ANNUAL REPORT ON DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

2025-26

Department of Environmental Studies

TATVA: The Eco Club

Ramanujan College
University of Delhi

The Department of Environmental Studies at Ramanujan College conducts regular activities using a two-pronged approach. Activities such as scientific talks, seminars, and workshops are conducted by the Department and primarily led by the TIC, faculty, and student coordinator, and a dedicated team of student volunteers. On the other hand, TATVA – The Eco Club of Ramanujan College, Department of Environmental Studies - is a student-driven initiative dedicated to promoting environmental awareness and sustainable practices on campus and beyond. The club actively works to raise students' awareness of pressing ecological issues, including climate change, waste management, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable living.

Through workshops, awareness campaigns, field visits, and interactive events, TATVA encourages students to adopt eco-friendly habits and take collective responsibility for the environment. By combining education with action, the club aims to foster a culture of sustainability and inspire young individuals to contribute meaningfully to building a greener, more responsible future.

For the 2025-26 session, led by TIC Dr. Sandeep Thakur, Convener Ms. Neha Yadav, and Co-convener Dr. Devendra Kumar, the Department and TATVA Eco Club held a number of activities. The detailed event report for each activity is presented on the following pages.

Events Timeline

August 14, 2025

Speaker Session — Erasmus and Ecohydrology

Topic: "Erasmus and Ecohydrology: Global Pathways through EHYN and MAEH"

Speaker: Mr. Ambneesh Mishra (Asia-Pacific Regional Leader, UNESCO EHYN)

Venue: Room P-22, Ramanujan College | Time: 11:30 AM onwards

October 2–8,

Aranya Visayah 3.0 — Wildlife Week

Oct 4–8: ■ Wild Lens Photography Exhibition

Table Tennis Arena, 3rd Floor

Oct 8, 10:00 AM: ■ Speaker Session — 'Journey of Wildlife Conservation in India'

Speaker: Dr. Aisha Sultana, Wildlife Biologist | Venue: TLC Room

Oct 8, 11:30 AM: ■■ Face Painting & Runway Competition

Room 204 | Cash prizes for best duos

Oct 8, 2:00 PM: ■ Wild-Gami Origami Workshop

Ghalib Hall

Oct 8: ■ Dasavatar — Nukkad Natak (Street Play)

■■ October 3, 2025

Speaker Session — Mercury Pollution & Waste Management

Topic: Awareness about Mercury Pollution and Waste Management

Speaker: Dr. Aradhana Sharma | Hosted by TATVA

October 3, 2025

Workshop — Citing Sources in Research

Topic: "Strengthening Credibility and Avoiding Common Pitfalls"

Collab: Dept. of Environmental Studies & Dept. of Library

Resource Person: Dr. Bebi (Librarian) | Venue: TLC Room | Time: 1:00 PM onwards

Early 2026

2026 Orientation & Pledge Wall

New member induction ceremony with sustainability pledge signing.

Each butterfly on the Pledge Wall represents a commitment to protect and preserve the Earth.

■■ JOSH '26 Fest (2026)

TATVA as Official Sustainability Partner — JOSH '26

Waste segregation drives: Wet | Dry | Others

Eco-awareness activations and green initiatives throughout the fest.

March 22, 2026

Yamuna Ghat Clean-Up Drive

Observed on World Water Day 2026.

Community clean-up initiative at Yamuna Ghat.

March 23, 2026

Speaker Session — Changing Climate & Cascading Hazards

Observed on World Meteorological Day 2026.

Experts discussed real-world impacts, emerging challenges, and the way forward.

