



Celebration of World Environment Day

The Department of Space (DOS) has conveyed the instructions issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to spread the message of challenges of climate change and pollution as well as the concerns of nature and biodiversity loss. This activity was earmarked to be undertaken on the World Environment Day on June 5, 2022. The PRL Committee for Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (C-AKAM), has undertaken up this activity to celebrate the world environment day at PRL. An event was organised at PRL K Ramanathan Auditorium on 9th June 2022.

The event aimed at discussing the #savethesoil movement and spreading the message of #OnlyOneEarth theme. The theme highlights the fact that safeguarding the planets finite natural resources of critical importance.

An in-house documentary portraying the research activities that are carried out in PRL which are imperative in tackling the different ecological problems, was displayed/screened in K.R. Ramanathan Auditorium. Scientists from varying fields of research including hydrology, atmospheric sciences, aerosol chemistry, geochemistry talked about the importance of their respective research and how they contribute directly or indirectly to addressing the environmental problems, climate change, air quality, soil degradation etc. The documentary also depicted and showcased the biodiversity of the PRL campuses, the annual tree plantation events and the management of biodegradable waste using a BioCompost unit that has been installed in the campus. Several members of PRL also pledged to save the environment in conjunction with the theme of #OnlyOneEarth. About 100 participants attended the programme.

This followed by a presentation by Ms. Shivanshi Gupta, Scientist/Engineer-SC, PRL on the topic "Soil Extinction: An Existential Threat". The presentation introduced the audience to the serious issue of soil degradation, informed them on how, if not addressed at the earliest, it can result in a massive, global food crisis in future, and made them aware on how this problem is directly related to many other problems faced by humanity today viz nutritional deficiency, water scarcity, floods, droughts, climate change, farmer suicide, migration, etc. It concluded with an appeal to the audience to come together and raise their voice to 'save our soil'. The presentation was very lucid and informative and conveyed a potential societal awareness message.

This followed by tree plantation by the Director, PRL, Dean, PRL, Chair, PPEG, Chair, C-AKAM, Invited Guests and Senior Faculty Members of PRL. Mr. Sanjay Wairagade, convener, world environment day celebration committee, was actively involved with C-AKAM team in successful organisation of this event.

Glimpses of the event

