

International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION, AWARENESS, CAPACITY BUILDING & LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME CENTRE (EIACP-PC) CSIR- National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow

Observance of International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer [16th September, 2023]

The International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, often referred to simply as *World Ozone Day*, is observed annually on *September 16th*. This day is dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of protecting the Earth's ozone layer and commemorates the signing of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in 1987.

Without the ozone layer, life as we know it would be severely impacted, as increased UV radiation can cause a variety of health problems in humans and harm ecosystems. Since the implementation of the Montreal Protocol, there have been significant strides in reducing the production and use of *ozone depleting substances (ODS)*.

World Ozone Day serves as a reminder of the importance of international cooperation in addressing environmental issues and the need to continue protecting the ozone layer for the wellbeing of current and future generations. The **theme** for World Ozone Day 2023 is "**Montreal Protocol: fixing the ozone layer and reducing climate change**".



NBRI – EIACP organized a special event to commemorate Ozone Day at Mahila Vidyalaya Degree College, Lucknow. The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of ozone layer preservation and promote environmental consciousness among the students as well as teachers. The occasion featured a series of engaging competitions, including slogan writing, quiz, and a painting competition.



The event started with a welcome address by **Dr. Nisha Gupta, Principal, Mahila Degree College** trailing which, **Dr. Anju Patel, Co-Coordinator** of **NBRI-EIACP** Programme Centre and Scientist, CSIR NBRI Lucknow oriented students about Mission LiFE and activities of NBRI-EIACP Programme Centre.

Following that, **Dr. N Manika, Programme Officer, NBRI-EIACP**, highlighted the significance of Ozone Day and the crucial role the ozone layer plays in protecting life on Earth. She emphasized the need for collective efforts to mitigate ozone depletion and address environmental issues. She educated children on 'Montreal Protocol' and 'Kigali Amendment' and especially focused on India's contribution to the Montreal Protocol in terms of policy formulation and how India has played a proactive role in the phase-out of production and consumption of Ozone Depleting Substances as well as about the India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP).



Slogan Writing Competition: Students enthusiastically participated and showcased their creativity by crafting slogans that conveyed powerful messages about ozone conservation.



Quiz Competition: Following the slogan writing competition, a quiz was conducted to test the participants' knowledge about the ozone layer, its depletion causes, and ways to prevent it. The quiz not only assessed their awareness but also educated them about the crucial role they can play in preserving the ozone layer.



Painting Competition: One of the highlights of the event was the painting competition. Students unleashed their artistic talents on canvas, depicting vivid and imaginative representations of ozone layer protection, environmental harmony, and a Green Earth. The paintings served as a visual reminder of the importance of protecting our planet.



The event end with a **vote of thanks** by **Dr. Pallavi Dixit**. Total of **81 students** participated in the awareness session and competitive events conducted by NBRI-EIACP.

The Ozone Day celebrations by NBRI-EIACP were a resounding success. They not only fostered environmental awareness among the students but also encouraged them to actively participate in protecting the ozone layer and the planet. The event served as a reminder that we all have a role to play in preserving the environment for future generations.

The **National Botanical Research Institute** continues its mission to raise awareness about environmental issues and promote sustainable practices, and events like these are crucial in achieving this goal.

