

WWD 2017 Activities Summary Report

Yamuna River, Agra, India - March 22nd 2017

On March 22nd, the volunteers from the ROW Foundation along with the volunteers of the River Connect Campaign who have been conducting an evening prayer ('arti') on the bank of the Yamuna River for over 530 days without a break, used World Water Day 2017 to highlight pollution in the river Yamuna. The pollution reached an alarming level, posing threat not only to life but to historical monuments including the Taj Mahal.

Daya River, Bhubaneswar, India –23rd March 2017

Students, staff and faculty members from the Siksha O Anusandhan University (SOA) in Bhubaneswar, Odisha conducted a rally on 23rd March for WWD 2017.

Students of management sciences of the SOA University in Bhubaneswar, Odisha organized this rally to create awareness about conservation of water on the WWD 2017. They pledged to make judicious use of this critical resource, water.

The students discussed about the importance of conserving and saving the water resources. "It is our planet, and only we can save it" said Ayesha Ray one of the students.



Yangtze River, Wuhan City, China - March 25 and 26 , 2017

On March 25 and 26 , 2017 (WWD) riverside trash pick-up activity on the banks of the Yangtze River was a complete success! A total of 178 University student and primary school students including citizen volunteers attended the activity.



Bhilangana River, Ghansali, Uttarakhand, India – WWD 2017

As a part of the Rivers of the World program, the Himalayan English School (HES) students, teachers and the local communities here in Ghansali conducted the WWD 2017 on 19 April 2017. The annual examination at the School during the 3rd week of March caused this delay.

Approximately 35 students from nearby three schools participated in the event. The schools are –

1) Saraswati Vidya Mandir Inter College GHANSALI – 15 Students 2) Government Inter College Ghumetidhar GHANSALI – 10 Students 3) Government Girls Inter College Baheda GHANSALI - 10 Students

Apart from above the students from Himalayan English School also participated in the event.

Mr. Debesh Krishan Das, Teacher in Himalayan English School explained the importance of water and the water quality testing methods to all the students. He explained how HES students participated in Seminars in Rishikesh and presented this work in front of many other school students. Mr. Sudhir K Nautiyal explained various reasons of growing water scarcity in the society and the remedial action which

are to be taken by us. A power point presentation was shown to the participants about the subject –Why Waste Water?



Yamuna River, Gokul, India - March 22nd , 2017

The March 22nd , 2017 (WWD) riverside trash pick-up activity and placing of permanent trash collection bins (dustbins) on the banks of the Yamuna River was very successful.

➤ A total of 140 people including 80 students from secondary school and 60 volunteers from different walks of life participated in the activity.

➤ We collected polythene bags, empty bottles and non-biodegradable waste accumulated close to the river.

➤ In order to dispose Garbage safely , we contacted the local municipality and about 240 kgs of waste was disposed

➤ Among the team members there were few pilgrims and local priests also who were engaged in different religious activities on the banks of the river.

➤ Children were taught the importance of river and the importance of the quality of water available to us.



The ROW team from Gokul has successfully conducted a cleanup event in Gokul village located on the banks of sacred river Yamuna in India. On this occasion a group of about 140 people gathered for cleaning up of Ghats and placing permanent Dustbins for visitors. This location is of utmost importance because the river Yamuna is one of the most polluted rivers of India and Gokul is a major pilgrimage center located on the banks of this river.

Iloilo River, Iloilo City, Philippines. March 22-27, 2017

In celebration of The World Water Day 2017, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Region 6 is reminding everyone of the importance of wastewater and most especially not take for granted our water resources because water is life. This Year's theme is focused on how to improve water quality by reducing pollution. The City Environment and Natural Resources in partnership with DENR 6 conducted students' forum, clean up drive and Adopt an Estero Orchestrated Clean-up.



Naperville, Illinois (USA) March 25 2017

Dr. Prakasam Tata, Founder/Director of the Bharathi Theertha organization celebrated the World Water Day on Saturday, March 25, 2017 in Naperville at the Nichols library. The flier in the following page provides further information on this event. This year the Bharathi Theertha organization developed a working relationship with the Chicago Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) through a joint agreement with the MWRB.

As a part of the ROW Foundation the Bharathi Theertha organization conducted a water walk in Vizag in 2015.

Thansingh and Kakani School, Nuwakot Nepal -March 24th and 25th 2017

The teachers and students from the Kakani Lower Secondary School and the Thansingh Secondary School, Nuwakot District, Nepal conducted the World Water Day 2017 activities on March 24th and 25th, 2017. The ROW team from Nepal lead by ROW Coordinators - Bishnu Prasad Adhikary, Founder President, Agaman Academy in Thansingh, Nuwakot, and Rameshor Adhikari, principal of the Kakani Lower Secondary School successfully conducted cleanup events in Kakani and Thansingh, Nuwakot District on March 24th and 25th respectively. The Kakani Lower Secondary School went on a Water March and cleaned up a local wetland area. The pictures below show the school students and their activities at the Kakani Lower Secondary School.



Patapsco River, Maryland (USA) March 25th 2017

As a part of the WWD 2017 activity the Maryland-Washington-DC area team members of the ROW Foundation cleaned up trash from the bank of the Patapsco River near Ellicott City, Maryland on March 25th , 2017. The trash cleanup event was followed by water testing and monitoring of the river at an upstream and a downstream location of the river in relation to the Ellicott City area.

- A number of visitors joined the ROW Foundation team members in conducting the cleanup. A total of 15 people including 2 children participated in the cleanup and awareness effort activity.
- The team collected empty cans, bottles, old clothes, polythene bags, waste papers and non-biodegradable waste that were lying close to the river.

