



EnviSAGE society Inaugural Event Brief Report



Date: September 16, 2020

Platform: Google Meet

No of participants: 40

Department of Environmental Studies, Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College organized the inaugural ceremony for its newly created Environmental Society cum Eco-Club on the occasion of World Ozone Day. The new society has been named **EnviSAGE: Environmental society for a Sustainable And Greener Earth**. Amidst the gloom and fear of the pandemic and the increased awareness about the degrading ecosystems around us, there couldn't have been a better opportunity to start an Eco-club in the college with a determination of doing our bit for the environment and a hope for a better tomorrow. The inaugural meeting was held over the online video calling application, Google Meet – with all smiles and enthusiasm beaming from behind the screens – and witnessed participation from both faculty and students.

The event commenced with an introductory speech by the Principal of the college, Dr Gurmohinder Singh. Principal sir expressed his pleasure at this new initiative of the students and faculty involved and extended his full support to the cause of the society. He suggested a number of activities that the society could undertake in the college in the next few years. The Chief Guest for the event was Professor Radhey Shyam Sharma from the Deptt. of Environmental Studies, University of Delhi. Prof Sharma congratulated the society members for coming up with a very apt and purposeful name for the society. "We need to collaborate with the government, as this issue is of the bigger picture but needs to be executed individually," said Prof. Sharma, highlighting how irrelevant it gets when the responsibility of conservation of the environment is pushed towards just one, the State or individual. He then suggested various initiatives that the society could take up in order to make a difference not just in the college but also to the communities that are outside the college in a collaborative manner. He laid emphasis on dissemination of information, knowledge as a major objective of the society and also stressed on the need to conduct environmental research activities, even if at a small scale. Prof Sharma extended the support of the Department of Environmental Studies, DU to the society.

Following this, the hosts of the event, Ms. Charu Kaur Arora and Ms. Akshita Tiwari gave a brief about the society objectives and activities to be undertaken in the ongoing session while also releasing the logo of the society. The hosts also introduced all the team members (teacher co-ordinators and students) of the society. This was followed by a brief talk and a video observing World Ozone Day and commemorating 35 years of global efforts to protect the Ozone layer from further depletion. The aim was to stress upon the fact that our fight to preserve the ozone layer is far from over and we need to now focus not just on Ozone layer preservation but also on issues related to Climate Change. Dr Ashish Thomas, convenor of EnviSAGE, talked about the need and genesis of the society and also touched upon the various objectives of the society.

Towards the end, a Fun 'n' Fact quiz was conducted for the audience by Vikas Raj and Meddhansh. The program concluded with closing remarks and vote of thanks by the president of the society, Mr Shivansh. Registration form for students who wished to be part of the society were also released.