

A Brief Report on Swachh Bharat Abhiyan 2023

Aligning with the Swachhta Pakhwada vision, a comprehensive cleanliness drive was initiated at IISER Kolkata, guided by our esteemed Director and Deans, Registrar and faculty members. To ensure the success of this endeavor, a Nodal Officer was appointed to oversee and coordinate various activities both within and outside the institute.

Following the inspiring address by the Director of IISER Kolkata, participants, including faculty, staff, and students enthusiastically engaged in cleaning drive in the institute campus. The drive encompassed the cleaning of areas near the Academic-cum-Admin building, Lawns, garden areas, and other common spaces. Staff, faculty and students also swiped the entrance area and porch areas. It always remained our focused activity on Hygiene and sanitation for Swachh and happy campus.

Additionally, IISER Kolkata undertook a special cleaning initiative to transform certain areas for specific purposes. The Director announced the development of designated spaces for a Students' garden, Campus residents' garden, Lichi and mango garden, Kamalam fruit garden, and a play area. Furthermore, areas were cleared and prepared for the cultivation of valuable plants, including Tulsi, Turmeric (Haldi), Ginger, and Neem.

In addition to that, IISER Kolkata has remained ever committed to implementing the Government's initiative to institutionalize cleanliness (Swachhta). We are equally dedicated to minimizing any backlog or pending work, ensuring that all tasks are completed within a reasonable timeframe. We prioritize operational efficiency and promptness to address citizens' requests, applications, or concerns without unnecessary delays.

We have the following programs for Swachhata in our 201 acre campus.

1. Recycling

Paper, plastic, glass and cardboard are responsibly recycled by collecting in separate bins on campus.

2. Biodegradable waste generated in hostel messes are composted.

The day's activities culminated with a Swachhta Sapath (pledge) administered by Director Prof. P.K. Panigrahi, emphasizing the collective responsibility to uphold cleanliness in our surroundings. He commended the active participation of staff, faculty and students and informed them about upcoming initiatives that IISER Kolkata plans to conduct in neighboring areas to promote awareness of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

Looking ahead, IISER Kolkata has outlined several action plans:

- Organizing a poster-making and slogan competition among students, staff, and faculty on the theme of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, with the winning poster displayed prominently and awarded.
- Sending teams of students to the hospital and school areas in Mohanpur to address local garbage collection and disposal, ensure water purity, and engage with nearby village/slum communities.
- Undertaking further efforts to develop the designated gardens and playground areas, as well as cultivating various plants, including Tulsi, Turmeric (Haldi), Ginger, and Neem.

Finally, the dedicated committee would be on continuous mission to reviewing and evaluate effectiveness of the drive from time to time.