







### INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL METEOROLOGY (IITM), PUNE

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION, AWARENESS, CAPACITY BUILDING
AND LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME (EIACP)
PROGRAMME CENTRE - RESOURCE PARTNER (PC-RP)

(Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)

## June 2025 Report:

Empowering Communities for a Plastic-Free Future



















#### 1. Name of the EIACP Centre:

EIACP@IITM, Pune

- 2. **EIACP Hub or Resource Partner**: EIACP Resource Partner
- 3. Month for which report is being submitted: June-2025

#### 4. Summary of achievement:

As part of the World Environment Day 2025 celebrations, IITM-EIACP (PC-RP), Pune undertook a series of impactful initiatives centered around the global theme "Ending Plastic Pollution Globally" and aligned with the national Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) campaign. These activities aimed to promote public awareness, community engagement, and sustainable practices through education, innovation, and cultural integration.

Over 2,000 individuals were directly engaged through a range of events, including expert talks, public competitions, exhibitions, and outreach programs. A large-scale Cleanliness cum Plastic Collection Drive was conducted on 6th June 2025 across multiple locations including the IITM Campus, IITM Colony, and the Shiv Mandir area at Pashan.

On 5th June, a vibrant Exhibition of Sustainable Products was held at Meghdoot Hall, IITM, showcasing innovative eco-friendly alternatives to plastic. The exhibition drew the participation of over 300 visitors who interacted with local green entrepreneurs and explored products such as bamboo items, millet snacks, herbal goods, and solar kits, encouraging eco-conscious lifestyle choices.

Two expert lectures added strong academic and practical value to the celebrations. On 3rd June, Shri Tushar K Bandopadhyay, Technical Director at ICPE, delivered an insightful online session on "Ending Plastic Pollution Globally by Responsible Actions Towards 4R's" which was viewed by 262 individuals. On 5th June, another expert session addressed the critical issue of plastic and open burning hazards and introduced the local reporting mechanism.

In a unique blend of spirituality and environmental awareness, IITM-EIACP conducted an impactful outreach activity on 18th June 2025 at Dehugaon, reaching out to over 1,000 Warkaries during the Wari pilgrimage. A devotional Abhang composed around Mission LiFE actions was sung by Warkaries, merging devotion with environmental consciousness.

Adding a creative dimension to the campaign, IITM-EIACP conducted a series of online competitions in model making, innovative ideas, photography, and script writing to engage participants of all age groups. These competitions received enthusiastic responses, and winners were awarded gifts.

**उपलिध का सारांश:** विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस 2025 के उपलक्ष्य में IITM-EIACP (PC-RP), पुणे ने वैश्विक विषय "प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को वैश्विक स्तर पर समाप्त करना" तथा राष्ट्रीय अभियान मिशन लाइफ (पर्यावरण के लिए जीवनशैली) के अंतर्गत अनेक प्रभावशाली गतिविधियाँ आयोजित कीं गई। इन गतिविधियों का उद्देश्य जन-जागरूकता बढ़ाना, सामुदायिक सहभागिता को प्रोत्साहित करना और शिक्षा, नवाचार तथा सांस्कृतिक एकीकरण के माध्यम से टिकाऊ जीवनशैली को बढ़ावा देना था।

इन कार्यक्रमों के माध्यम से 2,000 से अधिक लोगों ने प्रत्यक्ष रूप से भाग लिया, जिनमें विशेषज्ञ व्याख्यान, प्रतियोगिताएं, प्रदर्शनियाँ और जन-जागरूकता कार्यक्रम शामिल थे। 6 जून 2025 को IITM परिसर, IITM कॉलोनी तथा पाषाण स्थित शिव मंदिर क्षेत्र में स्वच्छता एवं प्लास्टिक एकत्रीकरण अभियान बड़े पैमाने पर सफलतापूर्वक संपन्न हुआ।

