

## Malaviya National Institute of Technology Jaipur

### Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

#### HUM PALS: PEER ACTIVE LEARNING FOR SCHOLARS

##### Report of the session conducted on OCTOBER 07, 2022

The fifteenth session of HUM PALS was held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022 from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm to continue the spirit of self-learning, re-learning, and co-learning upwards and onwards that builds the foundation of this noble and novel initiative undertaken under the aegis of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences.

#### Introduction

The session was opened by a Research Scholar, Mohit Joshi, who introduced the speaker, Mr. Ishwar Babu Bairwa. He is currently the State program manager at UNDP. He has a vast experience as a development professional and has donned many hats in rural development and climate change. He is also pursuing a PhD as a part-time scholar under Dr. Nidhi Bansal in the humanities and social sciences department at MNIT Jaipur.

#### Discussion

The speaker briefly gave the presentation outline and indulged all the participants in a quick exercise where he asked everyone to write and discuss the global environmental crisis. Based on the responses, the speaker went ahead with his lecture writing down the various environmental issues, such as pollution, global warming, ocean acidification, and ozone layer depletion, to name a few.

The speaker presented various case studies and news regarding the effects of global warming. He showed the audience the ground realities of the problem, such as the water crisis in Pali, low agriculture yield, and the impacts of global warming on our lives. The speaker then discussed various terminologies of the environment, e.g., natural global warming, global warming by human activities, weather, climate, etc.

Further, the speaker gave solutions to the problems created by global warming. He emphasized that every human should behave responsibly regarding the environment and life. Renewable energy sources and correct waste disposal were among the few solutions speakers mentioned.

Various campaigns, such as Friday for the future, the role of international organizations, and UNFCCC, are crucial in protecting the environment. Speaker concluded his lecture by making participants engage in one more exercise where they had to rate their habits, and the impact score of their practices was counted to see where they stood on the scale.

#### Q&A Session

The session was opened for the question-and-answer session. Research Scholar Poorva Bhatt asked the speaker about his field experience and who is more responsible towards the environment, urban or rural populace. The speaker answered her queries by discussing his

various field experiences with the community and their responsible attitudes towards the environment. He stated that the rural population is more connected to the environment, especially women.

Research Scholar Jagatpal asked the speaker to brief the participant about the current project he is involved in. speaker briefly talked about the project. He said UNDP, with funding from The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, has started this project named “Infrastructure for climate resilience growth.” Currently, this project is being implemented in six states protecting vulnerable groups from the adverse effects of global warming. In Rajasthan, this project is being implemented in Ajmer and Udaipur. The project primarily undertakes community-level capacity building of technical associates and Panchayati Raj Institutions. Typical weather and agriculture-related updates are provided to the farmers as well. The project also focuses on enhancing Rainwater Harvesting initiatives. The project leverages on the convergence between various departments, including MNREGA. The project is expected to conclude by 2024.

### Closing Session

Ms. Purva – a PhD scholar - closed the discussion by thanking the speaker for an insightful session. Dr. Nidhi Bansal, Assistant Professor, DoHSS, felicitated the speaker with a certificate of appreciation and a memento. The session ended with a group photograph.



### Outcome

Narratives around the environment and sustainability need to be viewed from an integrated and holistic lens, and the said HUMPALS session today provided just that platform. Discussions concerning model villages also ensued crucial dialogues on what future initiatives should focus on. Overall, the session succeeded in inculcating a perspective on responsibility and accountability concerning the environmental landscape - a vital prerequisite to action and advocacy.

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