ALLIANCE for QUALITY WATER AWARENESS (AQWA CELL)

Introduction about Theme:

'Water' is termed as elixir of life and rightly so, the water availability is much to be desired and most sought of natural resource available to the mankind. Water scarce is creating a near civil confrontation like situation in world over. Currently, 600 million Indians face high to extreme water stress and about two lakh people die every year due to inadequate access to safe water. The crisis is only going to get worse. By 2030, the country's water demand is projected to be twice the available supply, implying severe water scarcity for hundreds of millions of people and an eventual ~6% loss in the country's GDP. As per the report of National Commission for Integrated Water Resource Development of Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), the water requirement by 2050 in high use scenario is likely to be a milder 1,180 BCM, whereas the present-day availability is 695 BCM. The total availability of water possible in country is still lower than this projected demand, at 1,137 BCM. Thus, there is an imminent need to deepen our understanding of our water resources and usage and put in place interventions that make our water use efficient and sustainable. Vidarbha region is considered as water scarce area and to meet this social responsibility, Tirpude College of Social Work has initiated to establish an Alliance for Quality Water Awareness (AQWA) Cell for awareness building for water security among the stakeholders.

Time to time, it is evident that one of the goals of the UGC is to transform the university system into an active instrument for social change through the institutionalization of Extension as the third dimension. It is commonly known that through the dimension of teaching, there is dissemination of knowledge, through research new knowledge is generated and through the dimension of extension there is application of knowledge in real life situations, which leads to the further generation of new knowledge.

It was way back in 1960 that the Kothari Commission first articulated the concept of Extension and the TRINITY of Teaching, Research & Extension. The Commission stated that Extension was essential for:

- Making education relevant to real life situations
- For preventing the alienation of the education and from society
- For developing in the education and a sense of responsibility towards society
- For deepening the teacher's knowledge through a wider exposure to real life situations

In 1977 the University Grants Commission first incorporated Extension into its Policy Statement for Higher Education when it stated that "If the University system has to discharge adequately its responsibilities to the entire education system and to the society as a whole it must assume extension as the third important responsibility and give it the same status as teaching and research. This is a new and extremely significant area which should be developed on the basis of high priority".

The acceptance of Extension as the Third Dimension equal in importance to teaching and research was in the context of a growing realization that the universities and colleges having institutional resources-knowledge, manpower and physical-have an obligation to develop sensitivities to involve the development of the community with particular reference to the overall and diverse learning needs of all the segments of the people of the community.

In this backdrop, the college has initiated this cell in the year 2018, while

focusing on the following vision, mission and objectives:

Vision: "To create water secured Society"

Mission: "Dissemination of scientific knowledge, creating awareness among the

masses about judicious use and quality of water by trained college volunteers,

community animators and various stakeholders."

Aims/Objectives:

1) To create a focused "Water Warriors" group.

2) To provide scientific training of trainers (TOT) to college volunteers about

dynamics of water security.

3) To spread awareness about water security at college, schools and community

level.

Collaboration with other Organization:

Considering the scope and the function of the cell, AQWA Cell

collaborates with the experts from various fields like Central

Ground Water Board, NGO, Civil Societies and Academic

Institutes.

Composition of Cell:

Chairperson: Dr. S. K. Dharmadhikari, Officiating. Principal

Coordinator: Dr. D. R. Masram

Members:

Dr. P. K. Jain, Regional Director, CGWB Nagpur

Dr. Dilip Gode, Vidarbha Nature Conservation Society, Nagpur

Dr. Satish Chouhan, Jalsaksharta "Jalnayak"

Proposed Activities

MSW Sem. II

- 1) Poster Exhibition
- 2) Street Play
- 3) Elocution Competition
- 4) "Jal Hi Jeewan Hai" Campaign.
- 5) Formation of Water Club.

MSW Sem.III/IV

- 1) Jal Sammelan.
- 2) Jal Darbar
- 3) Visit to Jal Village.
- 4) Street Play
- 5) Film Show
- 6) Awareness Pragrammes

BSW Sem.I,II, and III

- 1) Jal Yatra/Rallies
- 2) School level Competitions.(GK,Elocution)
- 3) Water Associations
- 4) Street Play
- 5) Water Songs.
