaned the main road in front of the college and cleared a walk way for the easy commute of the pedestrians.
Cleaning of tribal village near Vallakkadavu and awareness class plastic waste	NSS	15-18 September 2015	NSS volunteers cleaned a tribal village near vallakkadavu. Plastic wastes were collected and made an awareness demonstration to the local people about the hazards of plastic pollution.
Photo Exhibition of Endemic Plants of Kerala at Fatima Matha National College, Kollam	Department of Botany/ Fatima Matha National College, Kollam	2015-16	A new attempt to make the people aware about the need and conservation of the plant diversity of kerala state. Big sized photographs of 100 plants are exhibited.
Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) – cleaning	NSS/ Kadanad Panchayath	2015-16	NSS volunteers cleaned St. Sebastian's HSS Kadanad, the surroundings of school ground and drainage in front of the Kadanad Panchayath office. The volunteers planted trees in the school premises.
Meenachil River Day	NSS	01 September 2015	An effort to save the river, NSS, St. Thomas College, Palai unit associated with various organisations to host gathering on the bank of River Meenachil.

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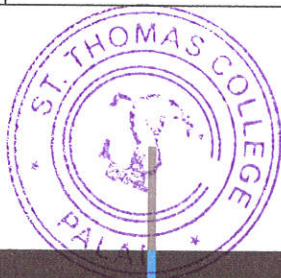


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Cleaning Campaign at GLPS, Kadayam	NSS	29 January 2016	Volunteers actively take part in a mission to clean up the school compound and a waste pit was also made by the volunteers as a part of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM).
Clean City Campaign	Department of Commerce/ Pala Municipality	09 March 2016.	The whole students from III B.Com (2013-2016 Batch), along with the staff of the Pala Municipality, cleaned the Municipal bus stand at Kottaramattam and High way side of Poonjar – Ettumanoor State Highway, the portion in front of the college. on 09th March 2016.
Study on the Critical habitat of western Ghats	Department of Botany/Idukki Wildlife Sanctuary, Kerala State Forest Department	2016-17	To familiarize the critical habitat to students and teachers
Seven day special camp at Kayyoor Grama Panchayath	NSS	2016-17	The volunteers conducted an anti plastic campaign at 'Naadukaani' an ecotourism spot.
Plants diversity survey in Granite quarry site	Department of Botany/Kerala State Biodiversity Board.	07 March 2017	The team visited Kurijikavu at the foothills of Kottamala first and then made a complete survey of the Kottamala by accessing the hill on foot. The study of Kottamala and surrounding area has lead to the identification of a biodiversity rich midland area that was previously unnoticed
Agri Fest 2017	Department of Vocational Education/ Regional Agricultural Research station, Kumarakom, Kerala Agriculture university. ATMA, Department of Agriculture, Kerala	6-7 July 2017	Class about Homestead vegetable cultivation and class about soil sampling and testing were taken. Farmers and students of various vocational higher secondary schools were participated in the fest. The exhibition organised by B.Voc. (S.A.) students disseminated new agricultural methods and technologies to the farmers as well as to the public.
Cleaning of the Thattakkad tourist spot hill view point and its nearby places	NSS	2017-18	As part of the <i>Swachh Bharath</i> Mission, volunteers cleaned the hill view point and surroundings at the tourist spot. Bird watching program and trekking along with Forest Department officials helped the



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			volunteers study more about nature.
Organic farming in Govt. L.P. School, Kadayam	NSS/ Govt. L.P. School, Kadayam	8 August 2017.	The NSS Unit started organic farming in the premises of Govt. L P School, Kadayam, Pala.
NSS seven day camp 'Jaivom' 2017	NSS/ Mutholy Grama Panchayath	2017-18	The Volunteers organised awareness sessions on organic farming for the people of the locality and resolved their doubts regarding the various aspects of organic farming. NSS volunteers took key initiative in the conduct of JAIVOM 2017 survey in the 13 wards of Mutholy Panchayath under the leadership of the Program Officers.
Rice Cultivation	Department of Vocational Education	2017-18	Paddy cultivation was done on 20th September 2017, by students of 2015 & 2016 batches B.Voc (Sustainable Agriculture) of St.Thomas College, Palai at South Kidangoor Padasekharam.
Plants diversity survey in Teak Plantations	Department of Botany/Kerala Forest department	2017-18	To classify and quantify the Teak plantations in Kerala
Swachatha Abhiyan (Cleaning Mission) road cleaning	NCC Army Wing	2018-19	To make a clean and healthy environment, especially in the public roads
Awareness rally towards Panickankudy town and Muniyara town	NSS/ Konnathady Grama Panchayath	26 Decemebr 2018.	Programme under the title of <i>Haritha Gramam Sujithwa Gramam</i> proposed by Sujithwa Mission, Govt. of Kerala
Clean Pala Project	NSS/Municipality of Pala, Pala Social Welfare Society, Sabhalam 55 Plus and Janamaithri Police, Pala	2018-19	Clean Pala project was a joint venture of several social and governmental bodies and aims at reducing the plastic waste in the Palai city.
Cleaned the Shops and houses in Pala Municipality under Clean Pala Project	NSS	2018-19	"To propagate the message of Clean City, Green City"
Cleaning of Kattadippara tourist	NSS/ Konnathady Grama Panchayath	2018-19	The students cleaned the hill station premises after the trekking. The plastic waste and other





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spot			bottles were collected from the site and handed them over to the Sujithwa Mission team of Konnathady Grama Panchayath
Distribution of leaflets to the merchants at Panickankudy and Muniyara town	NSS/ Konnathady Grama Panchayath	2018-19	"To propagate the message of Clean City, Green City"
Distribution of leaflets to various houses in ward VI of Konnathady Grama Panchayath	NSS/ Konnathady Grama Panchayath	2018-19	As part of Plastic Free Village
Extension Programme - Cleaning in Mutholy Panchayath	Department of History/ Mutholy Grama Panchayath	26 September 2018	The main objective of the program was to clean the adjacent areas of SH 32 from Palai to Mutholy.
Impact assessment of flood 2018 on Periyar River	Department of Botany/Centre for Environment and Development	2018-19	To assess the impact of flood on the habitat of Periyar region
Maintenance of roads damaged	NSS/ Konnathady Grama Panchayath	2018-19	The NSS volunteers repaired the road between Panickankudy and Mullarikudy during the activity. The road was damaged during the landslides in August.
On farm VAM production	Department of Vocational Education/ Department of Agriculture, Kerala	5 October 2018	On Farm VAM Production was conducted by Department of Vocational Education at South Kidangoor Krishibhavan. VAM is a rooting inducing mychorrhiza which can be cultured in the field itself. Farmers can produce it in the field by using vermiculite, sand and they are grown in sweet corn roots.
Rice Cultivation	Department of Vocational Education	16th October 2018	Paddy cultivation was done by 2017 & 2018 batch students of B.Voc Sustainable Agriculture) of St. Thomas College, Palai at South Kidangoor Padasekharam. The area cultivated was 0.5 hectare (1.235 Acres)





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Training to students and people in the Panickankudy village to make paper pen, bag and file	NSS/ Konnathady Grama Panchayath	December 2018	The NSS Unit organized a training session for students and people at Panickankudy for making paper bag, pen and file as part of plastic free village.
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STC, Palai  
25.07.2020

  
Principal

