JAWAHARLAL NEHRU TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY ANANTAPUR

OIL TECHNOLOGICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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Professor of Chemistry & Director

Report on Swarna Andhra – Freedom from Plastic

Date&Time:14-08-2025

Venue: JNTUA-OTPRI Campus

Target audience: B.Pharm., M.Pharm and Pharm.D students

Organized by: NSS Cell JNTUA-OTPRI, Anantapuramu.

The NSS Unit of JNTUA-OTPRI, Anantapuramu, organized a special awareness program on *Swarna Andhra – Freedom from Plastic* on 14th August 2025, in accordance with the directions of the Secretary & CEO, BCDE, Government of Andhra Pradesh. The initiative aimed to sensitize students and faculty about the dangers of plastic pollution and to promote eco-friendly alternatives in daily life.

The program commenced with a formal welcome. NSS volunteers, faculty members, and students attended in large numbers, demonstrating their commitment towards a cleaner and healthier environment. The Director Prof.G.V. Subba Reddy addressed the gathering and demonstrated about plastic pollution and its consequences. During the program the following things brought to the notice of all the students and staff.

Highlights of Hazards Plastic waste:

Speakers emphasized that plastic, especially single-use varieties, is one of the most hazardous pollutants due to its non-biodegradable nature, which means it can persist in the environment for hundreds of years. Key points included with respect to the plastic waste:

- Environmental Pollution: Plastic waste clogs drains, pollutes soil and contaminates water bodies, severely affecting ecosystems.
- **Impact on Wildlife:** Marine animals, birds, and land animals often ingest or become entangled in plastic waste, leading to injury or death.
- **Human Health Risks:** Microplastics, which result from the breakdown of larger plastic items, have entered the food chain, posing potential risks to human health including hormonal disruption and toxic chemical exposure.
- **Toxic Emissions:** Burning plastic releases harmful gases such as dioxins and furans, which are dangerous to both the environment and human health.

Key Speakers:

- **Prof. G.V. Subba Reddy**, Director, JNTUA-OTPRI, spoke on the urgent need to phase out single-use plastics and adopt sustainable waste management practices. He encouraged students to act as environmental leaders in their communities.
- **Dr. C. Gopinath**, Principal, JNTUA-OTPRI, highlighted the harmful impacts of single-use plastics on the environment and public health. He urged students to embrace eco-friendly alternatives and actively participate in promoting sustainable practices within their communities.

Campus Cleaning and Plastic Collection Drive:

As a part of the program, NSS volunteers, along with faculty and students, undertook a campus cleaning activity. Plastic waste was collected from various areas. The collected plastic was segregated for proper disposal, symbolizing the institute's dedication to practical action alongside awareness creation. The initiative not only beautified the campus but also served as a hands-on demonstration of the importance of collective effort in addressing plastic pollution.

The NSS Unit of JNTUA-OTPRI program officer extends heartfelt thanks to the **Director**, **Principal**, faculty, NSS volunteers, and all participants for their whole hearted cooperation and support in making this event a grand success. Special appreciation is also extended to the ground staff for their assistance during the plantation program.













Conclusion:

The Swarna Andhra – Freedom from Plastic initiative at JNTUA-OTPRI effectively spread awareness about the hazardous impacts of plastic on the environment, wildlife, and human health. The combined efforts of awareness sessions, campus cleaning, and plastic collection inspired participants to make a personal commitment to reduce, reuse, and recycle. The active involvement of NSS volunteers and the strong resolve of the gathering reinforced the vision of creating a cleaner, greener Andhra Pradesh. The program concluded with the hope that these efforts will lead to lasting behavioural change and a significant reduction in plastic usage both on campus and in the wider community. For about 250 students and staff were participated during the programme.

Sd/-DIRECTOR