Venue: Ghalib Auditorium | Time: 10:45 AM onwards

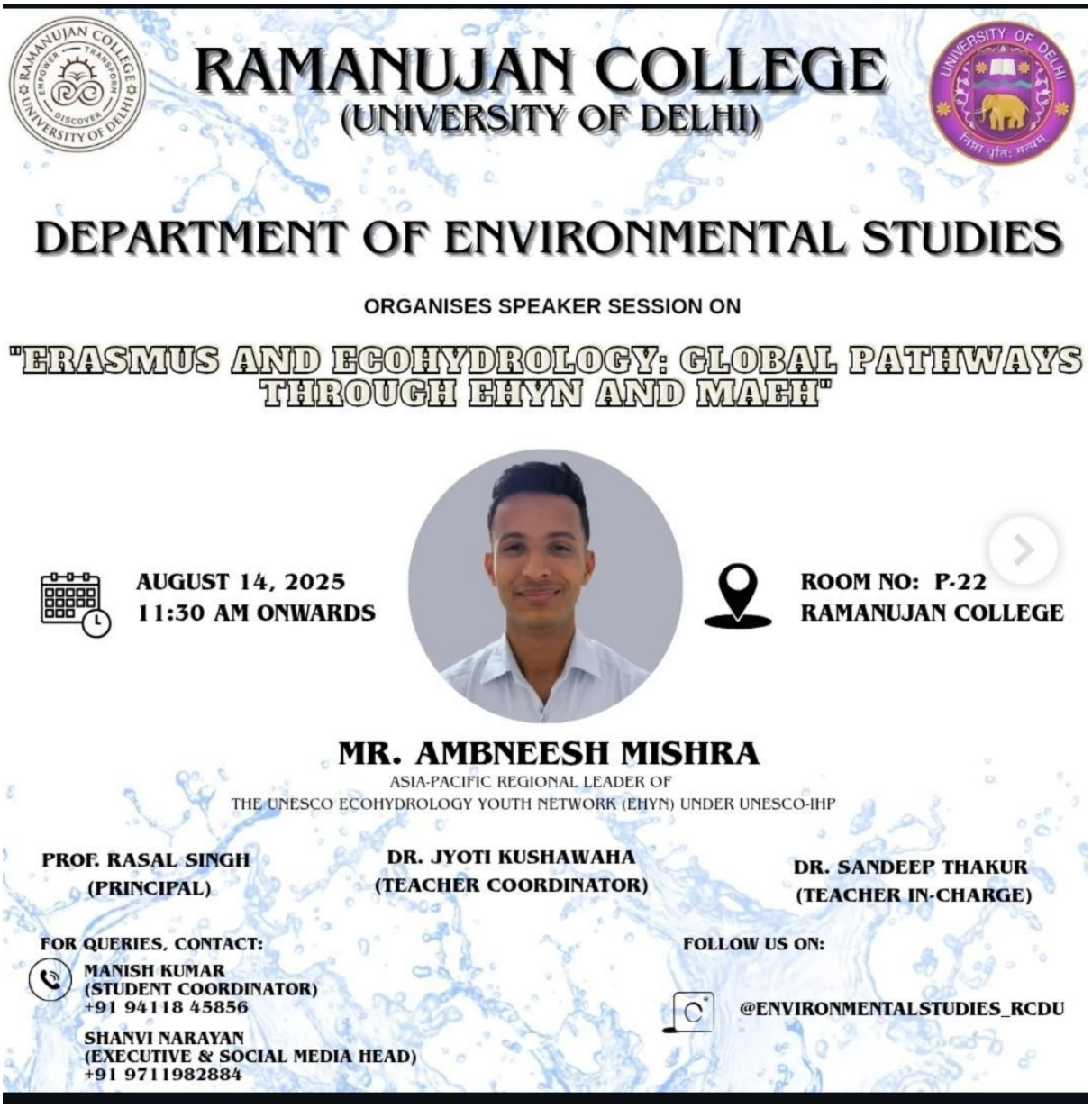
March 30, 2026

Bee Workshop

Observed on 30 March 2026

Venue: Sunder Nursery| Time: 09:00 AM onwards

1. ERASMUS AND ECOHYDROLOGY SESSION



Speaker Session on the topic:
"Erasmus and Ecohydrology: Global Pathways through EHYN and MAEH"

The Department of Environmental Studies at Ramanujan College organized a speaker session on "Erasmus and Ecohydrology: Global Pathways through EHYN and MAEH" on 14th August 2025, **featuring Mr. Ambneesh Mishra, Asia-Pacific Regional Leader of the UNESCO Ecohydrology Youth Network under UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme.**

