



Workshops

Environmental Conservation and Hazards of Atmospheric and Soil Pollution

The National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad, Association of British Scholars (ABS) and British Council, Chennai, jointly organized a two-day workshop on 'Environmental Conservation and the Hazards of Atmospheric and Soil Pollution' on 21-22 July 2007 for the benefit of school teachers. About 85 school teachers from various schools of Hyderabad and Secunderabad participated.

Inaugurating the workshop, Dr V.P. Dimri, Director, NGRI, outlined the importance of environmental studies in school education and need to familiarize the younger generation in environmental aspects towards the creation of a pollution-free society. NGRI, he said, is actively involved in geophysical environmental studies in various parts of the country and recommending the remedial measures. He informed that a rain garden has been created in NGRI campus for artificial recharge. Rain gardens are constructed by excavating the natural ground and creating storage ponds with native flowering plants and landscape. These will help harvest 100% rainfall runoff.

Shri Kartar Singh from British Council, Chennai, preside over the function and stressed the importance of the event. He asked

the teaching community to spread the message of environmental conservation and the negative effects of pollution.

Dr T. Harinarayana, Scientist, NGRI and Joint Secretary, ABS, emphasized the need to maintain better environmental measures to reduce the pollution in rural areas and the need to provide pollution-free air and water in cities as well as villages.

Dr T.V.M. Murthy, Secretary, ABS, presented his views regarding the subject, and Prof. Laxman Rao, President, ABS, gave details of the two-day programme.

Eminent professors and NGRI scientists in the field of environment gave presentations. Field visits were arranged to sewerage disposal plant and biomedical waste management plants at Hyderabad.

All the teachers actively participated

and appreciated the contents of the workshop. 'Environment' has been introduced as a compulsory subject in schools by the government. Thus the workshop greatly benefitted the teachers and the students by way of enhancing knowledge in their regular curricula.



Rain gardens with Water ponding after 57 mm of rainfall for 3 h (9-12pm) on 14 July after 10 h of the rainfall at NGRI



Stream intervention with *in situ* stones leading to rain gardens after 10 h of rainfall of 57 mm in 3 h at NGRI