

NSS Monthly Report (September 2024)

Cleanliness Drive: Revitalizing the Banks of Swarnarekha River

Date: 22nd September, 2024

Location: Swarnarekha River, Lower Chutia, Ranchi

On the sunny morning of 22nd September 2024, the National Service Scheme (NSS) unit conducted a highly impactful cleanliness drive along the Swarnarekha River, located in Lower Chutia, Ranchi. The drive was part of the NSS's ongoing mission to promote social responsibility and environmental awareness among the youth. With the rising pollution levels, particularly around the riverbanks, this initiative was a critical step in addressing the environmental issues threatening one of Ranchi's vital water bodies. The Swarnarekha River has, over the years, become a repository for uncontrolled waste disposal, severely affecting the local ecosystem.

The drive saw the participation of 20 NSS volunteers who were eager to contribute to the cause. They dedicated several hours to cleaning the riverbank, making significant efforts to rid the area of waste while engaging with local residents to foster awareness about the importance of environmental conservation.



Objectives:

- To remove accumulated waste, debris, and pollutants from the riverbanks and surrounding areas.
- To raise awareness about the importance of environmental conservation and responsible waste management.
- To foster a sense of community involvement and promote sustainable practices.

Activities

- **Waste Collection:** Volunteers were equipped with gloves, bags, and tools to collect various types of waste, including plastic, paper, glass, and discarded items.
- **Riverbank Clean-up:** Teams focused on clearing debris from the riverbanks, removing invasive plants, and restoring the natural vegetation.
- **Awareness Campaign:** Educational materials were distributed to inform the public about the harmful effects of pollution on aquatic ecosystems and encourage responsible behaviour.
- **Community Engagement:** Local residents were invited to participate in the drive, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility for the river's well-being.

Conclusion

The cleanliness drive along the Swarnarekha River was a resounding success, demonstrating the power of community action in addressing environmental challenges. The collective efforts of volunteers and the support of local organizations have contributed to the revitalization of this vital water body. Moving forward, it is essential to continue promoting sustainable practices and raising awareness about the importance of preserving our natural resources.



Cleanliness cum Plantation & Awareness Drive

Date: 29th September, 2024

No. of Volunteers: 16

Location: Pahantoli Village, Namkum, Ranchi

On 29 September 2024, the National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of St. Xavier's College, Ranchi, organized a highly impactful Cleanliness-cum-Plantation and Awareness Drive in their adopted village, Pahantoli, Namkum, Ranchi. The drive aimed at promoting cleanliness, environmental sustainability, and health awareness among the villagers.

Cleanliness Drive:

The event commenced with a group of enthusiastic NSS volunteers leading a cleanliness campaign across the village. Their primary focus was on removing plastic waste, which included plastic bottles, glass bottles, and waste paper scattered around the village. The volunteers diligently cleaned the surroundings, setting an example of community service and environmental responsibility. This effort not only improved the aesthetics of the village but also aimed to reduce health risks associated with improper waste disposal.

Awareness Program for Children:

After the successful completion of the cleanliness drive, the volunteers took an important initiative to engage the village children in an awareness session. This session was centered around health, hygiene, and disease prevention. The volunteers taught the children about the importance of personal cleanliness, the significance of handwashing, and other essential precautions to prevent diseases. The interactive and informative session left a lasting impact on the young minds, helping them understand how small actions can lead to a healthier community.

Awareness Program for Adults:

Following the session with the children, the NSS volunteers held another session for the adult members of the village. This discussion focused on cleanliness, hygiene, and ways to prevent common diseases. The volunteers stressed the importance of maintaining cleanliness in their surroundings, proper waste management, and ensuring clean drinking water. They also provided practical advice on preventing waterborne diseases and other illnesses, thereby empowering the villagers with knowledge that could improve their overall health and well-being.

Plantation Drive:

To further enhance the environmental aspect of the drive, the volunteers organized a plantation campaign in and around the Panchayat office and other parts of the village. Several saplings were planted, and the volunteers encouraged the villagers to take care of them, emphasizing the importance of trees in maintaining ecological balance and improving the quality of life. Additionally, the volunteers gifted plants to some villagers, symbolizing a shared responsibility in nurturing nature.

Throughout the drive, the villagers were cooperative and actively participated in the activities. Their enthusiasm and willingness to engage with the volunteers contributed significantly to the success of the event. The drive not only improved the cleanliness of the village but also instilled a sense of responsibility among the villagers towards their environment and health.

Conclusion:

The Cleanliness-cum-Plantation and Awareness Drive by the NSS unit of St. Xavier's College, Ranchi, in Pahantoli Village was a commendable success. The initiative helped raise awareness about crucial health and hygiene practices, contributed to environmental conservation through tree plantation, and fostered a spirit of cooperation between the volunteers and the villagers. Such drives play a vital role in building a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future for the community.