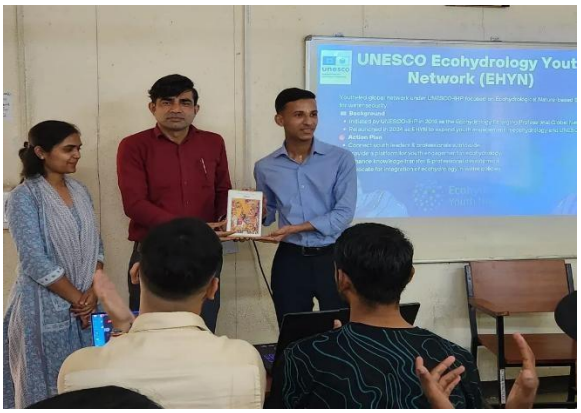
The session began with a formal introduction, highlighting the speaker's contributions to ecohydrology and global environmental initiatives. The objective of the session was to introduce students to international academic and research opportunities, particularly in the interdisciplinary field of ecohydrology. Mr. Mishra explained ecohydrology as a field that integrates ecological and hydrological processes to address environmental challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and water scarcity, with an emphasis on sustainable water management. He also discussed global opportunities available through Erasmus programs, the Ecohydrology Youth Network (EHYN), and the Master of Science in Ecohydrology (MAEH), providing guidance on application procedures, eligibility, and required skills. Additionally, he highlighted the importance of global networks in fostering collaboration among young researchers and encouraged students to actively engage in such platforms.

The session was informative and inspiring, offering valuable insights into international academic pathways and interdisciplinary approaches to environmental issues, and concluded

with a vote of thanks to the speaker and participants.



