

N.6: Women's Day celebration

In celebration of the International Women's Day and as per the directive of Govt. of India, a workshop on the Swachhata Abhiyan was organized on March 8, 2017 for women work-force engaged in construction and cleaning activities in the RRCAT campus. The workshop was conducted at the Welfare Centre. About 110 women participated, some (~10) had also brought small children. In the beginning, Dr. Rama Chari introduced the members of the RRCAT Complaint Committee to the participants and gave a brief introduction about the responsibilities of the Committee. The workshop was interactive and RRCAT senior women employees addressed specific issues related to cleanliness, health and hygiene.

First, Dr. Alka Ingale questioned the participants about their hygiene practices regarding children and then talked about the importance of a daily bath and clean clothes for the children. Some participants raised the matter of children falling sick frequently. Dr. Ingale explained through examples that washing hands before meals and daily cleaning of nose, ears and teeth are very important for good health of children. In absence of soap, ash can also be used for washing hands and neem leaves for bathing.

Next, Smt. Sujata Joshi talked about the necessity of keeping the home surroundings and public places clean. For example, garbage should be thrown only in dustbins, spitting in open should be avoided, only properly stored water should be used for drinking, public toilets should be used in the proper manner etc. She also talked about how to keep rivers and water bodies clean; they should not be used for garbage disposal or washing clothes. Railway lines should not be used for defecation. Cloth carrier bags should be used for shopping instead of plastic bags.

Dr. Rama Chari addressed the issue of feminine women hygiene. She explained how women can maintain hygiene and remain healthy. Some participants said that they knew about the proper disposal of waste, yet for convenience were making a practice of burning it. They were informed that burning should be avoided, instead the waste should be disposed in the collecting vans. Also young and teenage girls should be given proper medical attention in case of any gynaecological problems.

Smt. J. S. Archana talked about the cleaning of office premises. She explained the proper use of cleaning materials provided by the department.

Several women employees of RRCAT were also present. The

lively workshop was received well by the participants and there was good interaction during and after the sessions. Tea and snacks were served to all present. The workshop arrangements were done by Dr. Alka Ingale, Smt. Arti Shelke, Shri G Venkatesan, Smt. Sujata Joshi, Smt. Angela Pereira, Smt. P. Shryner, Smt. Garima Alhate and Smt. Seema Thakur. After the workshop, RRCAT administration made arrangements for dropping the participants at their respective workplaces.



Senior woman employees of RRCAT interacting with participating women engaged in construction and cleaning activities in the RRCAT campus



Participants in the Workshop on Swachhata Abhiyan organized on March 8, 2017 for women work-force engaged in construction and cleaning activities in the RRCAT campus

The photographs show senior women employees of RRCAT interacting with the large number of women work-force engaged in construction and cleaning activities in the RRCAT campus in the workshop organized at Welfare Centre in RRCAT in celebration of the Women's Day.

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