5 जून को, मेघदूत हॉल, IITM में सतत उत्पाद प्रदर्शनी का आयोजन किया गया, जिसमें प्लास्टिक के पर्यावरण-अनुकूल विकल्पों का प्रदर्शन किया गया। इस प्रदर्शनी में 300 से अधिक आगंतुकों ने भाग लिया और बांस से बने उत्पादों, मोटे अनाज के स्नैक्स, हर्बल वस्तुओं तथा सौर ऊर्जा से संबंधित उत्पादों की जानकारी प्राप्त की और स्थानीय हरित व्यवसायी से संवाद किया।

कार्यक्रम में दो विशेषज्ञ व्याख्यानों ने शैक्षणिक और व्यावहारिक दृष्टि से गहरा योगदान दिया। 3 जून को, ICPE के तकनीकी निदेशक श्री तुषार के. बंदोपाध्याय द्वारा "4R सिद्धांतों के माध्यम से प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण समाप्त करने" पर आधारित ऑनलाइन व्याख्यान प्रस्तुत किया गया, जिसे 262 दर्शकों ने देखा। 5 जून को, प्लास्टिक व खुले में जलाने से होने वाले खतरों और स्थानीय रिपोर्टिंग प्रणाली पर एक और विशेषज्ञ सत्र आयोजित किया गया।

18 जून 2025 को, आध्यात्मिकता और पर्यावरण-जागरूकता के अद्वितीय संयोजन के रूप में, देहूगांव में वारी यात्रा के दौरान 1,000 से अधिक वारीकरों को शामिल करते हुए एक विशेष जनजागरूकता कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया। इस अवसर पर मिशन लाइफ आधारित एक विशेष अभंग वारीकरों द्वारा प्रस्तुत किया गया, जिसने भिक्त और पर्यावरण चेतना को एक साथ जोड़ दिया।

सृजनात्मक दृष्टिकोण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए, IITM-EIACP द्वारा मॉडल निर्माण, नवाचार विचार, फोटोग्राफी और पटकथा लेखन जैसी ऑनलाइन प्रतियोगिताओं की शृंखला आयोजित की गई, जिनमें सभी आयु वर्गों के प्रतिभागियों ने उत्साहपूर्वक भाग लिया। विजेताओं को पुरस्कार प्रदान कर उनके प्रयासों को सम्मानित किया गया।

### i. Activities under Environment Days/ Special days:

Sr.	Environment	Description of event	Place/s of	Numbe	
No.	Days/		activity	r of	Part
	Special days			particip	ners
				ants	
1	World	On the occasion of World	IITM, Pune	300+	-
	Environment	Environment Day 2025, the IITM-			
	_	EIACP (PC-RP), Pune organized a			
		vibrant and inspiring Exhibition of			
		Sustainable Products on 5th June			
		2025 at Meghdoot Hall, IITM Campus.			
		The exhibition aimed to promote eco-			
		friendly lifestyles in alignment with the Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for			
		Environment) initiative and served as			
		a platform for local green			
		entrepreneurs to showcase			
		sustainable alternatives to plastic and			
		other environmentally harmful			
		materials. The event featured a			
		diverse range of products such as			
		bamboo-based items, clay utensils,			
		millet-based snacks, herbal personal			
		care products, solar-powered kits, and			
		eco-conscious fashion accessories.			
		Over 300 participants, including IITM staff, students, and environmentally			
		conscious visitors, actively explored			
		the exhibition and interacted with			
		exhibitors. Participants showed great			
		interest in learning about sustainable			
		living practices and practical			
		alternatives that could be adopted in			
		everyday life. The exhibition saw			
		enthusiastic participation from			
		several notable eco-enterprises			
		including Vanchit Vikas, Mitti Hub,			
		Solar Basket, Wood Craft Creation,			
		Bamboo Tantra, Gokhale Herbal, Tribe Chatari, and Eco Taaka — each			
		cnatari, and Eco raaka — each showcasing innovative and planet-			
		showcasing innovative and pidnet-		<u> </u>	

friendly products rooted in traditional wisdom and modern sustainability. The event successfully fostered awareness about conscious consumption, responsible living, and the importance of supporting local, sustainable businesses, making it a meaningful addition to the World Environment Day 2025 celebrations.