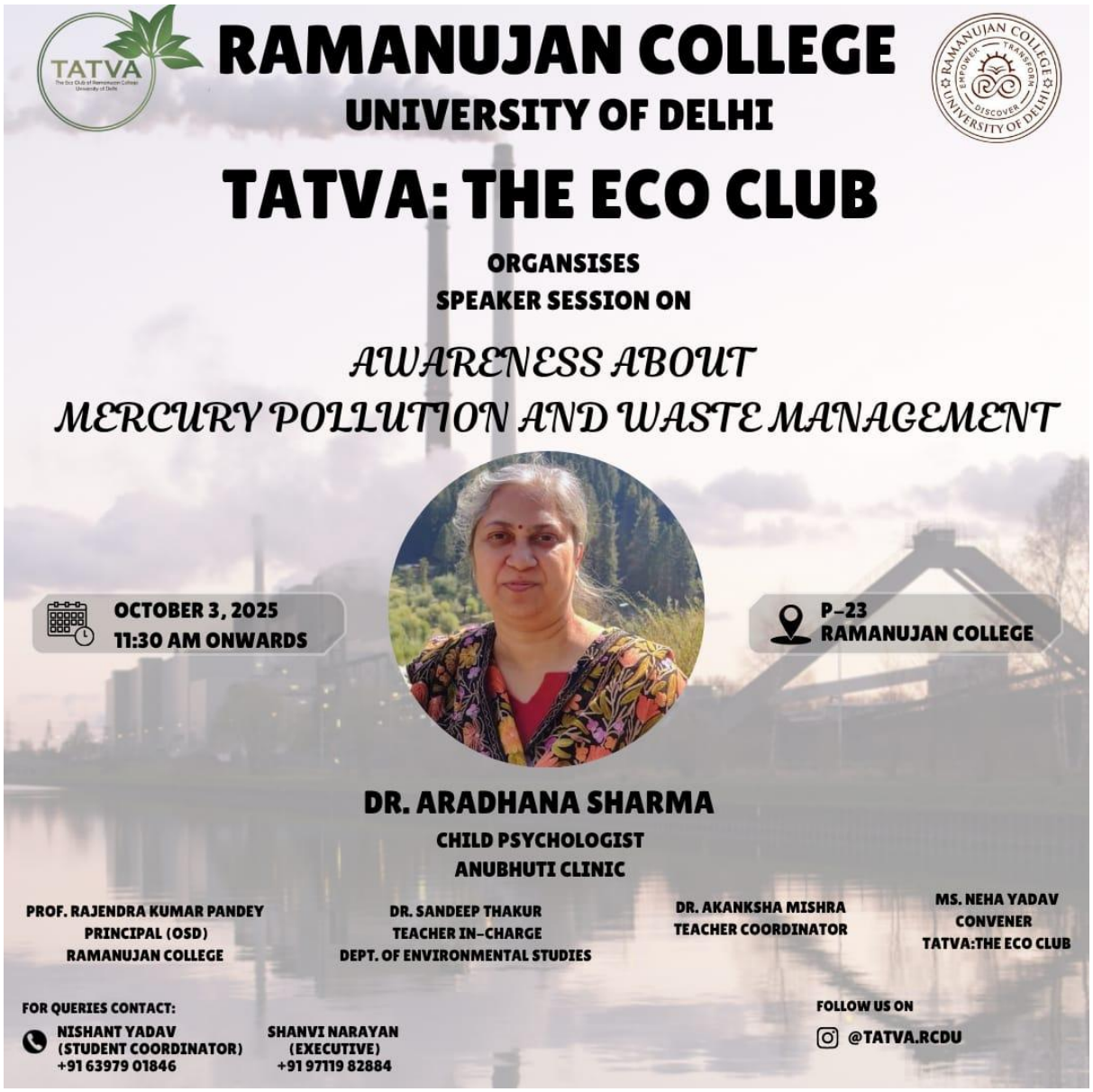






Speaker: Mr. Ambneesh Mishra
(Asia-Pacific Regional Leader of the UNESCO Ecohydrology Youth Network (EHYN) under UNESCO-IHP)

2. AWARENESS ABOUT MERCURY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT SESSION



Speaker session on 'Awareness about Mercury Pollution and Waste Management' with esteemed speaker Dr. Aradhana Sharma.
October 3, 2025, at 11:30 AM

A speaker session titled “Awareness about Mercury Pollution and Waste Management” was organized by TATVA – The Eco Club, in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Studies, Ramanujan College, on 3rd October 2025 at 11:30 AM. The session was conducted by Dr. Aradhana Sharma, Child Psychologist at Anubhuti Clinic, and began with a formal introduction highlighting her expertise in mental health and environmental awareness. The session aimed to sensitize students about the rising concerns of mercury pollution, its environmental presence, health implications, and the need for sustainable waste management practices.

Dr. Sharma delivered a detailed and engaging talk on mercury as a hazardous heavy metal pollutant, explaining its occurrence in air, water, and soil, and emphasizing the high toxicity of methylmercury. She elaborated on its severe health impacts, including neurological damage, memory loss, tremors, respiratory disorders, kidney damage, and developmental risks in children and fetuses, with special emphasis on vulnerable groups such as pregnant women and young children. The session also highlighted major sources of mercury pollution, including industrial emissions, coal combustion, thermometers, fluorescent lamps, batteries,

and certain cosmetic products, as well as high-risk groups such as miners, industrial workers, and populations that consume contaminated seafood.

In addition, the session integrated the theme of waste management by promoting responsible consumption and sustainable alternatives. Practical safety measures such as proper handling of mercury spills, ensuring ventilation, and using protective equipment were discussed. The distribution of eco-friendly bamboo glasses reinforced the importance of sustainability. The session was interactive and informative, concluding with a vote of thanks to the speaker and participants.



Speaker session on 'Awareness about Mercury Pollution and Waste Management' with esteemed speaker Dr. Aradhana Sharma.

3. CITING SOURCES IN RESEARCH: A SESSION



One Day Workshop on "Citing Sources in Research: Strengthening Credibility and Avoiding Common Pitfalls."

The A one-day workshop on "Citing Sources in Research: Strengthening Credibility and Avoiding Common Pitfalls" was organized by the Department of Environmental Studies in collaboration with the Department of Library, Ramanujan College, on 3rd October 2025 in the TLC Room. The session, conducted by Dr. Bebi, saw active participation from faculty members

and students, particularly fourth-year undergraduates beginning their research, as well as several interested third-year students. The workshop commenced with a formal introduction, followed by an outline of its objectives, focusing on building a strong foundation in academic research and ethical writing practices.

