

**Report of Ozone Day Observance on 25-26<sup>th</sup> September 2017**  
**at Department of Chemistry, SN College Chengannur**

United Nations General Assembly has designated September 16 as the international day for the preservation of the Ozone layer. This designation was made on December 19, 1994, in commemoration of the date, in 1987, on which nations signed the Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the Ozone layer. The ozone layer, a fragile shield of gas, protects the earth from the harmful portion of the rays of the sun, thus helping preserve life on the planet. The phase-out of controlled uses of ozone depleting substances and the related reductions have not only helped protect the ozone layer for this and future generations, but have also contributed significantly to global efforts to address climate change; furthermore, it has protected human health and ecosystems by limiting the harmful ultraviolet radiation from reaching the earth. Ozone is a special form of oxygen with the chemical formula O<sub>3</sub>. Ozone constitutes a very small part of our atmosphere, but its presence is nevertheless vital to human well-being. Ozone in the stratosphere absorbs some of the Sun's biologically harmful ultraviolet radiation. The theme for this year's International Ozone Day recognizes the collective efforts of the parties towards the restoration of the ozone layer over the past three decades and the global commitment to combat climate change.

The postgraduate and research department of chemistry, in association with Science Forum, Bhoomithra Sena Club and NSS of Sree Narayana College Chengannur organised a two day programme, sponsored by Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE), in connection with world ozone day observance. The programme started with registration at 9.00 am on 25th November 2017 at college auditorium, SN College Chengannur. The inauguration function of programme begin with an invocation by the students of our college. Dr. Sheela Fernandez, Associated Professor and Principal in Charge presided over the function. Dr. M S Latha, Head, Department of Chemistry welcomed the students, faculties and guests. Dr. V P Sylas, Assistant Professor, School of Environmental

Sciences, M G University inaugurated the celebrations by lighting up the lamp and he also delivered the inaugural address. He emphasised the need for the protection of ozone layer and asked students to involve in the activities that will help to conserve the nature and save the earth. Dr. Smitha Sasidharan, Convenor, World Ozone Day Celebrations delivered the vote of thanks in the function. Dr. V Shree Ranjini, Bhoomithra Sena Club Co-ordinator, SN college delivered a felicitation. She congratulated the chemistry department to take initiative to organise such a programme and she also expressed her views to save the life on the earth.

The inauguration function was followed by an invited talk on " Protection of Ozone Layer for All Life" by Dr. V P Syllas, Assistant Professor, School of Environmental Sciences, M G University. He delivered an inspiring talk on the significance of Ozone layer in the preservation of life on earth and the need of hour to protect the environment. He also illustrated the strategies taken all over the world to conserve Ozone canopy and he discussed the challenges and excitements involved in the issue. After the talk the session was open for discussion and the participants interacted with the resource person on various issues related with the depletion of ozone layer. Student representatives also expressed their views and the possible measures they make take to raise public awareness on this serious issue.

An intercollegiate slide show competition on "Protection of Ozone Layer: Challenges and Excitements"was organized as part of the awareness programme and the students from nearby colleges participated in the competition. Dr. M S Latha, Head of the Chemistry Department chaired the session. Dr. V. Shree Ranjini and Smt. Aswathy assessed the presentations. Ten student teams participated in the competition. Lekshman MG and Vaisakh V of Bishop Moore College secured first place in the competition. Sreemol M and P.

Praveen, TKMM College Nangiarkulangare obtained second position and Shibu and Ajesh from SN college Chenganur bagged third place. Cash prizes of Rs. 1500/-, Rs. 1000/- and Rs. 750/- was given to the winners.

On the second day of celebration a procession was organized to raise public awareness. Procession started from the Department of Chemistry at around 10 am on 26/09/17 and faculty members accompanied students to a 2 KM distance from college. A painting competition on " Ozone and Life Under the Sun" was also organised for the students as part of the programme. Akhila Murali of IInd year BSc Chemistry grabbed the first place in the competition. Sreelekshmi R, Ist year Bsc Chemistry won second place and Ganga Krishnan M, Ist year Bsc Physics secured third place in the competition. An exhibition of the paintings by students was also arranged near college auditorium. Cash prizes of Rs. 1500/-, Rs. 1000/- and Rs. 750/-was given to the winners.

During valedictory function, in the afternoon at 2.00 pm Dr. M S Latha, HOD, Chemistry Department congratulated students for actively participating in the programme. and she distributed the certificates and prizes to the participants and winners. Dr. Smitha Sasidharan, Convenor of the programme acknowledged each and every one who helped to organise the programme



**Inaugural session: Welcome Speech by Dr. M S Latha**



**Inauguration by Dr. V P Sylus**



**Inaugural session: Felicitation Speech by Dr. V Shree Ranjini**



**Inaugural session: Vote of thanks by Dr. Smitha Sasidharan**



**Dr. V P Sylus delivering the invited talk**



**Dr. V P Sylus interacting with the audience**



**Painting Competition for students**



**Painting Exhibition**



**Students in Slide Show Competition**



**Students in Slide Show Competition**



**Students in Slide Show Competition**



**Prize distribution for Painting Competition Winners**



**Prize distribution for Painting Competition Winners**



**Prize distribution for Painting Competition Winners**



**Prize distribution for Slide Show Competition Winners**





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**Flag off of the Rally organised in connection with Ozone Day Programme**