

*Coca-Cola Department of
Regional Water Studies*

*Quarterly Report-
Jan- March 2017*



Highlights

1. Academic

Graduating batch: The second batch of M.Sc/M.Tech Water Science and Governance students passed out on 15 Jul 2017. The batch has 3 M.Sc and 4 M.Tech students. They will be receiving their degrees at the convocation ceremony to be held on 10th of November this year. The final placement status of the students as of date is as follows:

S.no.	Name of the student	Internship organisation	Placement Status
1	Sridhar S	University of Colorado Boulder	TATA Trust
2	Pankaj Notani	Sharda University	Pratibha Syntex
3	Bhavya Chawla	NSC, Government of India	NSC, Government of India
4	Pragya Bhatt	TERI University	Planning to pursue PhD
5	Swekritha B.S	Hindustan Coca Cola Beverages Pvt Ltd	Awaited
6	Ashray Tyagi	The Energy and Resource Institute	Awaited
7	Aditya Jaiswal	Department of River Rejuvenation, Art of Living	Global Hydrological Solutions

2. Admissions – 2017-2019

Admissions under Ph.D. programme -- 05

A total number of 17 applications were considered for admissions into the Ph.D. programme this year. The written exam and interview for the same was held in June 2017. Eleven candidates appeared for the written exam and the interview and one candidate from Nigeria was interviewed over Skype (exempted from written exam as per University rule). The interview was conducted by the panel comprising of Prof. A Kansal, Dr. Nirupam Datta, Dr Rinki Deo from TERI University and Dr. Nupur Bahadur from TERI. As per the guidelines for PhD admissions given in University compendium II, **5 students were finally selected for PhD admission in the Coca Cola Department of Regional Water Studies.**

3. Faculty

Addition of an adjunct faculty member to the department: Dr. Nupur Bahadur from TERI joined as an adjunct faculty member of the department. She is working as a Fellow in Resource Efficient Technology (RET), Environment & Waste Management Division at The Energy & Resources Institute (TERI), and New Delhi. She has a wide range of teaching & research experience in Basic & Applied Chemistry, Nanotechnology and Material Sciences. Her research interest lies in design, development and dissemination of highly advanced and resource efficient technologies for Industrial Wastewater Treatment with emphasis on Photocatalysis and Photo-electrocatalysis as AOPs (Advanced Oxidation Processes) for treatment of dissolved, highly toxic, non-biodegradable, recalcitrant and persistent organic pollutants (POPs), dye stuff and heavy metals present together in effluents of highly polluting industries like textile & dyeing, tannery, paper & pulp, chemical, petrochemical, oil & gas exploration, pharmaceutical, food & beverage, distillery etc.



4. Events, Workshops, Seminars, Meetings

I. Prof. Arun Kansal is now a member of Technical advisory group of CMS VATAVARAN: India's only International Film Festival and Forum on Environment & Wildlife. Based on extensive research, this festival was initiated for encouraging environment films and forums that result in perception, practice and policy change.

II. Strengthening Water and Sanitation in Urban Settings: 'Strengthening Water and

Sanitation in Urban Settings', a project showcasing excellent example of joint action by industry-academia-research institutions on one hand and grass root organizations and local stakeholder on the other. It is a collaborative work among Coca Cola Foundation, USAID, TERI University & The Energy and Resources



Institute (TERI) in two states of India, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu. The study areas were select slums in the capital cities, i.e. Kolkata and Chennai respectively. The local

implementing partners, World Vision India (WVI) in Chennai and Development Action Society (DAS) in Kolkata, have been working in consultation with TERI University for on-ground implementation of the project. During the first phase, a comprehensive cross-sectional WASH related health risk analysis was conducted including variables like social, liveability, gender and occupation. Models were developed for conducting capacity building exercises with the community, effective outreach programs and communication strategies focusing on Women and Children.

This research based field implementation project shall bridge the sanitation gap as it is expected to be used by more than 600 community members and floating population on a daily basis. It will provide improved sanitation facility to about 100 households (more than 600 people), followed by eventual reduction in WASH related diseases of over 100 school children and 1000 community members leading to an increase in slum dwellers' earning potential. After installation of the toilet facility, a correlation will then be drawn on reduction of the diseases in the community via health records received from nearby health centres. A community based institution (CBI) has been created with a self-financing model and participation of relevant stakeholders in each city. The CBI will be mentored and supported under this project for an initial period of six months along with a continuous patronage from local project partner, TERI, medical practitioner and ward president in each city. The CBI will also charge a user fee for operation and maintenance of the revamped toilet complex. These factors would definitely result in better financial operation, high impact and a greater probability of replication in other communities. Community shall be sensitized for awareness generation and catalysing behavioural change through hoardings and banners on personal hygiene practices, proper storage and treatment of drinking water, safe disposal of waste; empowering CBIs to enforce sound sanitation practices; and declaration of ODF areas through notice boards. A short documentary on the intervention and its impact is also under production.