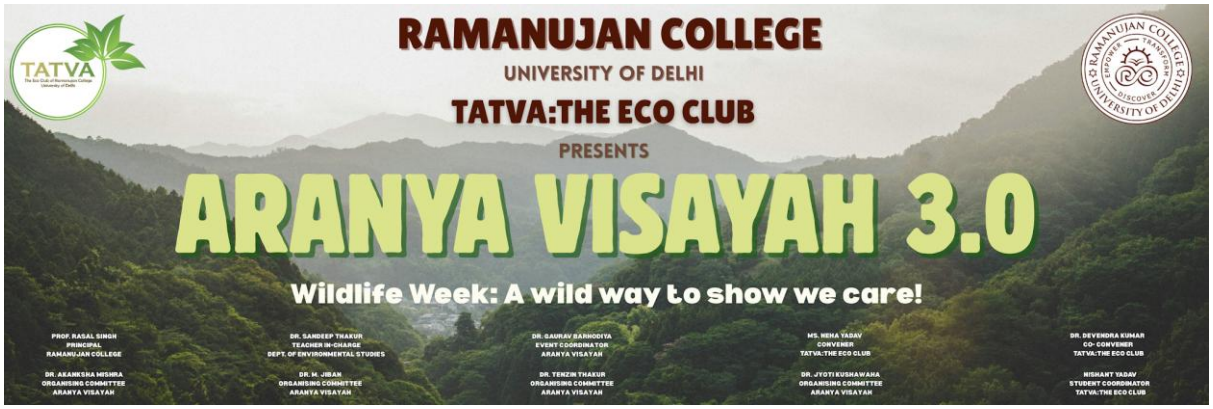
Dr. Bebi emphasized the importance of research integrity and highlighted proper citation as a key element in maintaining the credibility of academic work. She discussed plagiarism in detail, explaining its various forms, such as direct copying, paraphrasing without attribution, and self-plagiarism, and suggested practical strategies to avoid it, including proper referencing, effective paraphrasing, and using plagiarism-detection tools. The session further covered different types of academic sources, distinguishing between primary and secondary sources, and elaborated on scholarly materials such as research papers, review articles, book chapters, and reports. She guided students in identifying reliable and credible sources, with particular emphasis on peer-reviewed journals.

A major portion of the workshop was dedicated to citation styles such as APA and MLA, in which correct referencing techniques and common mistakes were explained. Additionally, Dr. Bebi provided a step-by-step overview of the research publication process, including topic selection, literature review, manuscript preparation, journal selection, and peer review. The session was interactive and highly informative, concluding with a vote of thanks to the speaker, faculty, and participants.



Dr. Bebi (Librarian) as the speaker , guiding participants through the nuances of citing sources effectively, addressing common mistakes, and ensuring ethical scholarship.

4. ARANYA VISAYAH 3.0



Aranya Visayah 3.0



Dr. Aisha Sultana, Wildlife Biologist from the Biodiversity Parks Programme, University of Delhi, shares her insights and experiences in preserving India's rich biodiversity.

"Aranya Visayah 3.0" was organized by TATVA – The Eco Club of Ramanujan College in

collaboration with the Department of Environmental Studies on 8th October 2025 to celebrate Wildlife Week. The event aimed to raise awareness about wildlife conservation and biodiversity, with participation from around 80 students, including those from other colleges. The program began with an inaugural session at 10:15 AM, which included the lighting of the diya and an address by the Teacher-in-Charge highlighting the event's purpose. Dr. Gaurav introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Aisha Sultana, sharing his connection with her and her expertise in biodiversity.

Dr. Sultana delivered an informative lecture on the history and development of wildlife conservation in India. She discussed key milestones, including the Wildlife Protection Act (1972), Project Tiger, Project Elephant, and India's participation in CITES. She also highlighted institutions like the Wildlife Institute of India and the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The lecture covered modern conservation efforts, including citizen science platforms like eBird and iNaturalist.Recent initiatives such as Project Snow Leopard, Project Dolphin, and the Cheetah Reintroduction Project were also discussed. A major issue addressed was the decline in vulture populations caused by diclofenac, along with the conservation measures taken to restore them. She concluded by mentioning notable wildlife researchers and their contributions.

The event also included various cultural and competitive activities such as a Nukkad Natak, face painting, a runway, dance performances, and a quiz competition. These activities promoted awareness and creativity related to environmental themes. The event ended with the distribution of prizes and certificates for participants and organizers. Overall, the event was well-received and appreciated for combining education, awareness, and engaging activities.












Insightful session as a part of Aranya Visayah 3.0 on the journey of wildlife conservation in India.