#### High resolution Photos of day celebrated:



























Glimpses of Exhibition of Sustainable Products at IITM, Pune

# ii. Activities under plantation drive campaign "Ek Ped Maa ke Naam"

- a. **Description: -** Nil
- b. Number of participants: Nil
- c. Name of Location/s where activity was carried out: Nil
- d. Partners: Nil
- e. Geotagged Photos: Nil

#### iii. Mission LiFE Activities:

- **a. Title:** Mission LiFE Awareness Drive at Dehugaon Blending Devotion with Environmental Responsibility
- b. **Description**: On 18th June 2025, IITM-EIACP (PC-RP), Pune conducted a special environmental awareness outreach at Dehugaon, aligning its efforts with the spiritually significant Wari tradition, which draws lakhs of devotees on a sacred pilgrimage in devotion to Lord Vitthoba. The initiative aimed to merge the spirit of bhakti (devotion) with the principles of paryavaran seva (service to the environment) under the banner of Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment).

The event witnessed an overwhelming response, with over 1000 Warkaries and devotees actively participating in the program. As part of the awareness activity, a lively and informative question–answer session was conducted, covering critical environmental topics such as plastic pollution, water conservation, sustainable consumption habits, and ecofriendly living. The interactive format helped convey complex ecological messages in a relatable and engaging way for the devotees.

To recognize and encourage eco-conscious behavior, winners of the quiz were presented with reusable steel plates, bowls, and glasses, reinforcing the message of reducing reliance on single-use items. These thoughtful gifts symbolized a return to traditional, sustainable practices that are both culturally rooted and environmentally sound.

What made the event truly heartwarming was the unexpected but joyous discovery that several Warkaries were still carrying and using the steel cups distributed by IITM-EIACP during the previous year's initiative. This simple observation served as powerful evidence that once instilled, sustainable habits can endure and influence everyday behavior, even during a spiritually demanding journey like the Wari.

Another standout moment of the program was the presentation of a specially composed devotional abhang centered on Mission LiFE themes. Sung melodiously by the Warkaries themselves, the verse beautifully wove environmental values into spiritual devotion, leaving a lasting emotional and cultural impact on all present.

This unique initiative showcased how environmental stewardship, and religious devotion can go hand in hand, reminding everyone that "Wari is devotion to Vitthoba, and protecting the environment is the true expression of that devotion."

- c. Number of participants: 1000+
- d. Partners: NA
- e. Name of Location/s where activity was carried out: Dehugaon, Pune
- f. Photos:









Glimpses of Awareness Event held at Dehugaon, Pune

#### iv. Centre specific thematic activities

- **a. Title:** Cleanliness cum Plastic Collection Drive A Community Effort Toward a Cleaner, Greener Tomorrow
- b. Description: As part of the World Environment Day 2025 celebrations, the IITM-EIACP (PC-RP), Pune organized a large-scale Cleanliness cum Plastic Collection Drive on 6th June 2025, spanning multiple key locations the IITM campus, IITM Colony, and the Shiv Mandir area near Pashan Lake, Sutarwadi.

This initiative was designed not just as a cleanup operation, but as a powerful awareness campaign to emphasize the importance of environmental hygiene, plastic waste reduction, and the role of individual responsibility in protecting natural spaces. The event aligned with the global theme of "Ending Plastic Pollution", resonating strongly with the objectives of Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment).