III. School University Network (SUN), 17-18

Apr 2017: The Coca Cola Department of Regional Water Studies at TERI University organized two water awareness and sensitization programmes for school children under School University Network (SUN) programme on 17th and 18th April



2017 for Vasant Valley School. As part of this programme the students along with their

teachers visited TERI University and learnt about different aspects of water sustainability over two hours of highly interactive activity-based session. The event was highly appreciated by the participants. At the end of the session, the students were assigned projects on water use efficiency, water conservation, water treatment and economic and social aspects of water revolving around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

IV. Interactive Session on ‘Consumer Behaviour and Sustainability’ with students of Daulat Ram College and Miranda House on 19th and 21st Apr 2017

The faculty members of the Coca Cola Department of Regional Water Studies at TERI University conducted a half day interactive session with students of Miranda House and Daulat Ram Colleges. The platform was also used to inform students about the courses being offered by the Coca Cola Department of Regional Water Studies.



Interaction at Daulat Ram College on 19 Apr 2017



Interaction at Miranda House on 21 Apr 2017

V. Departmental Meeting held on May 18, 2017: Annual meeting of the Coca Cola Department of Regional Water Studies was held on 18 May 2017 to discuss the progress of the department in last few years and deliberate on the future plans of the department. The meeting was held in five different sessions; i) Ice breaking, ii) Reflections from the past, iii) State of water Report , iv) Academic Planning, v) Capacity Building Program. Following points were discussed in the meeting:

- Create a WhatsApp and Gmail group for Department Alumni and faculty members.
- Create awareness among students of TERI University regarding courses in Water Department within the University and encourage them to take these courses.
- Orientation program at department level to be organized for an entire day immediately after the registration in July. Also invited talks by Alumni may be arranged during orientation to share their experience with the new students.

- Multimedia presentations to be prepared for funding organizations, visitors and placement.
- The department to come out with an Annual report/policy brief on different themes related to water and students can be encouraged to contribute to the research which could feed into these reports.
- Theme decided for the year 2017-2018 is “**Best practices for drought proofing of agriculture**”. The major objectives of the final report are to fulfil public advocacy, quality dissertation and generate data within the department.
- Allocation of the teaching load and academic responsibilities
- Department to work on a strong and robust MDP/capacity building program proposal having the capability to fetch funding from Ministry of water resources on regular basis.

Another meeting was held to have detailed discussion on Solidaridad and USAID projects. Detailed discussion was done on restructuring of the developed WASH curriculum.

VI. Article published in News daily: One of the students of the Department of Regional Water Studies, *Zeba Zoariah Ahsan (M.Tech. 2016-2018 batch)* published articles for a leading daily 'Assam Tribune'. The article “Breaking the Taboo” by Zeba that appeared in the news daily on June 4, 2017, draws attention towards the importance of women’s hygiene and stresses on the need of the time of breaking the taboo and spread awareness on this issue (<http://www.assamtribune.com/scripts/at.asp?id=jun0417/Page22>). Another article by Zeba titled 'The glory of Oxford' is a travelogue which got published in the same news daily on June 30, 2017. The travelogue discusses of her trip experience to the prestigious Oxford University in England (<http://www.assamtribune.com/scripts/at.asp?id=jun3017/Page20>).

VII. One day National workshop on “Tracking Management initiative of water security” on 14 June 2017: The faculty and students of TERI University participated and contributed towards a one day workshop organized by NITI Aayog on “**Tracking Management initiative of water security**”. The NITI Aayog has developed a composite water management index to assess and track the performance of efficient management of water resources. The index would provide



valuable information to the state and UTs and also to the concerned central ministries/departments enabling them to format and implement suitable strategies for better management of water resource. TERI University was also a knowledge partner in this workshop.

VIII. WASH Curriculum development workshop and Summer School held on 21-23rd June

2017: The TERI University, in partnership with Coca-Cola India and the support of USAID, is engaged in several activities related to the promotion of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) agenda since November 2014. This includes engagement of youth, capacity building of various stakeholders and facilitating innovation and implementation of sanitation services. Few of the key gaps identified are the near absence of WASH issues in the curriculum of various degree programmes in India and the need for capacity building of practitioners engaged in WASH planning and execution. To address these gaps, TERI University had organised two parallel events- WASH Curriculum Development Workshop and Summer School on 21 -23 June 2017.



The events were attended by academicians from Central and State Universities and private institutes offering courses on WASH issues, officials from Urban Local Bodies and Ministry of Urban Development, representatives from Public Sector Undertakings, NGOs and students. The



inaugural session of the workshop brought out that the problem of WASH is much deeper than it is perceived by the stakeholders. It requires a multi-dimensional approach which looks at the social progress, inequity, critical analysis of personal behaviour, technology and creation of a discourse around WASH. The speakers suggested that the efficacy of the WASH agenda can be improved by adopting an interdisciplinary WASH curriculum in education and mainstreaming youth in WASH related activities. Alongside, the need for a continual capacity building of officials from Urban Local Bodies in social, technical, legal and economic aspect of WASH is also essential for viewing the problem holistically. The concluding session of the events saw the launch of an interdisciplinary WASH Curriculum

and Strategy Paper for integrating it in the programs offered by institutes of Higher Education.


