Institutionalized Seminar Series

This seminar series is designed to address key issues in the WASH sector, so that wide range of students and working professionals get exposure to the latest techniques, innovations and interventions.

LECTURE I -Challenges in the Sanitation Sector-The Way Forward

By Mr. A.K. Sengupta 23rd March, 2015

Mr. A.K. Sengupta, Director General, International Academy of Environmental Sanitation and Public Health interacted with students of TERI University and delivered a talk on *challenges of total sanitation in the urban sector in India*. He discussed his experience with innovative low cost sanitation technologies in urban India where safe disposal of solid wastes and waste water for urban communities in informal settlements is a major challenge. He emphasized that achieving targets of Swachh Bharat Mission in the next few years will need cost effective, innovative technologies to solve sanitation issues. It is imperative to achieve this if we are to save our rivers, protect fresh water sources and provide healthy habitat.

LECTURE II- Use of SCADA/ICT Tools for Water/Sanitation Sector in Urban Settings

By Ms Jyoti Dhar 7th April, 2015

Ms Jyoti Dhar, Joint Project Manager (PHE), Stup Consultants Pvt.Ltd., delivered a talk on *importance of instrumentation in controlling water distribution systems and waste water collection systems in urban settings.* She discussed her experience with innovative SCADA tools in urban systems and how upgrading water treatment plants including booster pump stations to SCADA ensured better monitoring and control of water losses. She emphasized that use of SCADA in the Bhagirathi Water Treatment Plant and Sonia Vihar Water Treatment Plant has ensured reduction in water losses. SCADA tools can be used to link water pollution related epidemics and design interventions, which will help improve health in urban settings. Students from various departments of the university interacted enthusiastically during this session.

LECTURE III - Swachh Bharat Mission and Entrepreneurship Opportunities for Youth By Mr. Ashish Jain, Founder Director, Indian Pollution Control Association 21st April, 2015

Mr. Ashish Jain delivered a talk on *entrepreneurship opportunities for youth in the sanitation sector.* He discussed his experience of handling and segregating waste in urban systems and how using low cost technologies and innovations in the sector can help society at large. He emphasized that simple improvisation in the disposal of aerosol bottles

done by his team is in use now. Use of new technologies will reduce the pressure on landfills in the cities which will eventually bring positive health impact on society. He invited the youth to participate in such initiatives and make a difference to the sanitation sector in the country.

LECTURE IV- Third Pole and Water Resources

By Prof. A.L Ramanathan, School of Environmental Sciences, JNU 27th April, 2015

Prof. Ramanathan, delivered a talk on *third pole and its water resources*. He discussed that as water demand grows, potential for conflict will increase. Careful management of water resources including managing our glaciers will be a priority in the coming future. He emphasized that glacial melt make a significant contribution to our Himalayan Rivers in the summer season, studies being conducted on glacial mass balance changes in the Himalayas and Karakoram glaciers show a negative mass balance since the last decade of twentieth century. Chemical characteristics of melt waters of some selected Himalayan glaciers are also being conducted in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir by the School of Environmental Sciences, JNU. Since all the Himalayan rivers travel through long stretches and are the major source of water for numerous cities and towns in the plains, protecting freshwater sources for better quality of life and ecosystems is imperative today. He encouraged students to participate in research projects and make significant contribution in field activities.