The drive witnessed active and enthusiastic participation from over 350 individuals, including residents, IITM staff, students, and volunteers from surrounding communities. Participants were provided with gloves, collection bags, and were guided to use designated plastic bins to properly collect and segregate waste — separating plastic, biodegradable, and general waste to ensure efficient disposal and recycling. Each location served as a mini hub of environmental action, with volunteers spreading awareness through live demonstrations, one-on-one conversations, and group discussions on how plastic affects local ecosystems, particularly locally important water bodies like Pashan Lake.

At the end of the drive, the collected plastic waste was responsibly handed over to the NGO Poornam Ecovision for recycling, ensuring that the waste did not end up in landfills or natural habitats. This collaboration reflected the drive's core message — that collective action backed by responsible disposal and recycling practices can make a tangible difference.

The event not only resulted in the removal of a significant amount of plastic and other waste, but also sparked meaningful conversations on

the importance of sustainable daily habits, responsible consumption, and the long-term consequences of plastic pollution.

By turning a simple cleanup into a collective learning and action experience, the event reinforced a strong message: every small step, when taken together, becomes a powerful stride toward sustainability.

c. Number of participants: 350+

d. Partners: GA Section, IITM

**e. Name of Location/s where activity was carried out:** IITM campus, IITM Colony, and the Shiv Mandir area near Pashan Lake, Sutarwadi

#### f. Geotagged Photos:

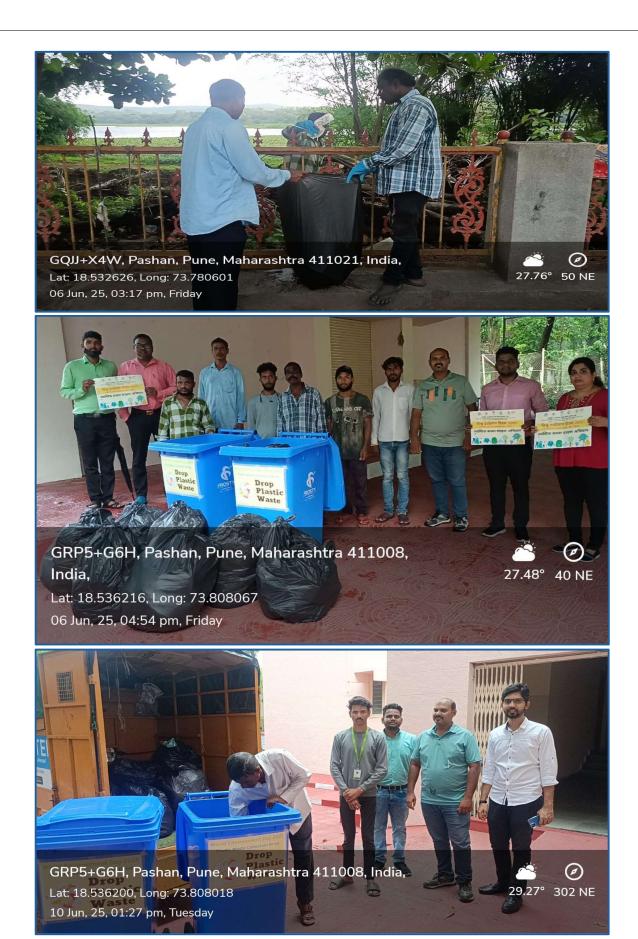












Glimpses of Plastic Collection Drive 2025 during WED 2025

#### v. Awareness Campaigns /Events /Competition /Seminars/ Webinars/ Workshops

1

a. Title: World Environment Day 2025 – Online Awareness Competitions

b.Description: As part of the awareness initiatives leading up to World Environment Day 2025, the IITM-EIACP (PC-RP), Pune organized a series of engaging online competitions to promote public participation in environmental conservation and sustainable practices. These competitions were designed to foster creativity, innovation, and a deeper understanding of ecological issues among diverse age groups.

Four main competitions were conducted under this initiative:

**1)Waste to Wealth: Model Making:** Participants were encouraged to create functional or decorative models using waste or recyclable materials, demonstrating how discarded items can be transformed into useful products.