5. ORIENTATION PROGRAMME



2026 Orientation

The Orientation Programme of TATVA – The Eco Club was conducted on 21st January 2026 to introduce the club's vision, mission, and activities to students. The main objective was to promote environmental awareness and encourage student participation in eco-friendly initiatives. The programme began with an inaugural session, including the lighting of the lamp and Kulgeet, followed by the introduction of faculty members. Ms. Neha Yadav, the Convener, addressed the students, highlighting the club's goals and the importance of environmental responsibility. Dr. Devendra Kumar, Co-Convener, along with Dr. Akanksha Mishra and Dr. Tenzin Thakur, motivated students to actively engage in sustainable practices.

A PowerPoint presentation provided an overview of TATVA's past achievements, ongoing activities, and future plans. The core student team, including the Student Coordinator, Deputy Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator, and executives, was also introduced, clarifying the leadership structure. Interactive elements, such as an icebreaker and group activities, were used to encourage participation, teamwork, and engagement among students. These sessions made the program lively and helped students connect with each other. The program concluded with

a vote of thanks by the Student Coordinator, expressing gratitude to all participants and organizers. Overall, the orientation successfully inspired students to join TATVA and contribute to environmental sustainability.





Orientation session of Tatva:The Eco Club with interactive games.





6. IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES SESSION



Session on "Understanding the Impact of Climate Change on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services."

A workshop was organized by TATVA – The Eco Club of Ramanujan College, University of Delhi, on 30 January 2026. The topic of the workshop was “Understanding the Impact of Climate Change on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.” The session was conducted by Adarsh T.S. (an intern at TERI), with Sonal Chaudhary (a Research Associate at TERI) as the guest expert. The workshop aimed to promote interactive environmental education focusing on Delhi’s biodiversity, ecological challenges, and conservation efforts. It adopted a student- centred approach, emphasizing experiential learning through discussions, case studies, and activities rather than rote learning.

The session began with a documentary discussion of environmental issues in Delhi, including waste management, urban expansion, and the role of biodiversity parks. Students actively shared their observations and insights from the documentary. The presentation further included comparative maps, conceptual explanations, and case studies on issues like the vulture crisis, urban wildlife (street dogs and monkeys), and pest control systems. Various ecological concepts, such as ecosystem services, tree ecology, avian biodiversity, and environmental psychology, were also discussed.The workshop highlighted important themes such as ecological anxiety, nature deficit syndrome, and the need for an emotional connection with nature. It successfully simplified complex environmental topics and encouraged student participation and awareness. The session concluded with a token of appreciation presented to the guest expert and a vote of thanks by the student coordinator. Overall, the workshop was impactful in fostering environmental consciousness and promoting active student engagement in conservation efforts.









Speaker:-Adarsh T. S., and guest expert Ms. Sonal Chaudhary from The Energy and Resources Institute,

7. JOSH – THE ANNUAL FEST 2026





Josh,The annual cultural fest of Ramanujan College had TATVA as the official sustainability partner.

Josh 2026, the annual fest of Ramanujan College was conducted by Tatva – The Eco Club in collaboration with the Cultural Committee. The pre-event framework focused on promoting eco-friendly practices such as biodegradable cutlery, plastic-free packaging, sustainable materials, proper waste segregation, and the involvement of student volunteers known as "Eco-Warriors." It also proposed initiatives such as strategic waste management systems, partnerships with recycling organizations, awareness campaigns, and alternatives to single-use plastic bottles. The aim was to position the fest as a model for sustainable event management within the University of Delhi.

During the event, strong implementation was observed in waste management infrastructure. Segregated and well-labeled dustbins were strategically placed across the venue, achieving an effective waste segregation rate of around 85–90%. The presence of Eco-Warriors played a crucial role in monitoring and guiding visitors. Many vendors adopted eco-friendly plating materials, and overall visitor compliance was fairly good. However, significant gaps were noted, especially in vendor practices. Around 80% of food stalls continued using plastic cutlery, with only Taco Bell fully complying with sustainable standards. Additionally, no alternatives to plastic water bottles were provided, and waste management in the canteen area showed lapses.

Overall, the event achieved a moderate sustainability score of 6.5/10, reflecting strong planning and infrastructure but inconsistent execution. Key achievements included effective waste segregation systems, active volunteer engagement, and partial adoption of eco-friendly materials. Major areas for improvement include enforcing vendor compliance with biodegradable cutlery requirements, introducing water refill systems, improving waste management in high-traffic areas, and conducting pre-event training for vendors. The report concludes that while Josh 2026 made significant progress, addressing these gaps can help establish a stronger, more consistent model for sustainable events in the future.



