

Workshop to create buzz on rainwater harvesting held

On the two major issues of scarcity and contamination of water, the Confederation of Residents' Welfare Association of Faridabad along with Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), FORCE, an NGO dedicated to the cause of water conservation and management and Coca-Cola India, held a workshop to create awareness among the masses for rainwater harvesting. The programme held at Ashoka School in Ashoka Enclave, is a step towards creating community-level interventions and participation to address water woes of residents of Faridabad.

Members of over 80 RWAs were present on the occasion. Deputy Commissioner Praveen Kumar was the chief guest and MLA Kishanpal Gujjar, deputy mayor (MCF) Basant Virmani were guests of honour. Praveen Kumar, GM of Coca-Cola, Dr SC Diman of CGWB, Jyoti Sharma, president of FORCE and JP Malhotra, president of FCCI were other dignitaries present on the occasion. Executive Engineer Anil Mehta represented MCF. The Confederation of RWAs was represented by president TD Jatwani, BR Puri, vice-chairman RP Nagpal, Subodh Nagpal, Anirudh



A symbolic inauguration got workshop going.

Bhatia, KK Aggarwal, S Kataria, secretary general AS Gulati and Dr MC Gupta who proposed a vote of thanks.

The workshop was inaugurated by placing a kalash to symbolise saving of water. General secretary of RWA of Ashoka Enclave, RP Bhaskar said, "Today the kind of water we get is not fit for bathing, washing and plants, so how can we consider it fit for drinking. We pay to MCF so that we can get clean water but still we are deprived of the most basic essential need, clean drinking water."

“ Over the years Faridabad has seen rapid industrialisation and urbanisation. It is also one of the areas notified for regulation of groundwater development.

AS Gulati secretary general of CRWA said that the confederation visualises this mass awareness programme as the start of a campaign and movement for attracting public awareness to fully understand the problem of water scarcity and the role citizens can play in reducing the water crisis by its judicious use. Executive engineer Anil Mehta said, "The number of tubewells has increased in Faridabad but the quality of water has decreased. In this situation that residents are made aware of the imminent freshwater crisis and the individual contributions that can be made towards ensuring water sustainability." Five scientists from CGWB acquainted the audience about installing rainwater systems to recharge depleting groundwater. Practising rain water harvesting is an inexpensive deal and further helps in conservation of rainwater.

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Dr SC Diman, member of CGWB said, "Over the years Faridabad has seen rapid industrialisation and urbanisation. It is also one of the areas notified for regulation of groundwater development. It is therefore criti-

cal that residents are made aware of the imminent freshwater crisis and the individual contributions that can be made towards ensuring water sustainability." Five scientists from CGWB acquainted the audience about installing rainwater systems to recharge depleting groundwater. Practising rain water harvesting is an inexpensive deal and further helps in conservation of rainwater.

FORCE president Jyoti Sharma said, "We are going to select locations in Faridabad where rain water harvesting can be done and start practising it." The workshop was successful in communicating the need to conserve water and the efforts that every individual can make towards contributing to the cause.

—NEHA MARYA

Residents discuss rainwater harvesting

A meeting of Confederation of Residents Welfare Association was organised on September 20 in the community centre Sector 15. The agenda of the meeting was to spread awareness among the people about rain water harvesting and water conservation. Secretary-general of the confederation said that a workshop would be conducted on the last Sunday of October where renowned scientists will be invited to give lecture on water conservation and rain water harvesting. The workshop will be conducted with the help of Central Ground Water Agency, CSR and NGOs who are active in water conservation. Eighty RWAs, 14 senior citizens associations, market trade associations and industry association will take part in the workshop. TD Jatwani, AS Gulati, RP Nagpal, BR Puri, Dr MC Gupta are some of the members of the confederation of RWAs who were among those present in the meeting.

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