#### Winners submissions:

PolliGenix is a cutting-edge pyrolysis system designed to convert organic and plastic waste into usable energy and by-products like biochar and syngas...







"I made this a table Organiser with shoebox for cardboard and wedding card for the sliding gate and white paper for decorating it."



"I have used a disposable plastic water bottle and made a fruit plucker. Made a clock with cardboard and tea packet foils and old clock machine"

by,Yash

by,Nirvighna Peetha

2) **Innovative Ideas:** This competition invited participants to submit original and practical ideas focused on how to reduce/nullify plastic pollution.



"HydroPhonics In a plastic bag, using rock wool."

by, ANMOL AGARWAL

"SwapBin is a smart and sustainable mobile app platform that connects users to Reverse Vending Machines (RVMs) where they can deposit plastic waste and earn eco-coins."

#### - Upasana Pattanayak

"She involved students of schools and colleges in West Bengal to create awareness programs in rural areas through art projects, road shows, campus cleaning programs, questionnaire surveys, seminars, and webinars."

- Dr. Sanghamitra Adhya.

**3)Photography Competition:** This category invited participants to capture impactful images that highlight environmental issues and promote sustainability. The goal was to raise awareness through the visual power of photography.



**4) Script Writing:** Entrants submitted creative scripts based on ecological themes, aiming to inspire awareness and action through storytelling.

**#1 THE LAST PLASTIC**: Through her portrayal of multiple characters, she effectively illustrated various methods of plastic recycling and reuse, with a strong emphasis on coastal plastic pollution. **by,Ms. Chaitali Chandrakant Thali** 

**#2 The Life Cycle of Plastic**: Through her non-human characters, she conveyed a compelling story of plastic, delivering a powerful message on the importance of refusing the unnecessary, reducing usage, and recycling only when essential, ultimately emphasizing that actions speak louder than words. by Sufia Zaman.

**#3** The Last Straw: He presented key recycling facts through engaging characters and suggested practical ways to limit plastic use.by,Deepak Kumar Singh

The competitions were open to all – including students, teachers, and the general public – and received an enthusiastic response from participants across different age groups. This initiative aligned with the Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) theme, empowering individuals to take simple yet impactful steps toward a sustainable future.

Winners and Recognition: Outstanding entries from each category were carefully evaluated, and the winners were selected based on creativity, relevance, and impact. The winners were gifted with eco-friendly prizes as a token of encouragement and appreciation for their efforts.

To further acknowledge their contribution and inspire a wider audience, a special video showcasing the winners and their entries was produced and released on 5th June 2025, marking World Environment Day. The video highlighted the winning models, photographs, innovative ideas, and scripts, and served as a motivating tribute to individual and collective efforts toward environmental conservation.

- c. Number of participants: 48
- d. Partners: NA
- e. Name of Location/s where activity was carried out: Online Mode
- f. Photo:

- a. **Title:** Tackling Plastic Pollution: Expert Insights and Community Action
- b. **Description:** To mark World Environment Day 2025, the IITM-EIACP (PC-RP), Pune organized an impactful Expert Talk on the topic "Plastic and Open Burning Hazards & the Reporting Mechanism in Pune/PMC Area" on 5th June 2025. The session aimed to raise awareness about the serious environmental and health threats posed by the open burning of plastic waste, a practice that continues to persist in urban and semi-urban areas. The expert speaker provided insightful and action-oriented guidance on how citizens can utilize local reporting mechanisms within the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) jurisdiction to report such incidents and contribute to reducing plastic pollution at the grassroots level by introducing the "PMC CARE App".

The session was attended by 50 participants, including IITM staff, who actively engaged in the discussion and expressed a keen interest in becoming more involved in community-level environmental action. To reinforce the message, the event concluded with the screening of *a short documentary titled "Plastic Warriors of India,"* which showcased powerful, real-life stories of individuals and grassroots champions across the country who are leading innovative efforts to fight plastic pollution. The program left a lasting impact on the audience by combining expert knowledge with inspiring real-world examples, reinforcing the idea that collective action can drive meaningful change.