Scrap uncle and Eco healthware as Cleanliness and Sustainable cutlery partner for Josh.








The Enforcement by Tata team.

8. CLEAN-UP DRIVE

TATVA – The Eco Club successfully organized a Cleanup Drive at Yamuna Ghat, Kalindi Kunj, with the objective of promoting environmental awareness and encouraging community responsibility. The drive was conducted in collaboration with "There is no Planet-B and Rotaract Club of USME". All participants assembled at the designated meeting point and proceeded together to the ghat, maintaining enthusiasm and discipline throughout.

Volunteers actively participated in cleaning the ghat area and worked efficiently in small groups to ensure maximum coverage. Their dedicated efforts resulted in a noticeable improvement in the cleanliness of the surroundings. The initiative reflected strong teamwork, coordination, and a shared commitment towards a cleaner environment. It also helped in spreading awareness about the importance of maintaining public spaces, especially near natural water bodies like the Yamuna. After the successful completion of the drive, participants gathered for group photos and were served refreshments as a token of appreciation. The event concluded on a positive and motivating note.



The snapshots of cleanliness drive at Yamuna Ghat, Kalindi Kunj.

9. "WORLD METEOROLOGICAL DAY – CHANGING CLIMATE AND CASCADING HAZARDS"

The Department of Environmental Studies and the North East Society Cell of Ramanujan College jointly organised a Speaker Session themed "Changing Climate and Cascading Hazards" to mark the occasion. The event brought together faculty, students, and subject-matter experts for an engaging and informative academic program.

Inauguration

The session commenced with the traditional lamp-lighting ceremony. Prof. D.N. Tiwari and Dr. Sandeep Thakur (TIC) addressed the gathering, welcoming the dignitaries and participants and underlining the relevance of the event theme in the present-day context.

Address by Dr. Moirangthem Jiban Singh

Dr. Moirangthem Jiban Singh, Assistant Professor & Environmentalist, Dept. of Environmental Studies, Ramanujan College, set the context for the session. He introduced the concept of disaster management, explained its core elements, and highlighted the role of climate change in exacerbating natural hazards. He also formally acknowledged World Meteorological Day and its global significance.

Keynote Address – Dr. Deep Narayan Pandey

The keynote was delivered by Dr. Deep Narayan Pandey, Assistant Professor & Meteorologist, Special Centre for Disaster Studies, JNU. His address was interactive and wide-ranging, covering the following:

- Distinction between hazard, disaster, and natural calamity — with live audience Q&A.
- Causes of climate change — Earth's rotation, revolution, and other natural and anthropogenic factors.

