

Water Awareness in Villages around Chitkara University

The Centre for Water Sciences (CWS) at Chitkara University has been actively involved in raising water awareness in surrounding villages through a series of events and workshops focused on water quality and sustainability. These efforts aim to educate local communities about the critical state of water resources and emphasize the importance of water conservation, testing, and responsible usage for future generations.

Key Initiatives and Events:

1. **Jansua Village:** - In August 2022, more than 40 villagers from Jansua were invited to the STI HUB center at Chitkara University. Dr. Jyotsna Kaushal of the CWS led a demonstration that highlighted the current and future water scenarios in Punjab. The session underscored the need for regular water quality testing and water conservation. Mr. Ajay and Jaswinder Singh, another member of the team, conducted a practical demonstration on water testing, showing participants how to assess the quality of their local water sources.



2. **Nepra Village:** - In July 2022, a water awareness event took place in Nepra Village. The gathering, held near the village Gurudwara, was mainly attended by middle-aged and elderly women. The team from CWS, Chitkara University, explained the



essential parameters for water quality testing and demonstrated water testing methods. This session aimed to equip villagers with the knowledge to assess the safety of their water and raise awareness of possible contamination risks.

3. **Alampur Village:** - In Village Alampur, residents were informed about water quality parameters, and several water tests were conducted on samples from households and local ponds. Mr. Shubam Sudan explained the testing parameters, and Mr. Ajay Khajuria performed live

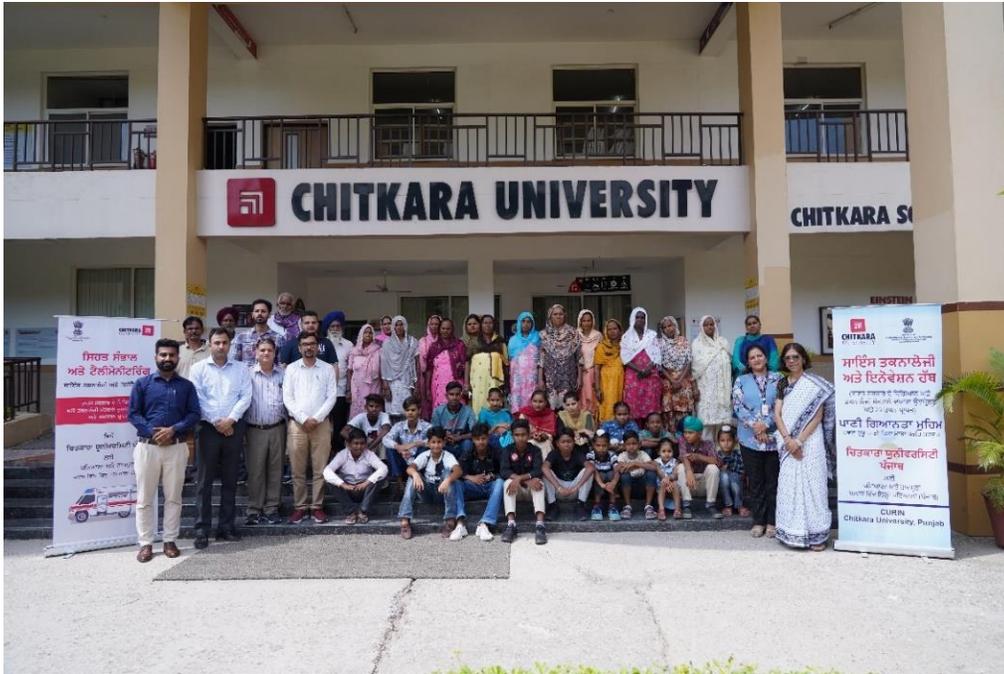


demonstrations of water testing. Villagers were encouraged to utilize the water testing facilities available at the CWS lab at Chitkara University to ensure the safety of their drinking water.

4. **Thuha Village** With the consent of the local village sarpanch, an awareness session was conducted for 45 participants, which included children, young adults, and older community members. The event focused on the growing water scarcity in Punjab and practical methods for testing and conserving water. This broad engagement across different age groups aimed to foster a deeper understanding of the importance of water preservation within the community.

5. **Jhansla Village (November 2021)** In November 2021, around 60 women aged 40-60 from Jhansla village, along with over 25 students, gathered at Chitkara University for an awareness session on water testing. The focus was

on explaining the water testing process and empowering villagers to monitor the water quality in their homes, using tools and knowledge provided by the university's CWS team.



Chitkara University NewGen IEDC has supported a project entitled ‘**Swachh Neer**’ with a prototyping grant. Under this project a low-cost water filtration device has been developed under the guidance of Dr. Jyotsna Kaushal (Head, Center of Water Sciences, Chitkara University, Punjab).

On October 11, 2019, an event was conducted where 50 units of this filtration device were distributed to all the beneficiaries near to Chitkara University who had booked it in advance. The progressive journey from idea to prototyping was shared with the audience along with the instructions on how to use this water filtration device. Dr. Archana Mantri – Chief Coordinator, Chitkara University, NewGen IEDC was also present in the event, and she congratulated the team of Swachh Neer for its efforts and project outcome.

<https://newgeniedc.chitkara.edu.in/project/swachh-neer/>

Conclusion:

These water awareness initiatives spearheaded by Chitkara University's Centre for Water Sciences have proven vital in educating local communities on the importance of water quality and conservation. Through practical demonstrations and community engagement, the university continues to contribute to the sustainability and well-being of surrounding villages, ensuring that water remains a key focus for both current and future generations. These initiatives represent a strong partnership between academia and local communities, working together to tackle one of the most pressing environmental challenges in the region.