- c. Number of participants: 45
- d. Partners: CII-CABL, Pune
- e. Name of Location/s where activity was carried out: IITM, Pune
- f. Photo:



Provide screenshot of the documentary





Glimpses of Expert talk during WED 2025 at IITM. Pune

3.

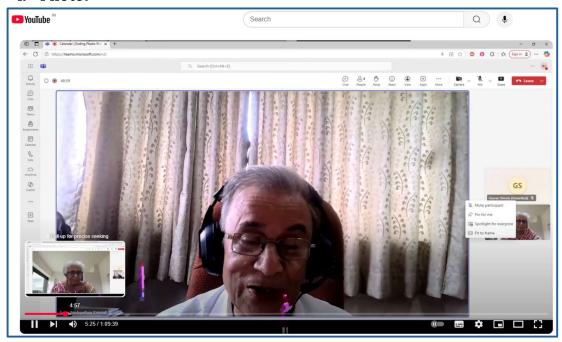
- a. Title: Expert Lecture on "Ending Plastic Pollution Globally" A Call for Responsible Action:03/06/2025
- b. **Description:** As part of the World Environment Day 2025 celebrations, the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, under the Environmental Information, Awareness, Capacity Building and Livelihood Programme (EIACP) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, organized an insightful online lecture on 3rd June 2025. Themed around this year's global focus "Ending Plastic Pollution Globally" the session was titled "Ending Plastic Pollution Globally by Responsible Actions Towards Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Recover."

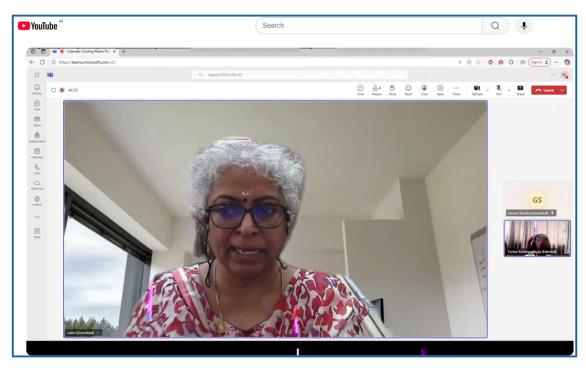
The lecture was delivered by *Shri. Tushar K Bandopadhyay, Technical Director at the Indian Centre for Plastics in the Environment (ICPE),* who brought forward an informative and thought-provoking perspective on the challenges of plastic pollution at both global and local levels. The session provided the audience with actionable insights into sustainable plastic management practices, existing regulatory frameworks, and the critical role of public participation. It inspired attendees to become responsible agents of change in their communities.

The live session was well received and has since garnered 262 views, reflecting growing public interest in sustainable living and environmental consciousness. The event served as a powerful

platform to amplify awareness, encourage eco-conscious habits, and support the global mission to end plastic pollution.

- c. Number of participants: 262
- d. **Partners:** Indian Centre for Plastics in the Environment (ICPE), Mumbai
- e. Name of Location/s where activity was carried out: Online Webinar
- f. Photo:





Glimpses of talk on "Ending Plastic Pollution Globally"



You tube link: https://www.youtube.com/live/lpRUIUv170I

vi. GSDP and Capacity Building courses: Nil

vii. Knowledge products, if any, with link

viii. Development of Information Products and Mobile Apps: Nil

ix. Miscellaneous activities: Nil

5.Recruitment or Change of EIACP Staff if any with contact numbers and qualification details:

Program Officer,

Shri. Sreekant Jadhav joined on 04/06/2025 9604444403 MTech, Environmental Engineering

6.Updation of DRC Webpage with details: NA