WORLD WATER DAY

March 20 to March 24, 2023

March 22 is celebrated as World water day by United Nations (UN) that highlights the importance of fresh water. The day is used to advocate for the sustainable management of freshwater resources and this year the theme is 'Accelerating change to solve the water and sanitation crisis'.

In order to support water conservation and promote water saving attitude among staff and students water week was observed from March 20 to March 24 with various activities organized through the Maintenance department, the IECSC unit of Yenepoya Homeopathic Medical College and Hospital (YHMCH) and the Center for Environmental Studies.

20/03/2023 – Poster launch

New posters are designed which displays slogan like "save water", "every drop counts" in English, Kannada and Malayalam language. These different posters with different size are inaugurated by our Honorable Vice Chancellor Dr. M. Vijayakumar. Prof. M. Abdul Rahiman, Former Vice Chancellor of Kannur and Calicut Universities graced the occasion. Other dignitaries present were Pro-Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Chief Administrative Officer, Facility Manager, Assistant Director (CES), Medical Superintendent, Hospital Superintendent, Environmental Engineer, and others.

21/03/2023 – Information Board Installation

A board was installed for display of consumption of water on daily basis in every block of the hostels. The information on water consumption will be entered daily by the staff from the Maintenance department. The total amount of water consumed in excess will also be displayed for comparison and awareness. It was inaugurated by our Chief Administrative Officer Lt Col Pankajakshan K along with Mr. Walter Castelino (Facility Manger), Mr. Vinayaka Bhatta (Environmental Engineer), Mr. Zahir P. (Electrical Engineer), Mr. Joy (Maintenance admin).

22/03/2023 – <u>Leakage Check</u>

A team of Maintenance staff volunteered for water leakage checking in the university distribution system. This was conducted for the first time which will be followed up every month henceforth. Wastage of water is a major concern at the pipelines, joints and valves. The volunteers went on a water leakage check drive around the university and found a major leakage in the hospital pipeline which was rectified immediately and saved around 10KL of fresh water daily. Also the volunteers interacted with housekeeping staff, students, faculty, and others about the importance of saving water. Posters were displayed near the water coolers, water taps and wash basins including the stakeholders by the team.

23/03/2023 – WTP, <u>STP Visit</u>

An awareness programme on the treatment of potable water and waste water in the WTP and STP was organized for the students of YHMCH. The working of the system was explained by Mr. Vinayaka Bhatta, Environmental Engineer and Mr. Joy Nelson, Maintenance admin to the students. The fresh water drawn from the borewells is treated in WTP by passing through pressure sand filter, activated carbon filter, cartridge filter, RO membrane, UV filter and with addition of sodium hypo chloride for disinfection, sodium bicarbonate for pH correction, and gramicid for membrane clearance. Two STP in the main campus run through day and night by Sequential Batch Reactor method providing treated water for flushing and irrigation. Students interacted with the staff with questions which was answered appropriately.

24/03/2023 – <u>Guest lecture</u>

A guest lecture by Er. Rajendra Kalbhavi, Executive Director, D. K. Nirmithi Kendra, NITK, Surathkal on the topic "Accelerating change – Be the Change" was organized for the students of YHMCH. Speaker provided right insight about the changes to be made and the ways where students can participate in this change to optimal use of water. Er. Rajendra Kalbhavi showed the practical examples of saving water that has been executed in the field. Environmental Engineer Vinayaka Bhatta introduced the guest and a memento was handed over by Dr. Vijayendra Itagi, Vice- Principal YHMCH. Total number of participants was 200 staff and students.