



Report on

Cleanliness Drive as a Tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on His Birth Anniversary

Date: 1st October 2023

Venue: Lakhwas Village, Sohna

Event Type: Cleanliness Drive and Community Awareness Campaign

Mode: Offline

Target Group: NSS Volunteers, School Students, and Community Members

Organized by: NSS, K.R. Mangalam University, Gurugram

Coordinator: Dr. Neeraj Kumari

Participants: 80 (including NSS volunteers, students, and villagers)

Introduction

To celebrate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, NSS volunteers of K.R. Mangalam University organized a “Cleanliness Drive as a Tribute to Mahatma Gandhi” on 1st October 2023 at Lakhwas Village, Sohna.

The event reflected Gandhiji’s dream of a clean India (Swachh Bharat) and connected it with the university’s mission to promote environmental responsibility, clean energy awareness, and sustainable living at the community level.

Objectives

- To honor Mahatma Gandhi’s values of cleanliness, simplicity, and community service.
- To spread awareness about personal hygiene and public sanitation in rural areas.
- To introduce villagers to clean and affordable energy options, linking cleanliness with sustainability.
- To inspire students and youth to take leadership in creating cleaner, greener communities.

Activities and Highlights

The program started with a Swachhta Pledge, where all participants promised to devote at least two hours every week to cleanliness and social service.

After the pledge, NSS volunteers, students, and villagers carried out a cleanliness drive in and around Lakhwas village. They cleaned roadsides, school grounds, and community spaces, showing teamwork and dedication.

Following the drive, a community awareness session was conducted focusing on the theme “*Clean Energy for a Clean India.*”

Key topics discussed included:

- Benefits of Solar Energy – how solar panels and lanterns can provide light and cooking energy without pollution.
- Waste-to-Energy Solutions – using biogas plants to turn organic waste into useful fuel.
- Energy Efficiency at Home – using LED bulbs and efficient appliances to save money and reduce carbon emissions.

Clean Energy and Subsidy Awareness

Participants were informed about government schemes such as:

- PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, offering up to ₹78,000 subsidy for rooftop solar panels.
- UJALA Scheme, through which LED bulbs are available at low, subsidised prices (around ₹70).

This sensitization helped villagers understand how clean energy can be both affordable and beneficial for homes, schools, and community centers.

Event Outcome

- 80 participants gained practical knowledge about cleanliness and renewable energy.
- Strengthened community participation under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.
- Promoted SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).
- Encouraged adoption of solar energy, waste segregation, and sustainable habits at the village level.

Conclusion

The Cleanliness Drive was a heartfelt tribute to Mahatma Gandhi’s ideals of Swachhta and selfless service. By linking cleanliness with clean energy, the activity taught students and villagers that a clean environment and renewable energy are the keys to a sustainable future



Photo 1: Snapshots from the Cleanliness Drive held in honour of Mahatma Gandhi's Birth Anniversary — celebrating the spirit of Swachh Bharat.