Report on Awareness and Capacity Building Program on E-Waste and Circular Economy

Awareness and Capacity Building Programme on E-Waste and Circular Economy

on Tuesday 4th Feb, 2020

at Conference Hall

NITTTR Chandigarh

Organized by

National Institute of Technical Teachers Training & Research Sector 26, Chandigarh

Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP) Chandigarh

(Association in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations)

Municipal Corporation Chandigarh

Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP) Chandigarh

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Background

Electronic industry is the world’s largest and innovative industry for its kind. Every year tones of electronic items are shipped over oceans, however after their usage time they are become a complex waste matter which consist of electrical and electronic equipment. Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) is becoming major threat to the whole world. Its toxic emissions mixed with virgin soil and air and causing harmful effects to the entire biota either directly or indirectly. Direct impacts include release of acids, toxic compounds including heavy metals, carcinogenic chemicals and indirect effects such as bio magnification of heavy metals. Many private firms are involved in collecting, dismantling, separation and exporting e-wastes for recyclers. Most of toxic materials such as leaded glass, circuit boards and mercury lamps usually exported to countries like India. Dismantling process not only involve in unscrewing but also shredding, tearing and burning. The smoke and dust particles consists of carcinogens and other hazardous chemicals which causes severe inflammation and lesions including many respiratory and skin diseases.

The circular economy aims to change the paradigm in relation to the linear economy, by limiting the environmental impact and waste of resources, as well as increasing efficiency at all stages of the product economy. The model circular economy fits directly into the more general framework of sustainable development. It is part of a global strategy that also uses, among other things, the principles of the green economy, industrial ecology, eco-design or the economy of functionality.

Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) organized the awareness sessions on **E-Waste and Circular Economy** on **04th February 2020** in collaboration with Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh in which 78 officials participated working under Sawachh Bharat Mission and National Urban Livelihood Mission.

Similar awareness sessions was also organized on the same day by APSWDP in association with National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Chandigarh at their campus, in which 71 faculty members and students actively participated there by enabling them for building their capacities and transforming them into formal micro entrepreneurs.

The major topics covered in the program are as under:

- E-Waste in India (Covering numbers/ statistics, Kind of systems in place etc.)
- Social Impact start-up E(co)Work (Achieving bottom line impact, current challenges
- Introduction to the research group at EMPA (Discussion regarding their projects on batteries and sustainable recycling)

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## 1. National Institute of Teachers Training and Research  Sector 26, Chandigarh

Minute-to-Minute schedule of programs at NITTTR, Sector 26, Chandigarh

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program Flow</th>
<th>Concerned Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:45 am - 10:00 am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>NITTTR &amp; APSWDP Volunteers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 10:00 am - 10:05 am  | Welcome Address & Significance of the Topic                                 | Prof. P.K. Singla  
Facility In charge Administration, NITTTR |
| 10:05 am - 10:07 am  | APSWDP Introduction                                                          | Mr. Hitesh Kumar Gulati  
Director - Policy & Administration, APSWDP |
| 10:07 am - 10:10 am  | Introduction of Ms. Andrea Wehrli  
Keynote Speaker  
Expert, E-Waste Management | Dr. Sumit Arora  
Chairperson - Executive Committee, APSWDP |
| 10:10 am - 10:45 am  | Awareness & Capacity Building Presentation on E-Waste & Circular Economy  | Ms. Andrea Wehrli  
Keynote Speaker  
Expert, E-Waste Management |
| 10:45 am - 10:50 am  | Open House/ Question & Answers                                               |                                                                                  |
| 10:50 am to 10:52 am  | Token of Thanks to Ms. Andrea Wehrli  
Keynote Speaker  
Expert, E-Waste Management | Prof. P.K. Singla, NITTTR and Dr. Sumit Arora, APSWDP |
| 10:52 am to 10:55 am  | Program Feedback Form                                                        | Mr. Hitesh Kumar Gulati  
Director - Policy & Administration |
| 10:55 am to 11:00 am  | Concluding Remarks & Vote of Thanks                                         | Dr. Sumit Arora  
Chairperson - Executive Committee, APSWDP |

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Highlights of The Event at NITTTR, Sector 26, Chandigarh
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2. Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh

Minute-to-Minute schedule of programs at Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:45 am - 12 Noon</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>MCC &amp; APSWDP Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Noon - 12:05 pm</td>
<td>Welcome Address &amp; Significance of the programme</td>
<td>Mr. Vivek Trivedi Social Development Officer, Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:05 pm - 12:07 pm</td>
<td>APSWDP Introduction</td>
<td>Mr. Hitesh Kumar Gulati Director - Policy &amp; Administration, APSWDP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:07 pm - 12:10 pm</td>
<td>Introduction of Ms. Andrea Wehrli Keynote Speaker Expert, E-Waste Management</td>
<td>Mr. Vivek Trivedi Social Development Officer, Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10 pm - 12:45 pm</td>
<td>Awareness &amp; Capacity Building Presentation on E-Waste &amp; Circular Economy</td>
<td>Ms. Andrea Wehrli Keynote Speaker Expert, E-Waste Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:50 pm to 12:52 pm</td>
<td>Token of Thanks to Ms. Andrea Wehrli Keynote Speaker Expert, E-Waste Management</td>
<td>Mr. Shaileder Singh, Chief Engineer, Municipal Corporation Chandigarh</td>
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<td>Mr. Hitesh Kumar Gulati Director - Policy &amp; Administration</td>
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<td>Concluding Remarks &amp; Vote of Thanks</td>
<td>Dr. Sumit Arora Chairperson - Executive Committee, APSWDP</td>
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Ms. Dea Andrea Wehrli of E[co] work Association and Empa, Switzerland, an environmentalist and e-waste recycling expert, shared her views through a power point presentation during the awareness session at NITTR and Municipal Corporation Chandigarh. The expert emphasized the solution by way of identifying informal waste sector and adopting sustainable social inclusive business model, which is the need of the hour, she added.
Mr. Hitesh Gulati, Director Policy and Administration, APSWDP shared during the both the sessions that there is need for greater involvement and mobilization of civil society organizations working at grass root level and informal groups too i.e. Self Help Groups (SHGs) of Kabadi walas (Junk Dealer) for their capacity and knowledge building in coming forward for collecting, dismantling, separation & recycling of the electronic waste. He seconded Ms. Andrea for involving informal communities and sectors by urban local bodies under their national missions like Swachh Bharat Mission and DAY-NULM. He also urged, academicians at NITTR for coming forward in taking up awareness and capacity building programme for key stakeholders and extend support in making knowledge transfer to informal sector in easy and simple manner.

Conclusive Session:

In concluding remarks Dr. Sumit Arora, APSWDP by emphasizing on Humankind’s insatiable demand for electronic devices which is creating the world’s fastest-growing waste stream. Some forms are growing exponentially. While more electronic devices are part of the problem, they also can be a big part of the solution. He also added that more digital and connected world would help us accelerate progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), offering exceptional opportunities for emerging economies. Extending the life of electronic products and re-using electrical components brings an even larger economic benefit, as working devices are certainly worth more than the materials they contain. A circular electronics system - one in which resources are not extracted, used and wasted, but re-used in countless ways - creates decent, sustainable jobs and retains more value in the industry, in addition to
protection of environment and oceans. He also shared that only 20% of global e-waste is formally recycled and the remaining 80% is often incinerated or dumped in landfill. Already 67 countries have enacted legislation to deal with the e-waste they generate. Apple, Google, Samsung and many other brands have set ambitious targets for recycling and for the use of recycled and renewable materials. Mr. Sumit said his concluding remarks by emphasising on the view that entrepreneurs, investors, academics, businessman, leaders, and lawmakers will all be needed to make the circular economy work. Innovative business and reverse supply chain models, circular designs, safety for e-waste collectors and ways of formalizing and empowering informal e-waste workers are all part of the picture. Action is needed now.

He thanked Prof. S.S. Pattnaik, Director, NITTTR, Chandigarh; Prof. P.K. Singla, Faculty In-Charge Administration; Mr. K K Yadav, Commissioner, Mr. Shailender Singh, Chief Engineer, Municipal Corporation Chandigarh, Ms. Rekha Trivedi, Secretary General, APSWDP, for their mentoring, guidance, persuasive vision, an inclusive planning, relentless execution, and the entire organizing team of NITTTR, and Municipal Corporation Chandigarh including Dr. Sanjay Kumar Sharma and Dr. Meenakshi Sood; Mr. Vivek Trivedi, Ms Ishita Whadahwan, Mr. Abander Singh Mr. Rajiv; for creating synergy under their able leadership.

The thought process, directions and precise execution of the plans by a Leader always make the organization and team to deliver as per the targeted outcomes.

On this occasion we again remember a quote by Vince Lombardi - "Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."
Media Coverage of the Event

Workshop on e-waste held

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 4

A capacity building training programme on e-waste and circular economy was organised by the Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners here today.

The programme was organised in partnership with the MC under the Swachh Bharat Mission and the DAY National Urban Livelihood Mission. Dea Andrea Wehrli of EcoWorx Association and Empa, Switzerland, an environmentalist and e-waste recycling expert, presided over the session. The expert emphasised the solutions by way of identifying informal waste sector. Adopting sustainable social inclusive business model was the need of the hour; she added.

As many as 78 officials and staff of the MC, along with city residents, attended the event.

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Workshop on e-waste and circular economy organised

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, February 4

Capacity-building training programme was organised by the Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWD) Chandigarh on e-Waste and Circular Economy on Tuesday in partnership with Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh, under Swachh Bharat Mission and DAY National Urban Livelihood Mission.

Dea Andrea Wehrl of ElecWor Association and Empa, Switzerland, an environmentalist and e-waste recycling expert, presided over the session. The expert emphasised the solutions by way of identifying informal waste sector. Adopting sustainable social inclusive business model was the need of the hour, she added.

As many as 78 officials and staff of the MC, along with city residents, attended the event.

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Programme Convener:

- Prof. P. K. Singla, NITTR
- Dr. Sumit Arora, APSWDP
- Mr. Hitesh Gulati, APSWDP
- Mr. Vivek Trivedi, Municipal Corporation Chandigarh

Programme Co-Convener:

- Mr. Rajeev Chaudhary, APSWDP
- Mr. Abandher Singh, Municipal Corporation Chandigarh
- Ms. Ishita Wadhawan, Municipal Corporation Chandigarh

Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) (Regd.)
Association in Special Consultative Status with UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 2019
Affiliated with Department of Global Communications (DGC) of United Nations
Affiliated with NITI Ayog (Former Planning Commission of India)

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