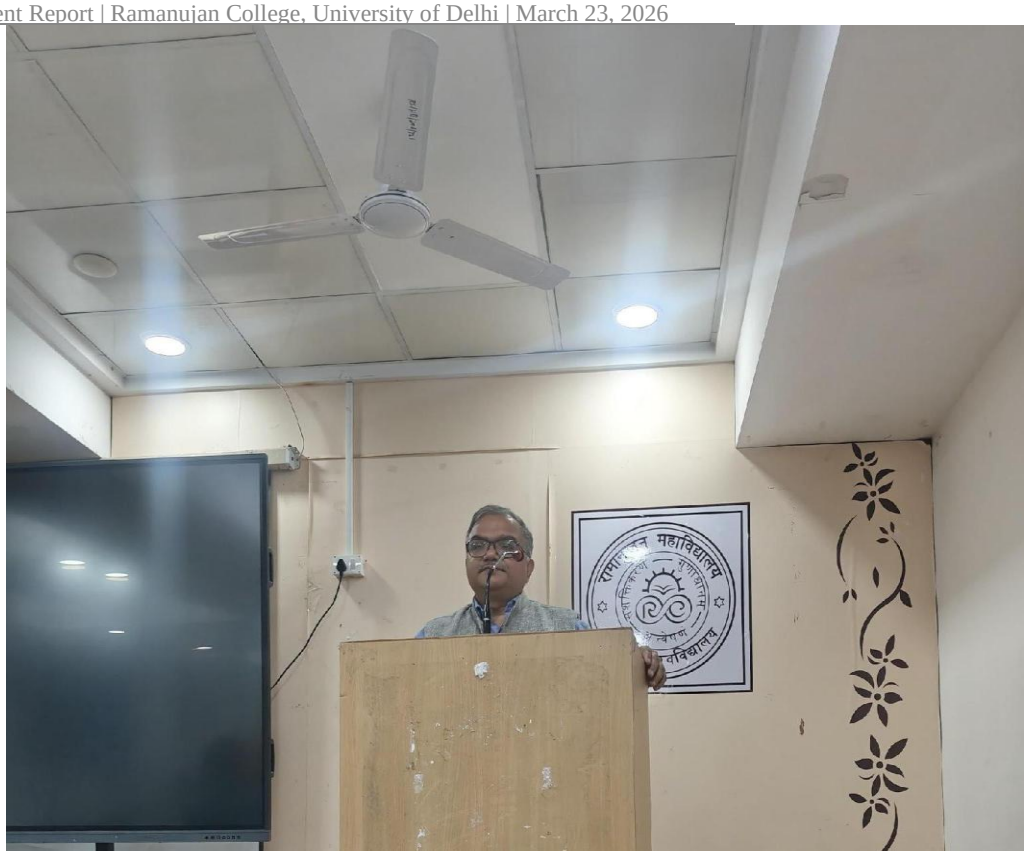
  •Cascading hazards — how a single event (e.g., cyclone) can trigger a chain of secondary disasters.
- Case studies: Cyclone Odisha (death toll discussion), Bhuj Earthquake, Karnataka Plateau heat waves, Ice Age as a historical climate event, and COVID-19 as a biological disaster.
- Fire disasters and the role of inadequate infrastructure, poor awareness, and lack of enforcement — citing the Kumbakonam school fire tragedy.
- How improved early warning systems and disaster preparedness have significantly reduced death tolls over time.
- Phases of disaster management and the importance of community-level preparedness.

Inspirational Figures & Environmental Champions

Dr. Pandey concluded his address by highlighting individuals who exemplify environmental stewardship:

- Jadav Payeng – The Forest Man of India, who single-handedly planted a forest over decades.
- Saalumarada Thimmakka – Known as the Tree Woman of India, a Padma Shri awardee recognized for planting and nurturing hundreds of trees.
- Shalu Marda – A recipient of the National Bravery Award for her courageous act during a fire accident.

  He also referenced Uruguay's national flag, which features the Sun — noting how several nations symbolically honor natural elements, reflecting the intrinsic value of nature in culture and governance.



The chief guest Dr. Deep Narayan Pandey addressing the Attendees.



Lamp lighting by the Guests and Faculties.



Speaker session on the occasion of World Meteorological Day in collaboration with RCNESS.

10. BEE WORKSHOP

A bee workshop was organized by TATVA – The Eco Club on 30th March 2026 at Sunder Nursery, New Delhi. The workshop aimed to educate participants about the ecological importance of bees and promote awareness about their role in biodiversity and food security. The session lasted around two hours and combined theoretical knowledge with hands-on experiential learning. Participants learned about the life cycle of bees, colony structure, and their role as pollinators that support a large portion of global agriculture. The workshop also explained honey production, beeswax formation, and the process by which nectar is transformed into honey.

Different species of bees, such as Apis mellifera, Apis cerana indica, Apis dorsata, and Apis florea, were introduced, highlighting their characteristics and honey production capacities. The session emphasized that only a small percentage of bee species produce honey and that most are solitary. A key highlight of the workshop was tasting various types of honey, including eucalyptus, rosewood, lychee, and mustard, each with unique flavors and health benefits.

The most engaging part of the workshop was the hands-on bee feeding activity, where participants interacted directly with live honeybees. This activity helped participants overcome fear and changed their perception of bees from dangerous insects to essential, gentle creatures. The workshop also provided insights into bee behavior, communication, and their cooperative social structure. It emphasized the importance of conservation, especially in the face of threats such as habitat loss, pesticide use, and climate change.

Overall, the workshop was highly successful in fostering environmental awareness, transforming attitudes, and encouraging participants to support bee conservation efforts.



A bee workshop was organized by TATVA – The Eco Club on 30th March 2026 at Sunder Nursery, New Delhi

THANK YOU