

**“CLEANLINESS DRIVE IN
COMMEMORATION OF NATIONAL
POLLUTION CONTROL DAY”**

***Report on drive conducted in Laxmi Nagar,
New Delhi on December 2, 2019***

Abstract: This event was conducted by students, volunteers of Legal Aid Centre from Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA and residents of Laxmi Nagar. Firstly, the volunteers of Legal Aid Centre were informed about the griminess which had permeated the parks of Laxmi Nagar colony. Then, a plan of cleaning a park was devised. Finally, in execution of such a plan, interested individuals from Symbiosis Law School and Laxmi Nagar, made efforts that emanated a sanitary park for the targeted locale.

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1. Concept Note:

The Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA formulated a cleanliness drive to sanitize the locality of Laxmi Nagar, on December 2, 2019. The residents of Laxmi Nagar and students of Symbiosis Law School, Noida, were invited by members of Legal Aid Centre for the purpose of participating in the organized cleanliness drive. As an extension of the above initiative we, students of the college and residents of Laxmi Nagar invested hours in eradicating waste that had contaminated a park in Laxmi Nagar.

In *Subhash Kumar vs. The State Of Bihar And Ors.*, Supreme Court of India held that *"Right to live is a fundamental right under Art 21 of the Constitution and it includes the right of enjoyment of pollution free water and air for full enjoyment of life."* From time immemorial, humanity started worshipping components of the biosphere and identified nature, as a maternal guardian that nurtured features and products of the Earth. Unfortunately, in contemporary times, mankind has not largely lost its devotion but continues to infect components of the biosphere, with its own by products. As such, the most percipient inhabitants of Earth are duty-bound to rectify the devastation they have caused and deter themselves from causing any further injury to this Earth. Thus, in realization of said duty, cleaning our surroundings of pollutants is imperative for mindful beings.

2. Objective:

The major objective of the cleanliness drive, undertaken by members of Legal Aid Centre of Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA, at Laxmi Nagar, was to sterilize the environment of its infecting infestations. And in order to achieve the ultimate goal, intermediary objectives had to be formulated and sufficed. These objectives were as follows:

1. To establish communication with residents of Laxmi Nagar, pertinent to cleanliness drive.
2. To take in cognizance, the factors that were consequentially or remotely damaging the environment.
3. To identify actions that can countereffect the factors damaging the environment.
4. To suggest counter effecting actions, as viable practices that minimalize environmental damage, to the residents of Laxmi Nagar.

3. Preliminary Preparations

Before conducting the event, we had made a few preliminary preparations like purchasing disposable gloves, sanitizers and jute bags, to suffice those participating in cleanliness drive. Other preliminary preparations included:

1. We contacted the Resident Welfare Authority of Laxmi Nagar, so as to seek allowance for cleaning the targeted park.
2. We contacted East Delhi Municipal Corporation officials, in order to request the supply of a garbage disposal truck.

4. Conducting The Program

Once all participants of the cleanliness drive were in attendance, we arrived at the targeted park. Then, all 12 participants were divided in pairs, with each pair being provided a gunny bag to collect waste in. Consequently, the process of collecting the waste was commenced after following vital sanitary measures. Participating residents of Laxmi Nagar, gathered waste around the park, by using spades. This waste was then collected by other participants in gunny bags. Upon arrival of the East Delhi Municipal Corporation's garbage disposal truck, collected waste was unloaded in the former.

This process was then repeated in order to remove waste that had gathered, in inaccessible areas of the park. While numerous participants were engaged in the aforesaid, a few were involved in trimming the grass and eradicating the weeds, that had grown in the park, to restore the park's aesthetic value.

Once the targeted park was cleared of waste, an interactive session was held with the residents of Laxmi Nagar, in order to enlighten them with the consequences of improper waste disposal, the park suffered and how they could use appropriate waste disposal techniques to prevent any further suffrage.

5. Response of the target population

While communicating with few residents of Laxmi Nagar Colony, they complained that numerous of them disposed waste behind the sidewalk of the park, due to absence of dustbins in the park. We were also informed that major contributors of the waste that had gathered in the park, were uneducated workers belonging to the unorganized sector. Thus, even if scant residents, knowledge of proper waste disposal techniques existed within the occupants of Laxmi Nagar.

6.Future Plan of Action:

One cleanliness drive is not enough to make the environment healthier. We could only take a small step in fulfilling a mammoth task. We think more events like this should be organized in future so that present humanity and its progeny can call a cleaner and greener earth, their home.

7.Suggestions/Feedback:

While the drive was fruitful in achieving its objective, there are a few ways in which the drive could have been more effective. These ways are, as follows:

I. No. of Participants: The number of participants in the cleanliness drive should have definitely been more than 12, since greater number of hands take lesser time to act upon imperative matters, especially one as vital as conserving the Earth.

II.Requesting Installation of Waste Disposal Equipment: By requesting Installation of adequate waste disposal equipment, effective redressal to grievances of Laxmi Nagar residents and greater assurance of their compliance with taught waste disposal techniques could be ascertained.

III.Organizing Awareness Camp: An awareness camp to enlighten larger number of Laxmi Nagar residents, could have been conducted as an effective deterrent against improper waste disposal. Interested individuals could be informed how their and indifference of crores of individuals like them, towards proper waste disposal, was breeding catastrophes as disastrous as climate change.

8.Conclusion/Remarks:

Overall, this was an enlightening and captivating experience, and as participants, it indeed, did make us aware of the society's indifference to preserving the environment, at the grassroot level. Such awareness was essential and beneficial for us as mindful learners and vigilant citizens, so as to develop a comprehensive and holistic understanding of the factors emanating environment damage. It is such an understanding, that can allow us to discover and pursue achievable and actionable measures towards environment conservation in times of need.

ANNEXURE I

(The photographs relating to the drive are attached herewith)





ANNEXURE II

(The social media coverage relating to the drive is attached herewith)

