

OZONE DAY CELEBRATION IN DANDI

On September 16, 2015 we celebrated the International Day for the Preservation of Ozone Layer at Dandi, Navsari under the GANDHI project. This year the celebrations were held at the historical place of Dandi in Navsari district. The event included an elocution competition and creative presentations on ozone layer. The one day event was inaugurated by Shri A.C. Sampat, Director, GEC and was attended by several guests such as Shri Dhirubhai Patel, Trustee, Namak Satyagrah Trust, Dandi; Shri Nischal Joshi, Sr. Manager (Project), GEC; Smt Kantaben, Representative of DEO's office Navsari to name a few. GANDHI project is being implemented by GEC and Gujarat Vidyapith with the financial assistance of World Bank India and SICOM - Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India.

12 school children of GANDHI project villages participated in the Elocution Competition on September 16, 2015. The competition saw young and motivated speakers from the schools of Aat, Onjal and Dandi villages expressing their views on Gandhi & Environment and Dilemma of rising sea level – can we stop it?. The winners of the competition were awarded with cash prize and certificates. The winners were as follows:

First Prize: Kum. Mahima Patel (Rs. 1000/- cash prize)

Second Prize: Kum. Jyoti Halpati (Rs. 700/- cash prize)

Third Prize: Kum. Bhumi Patel (Rs. 500/- cash prize)

All the other participants were given a consolation prize of Rs. 100/- each and a participation certificate.

The other highlights of the one day event were the technical presentation on Ozone Layer, which was done by Shri Shailesh from the Navsari Agricultural University and the visits to Saifee Villa and Prarthana Mandir. More than 500 people participated in the event, which includes school children, members of SHGs, village elders, representatives of government institutions and teachers.

The participants were made aware about the ozone layer and the impact of its depletion through various audio-video materials and power point presentation. All the participants were given a folder with a copy of booklet on ozone layer, *saagarika, vicharyu nahi tho vicharo* and the program schedule.

The one day celebration was concluded by Smt. Remya Mohan, IAS the Collector of Navsari District. In her concluding speech she congratulated the children and requested them to become living examples of Gandhiji's ideologies. She also lauded the team for organizing such a fruitful event at the heartland of Dandi.

Images

