Envirocare Green Awards | Press Release

Nature has always been kind to man since ages, but today we are facing many challenges. The climate change due to global warming is resulting into floods, cyclones, earthquakes, forest fires and even droughts. Extreme hot or extreme cold has become a norm. The nature is giving us signal, reminding us to Reimagine, Recreate and Restore. We have taken too many things for granted, we need to pause, introspect and even rewind. We need to remember the nature does not need us, we need the nature for our existence. Its time to rebuild what we have damaged and what we have lost. Its time for us to give back to nature. Since 1974, UN is celebrating World Environment Day on 5th June and this year the theme is Ecosystem Restoration. Next 10 years the task is to Restore our Ecosystem through different means, by Growing trees, by greening cities, by rewilding gardens, by changing diets and by cleaning up rivers and coasts. In short this decade is #GenerationRestoration.

To celebrate the World Environment Day and honor the efforts being done for a sustainable environment, Envirocare Labs initiated, Envirocare Green Awards in 2018. EGA is an award that is conferred to those who strive to protect our environment by adopting or innovating measures which help create a sustainable environment for us as well as our future generations. It is important to appreciate and motivate professionals & organizations to think green & contribute towards a nation that is not only progressive but also responsible towards our Mother Earth. It is a non-commercial movement of self-motivated likeminded people dedicated to making a positive difference towards Sustainable Care.

EGA objective is to inspire stakeholders to think green & contribute towards a world that is not only progressive but also responsible towards its provider. The application for this prestigious award is ecofriendly : Online Google Forms and is open for competition across the globe. EGA 2021 experienced an overwhelming response from 61 applicants from 6 countries including India, Nepal, Nigeria, Singapore, United Kingdom and Egypt. The applications underwent a rigorous 3-level screening, a preliminary screening conducted by the EGA secretariat, followed by evaluation by an International Jury Panel comprising of 11 jury members across 6 countries. This round had evaluation points based on a 3P principle Planet | People | Profit. The final round was a tough round with 21 of the shortlisted applicants presenting their initiatives to a panel of 11 jury and 11 patron members of EGA 2021. The applicants were allotted 5 minutes of power time to present their initiatives on lines of innovation, scalability, and their impact on the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The Jury members : Dr. Amar Supate, MPCB; Dr. Rashneh Pardiwala, NGO; Dr. Avin Ramaiya, Research company in Netherlands; Mr. Benedict Odjobo, Government Institute in Nigeria; Dr. Sarit Kumar Das, IIT Professor; Ms. Karin Heinze, Journalist from Germany; Dr. Vaibhav

Tidke, World Economic Forum Awardee; Mr. Imran Ustad, Environmentalist; Dr. S.K. Tyagi, retired CPCB; Mr. Nilesh Koregaonkar, business person from Middle East and Dr. Dnyanesh Darshane, Ex Coca Cola, USA; had tough time evaluating the 61 applicants. The suggestions from Jury as well as the Patron members of EGA 2021 were Encouraging | Empowering | Enlightening. Every applicant had amazing contributions towards building a green sustainable environment and the judges were mesmerized by the work being done across the globe. Tough discussions led to final 5 winners and 4 special citations for the Envirocare Green Awards 2021.

The final Envirocare Green Awards 2021 were hosted online on 16th July. The event had record participation from more than 400 individuals across 12 countries. The event was also aired on Facebook Live. Mr Rahul Deshpande, CEO of Envirocare Labs, and knowledge partner for EGA welcomed the jury, patrons, applicants, winners and attendees of the event. Interestingly more than 100 attendees were students, and this was a good sign indicating that the EGA would have a sustainable fans across the future generations. He talked about the sustainability work done by Envirocare Labs, and presented the details of the IGBC Platinum Rating Green Interiors awarded to their new research facility in Thane. Envirocare Labs has generated so far 200+ MWh of solar power which takes care of almost 25% of its electrical requirement. This clean power has not only been economical but has also helped save 87000 kg of CO2 emissions and over 2600 equivalent trees has been protected.

Dr. Nilesh Amritkar, Founder Chairman EGA, expressed deep gratitude to all those working towards sustainable care. He spoke on the current industry and society impact on Air, Food and Water. The human activities have led to resource depletion and its time for us to realize that we are not the masters but trustees of this planet and it is our responsibility to hand over this world to our future generations. The solution does not lie only with the government or in the hands of corporate through their CSR activities. The solution is **Personal Social Responsibility – PSR**. It is time for us to take the responsibilities on our shoulders and start contributing at personal level : Our time, our money, our energy towards a better world. He introduced the concept of **Green Balance Sheet**, it is time for us to evaluate our profit and loss statements, our company and personal balance sheets through the lens of sustainability. It is not just black or red balance sheets, it is the green sustainable initiatives that are going to be help build the market capitalization for any corporate.

Keynote sessions by our Internationally renowned speakers were extremely engaging and created a unique platform for industry, academia and regulators to join hands for a common cause. Ms Karin Heinze, editor of BioReporter International, explained the Organic farming concept and how holistic lifestyle in farms can be the key for a sustainable world. Dr Sarit Das, IIT Inspire faculty, shared his journey into the world of science and innovations to combat the environmental issues faced by our world, he explained the different innovations which can be leap frogged to achieve sustainability over the next decade. Mr Arnab Deb of

Sustainanalytics, a Morning Star company, elaborated on the plastic waste, its consumption trends, impacts, extended producers responsibilities and highlighted the regulations on single use plastics. All the sessions were very thought provoking and helped exchange ideas, network and collaborate for Sustainable Care.

The highlight of the event was the award ceremony. With all the excitement it was a very happy moment even for the organizing speaker Ms Deenal C. Shah to announce the 4 Special citations and the 5 winners of EGA 2021. She read out the names of the awardees and their initiatives felicitating them with a designer trophy made from recyclable waste, EGA certificate detailing out their initiatives and finally honoring every awardee with Tree planted in their respective names. Total of 121 trees have been planted by Envirocare Labs to felicitate the jury, patrons, speakers, applicants and the winners of EGA 2021. These trees are geo tagged and monitored through a NGO working in the Tribal areas of Viluppuram District in Tamil Nadu.

The special citations were awarded to :

1. Mission Green, Mumbai
2. Green Rangers, Nepal
3. Battery Life 2, Thane
4. VVM Enterprises, Singapore

The EGA 2021 winners are :

1. Centre for Environmental Research & Education, Mumbai
2. Mondelez International, Thane
3. Jalaposhan Trust, Bengaluru
4. Proplant Foods, Ahmadabad
5. Kaybee Exports, Thane

The detail initiatives of the awardees and the presentations of the speakers have been published on Envirocare Green Awards LinkedIn page. EGA will continue creating a platform for all stakeholders by initiating a Knowledge Series for next few months. The series will have key note speakers explaining each of the 17 UN Sustainable Goals followed by Q&A panel discussions. For regular updates on the upcoming program follow us on: https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/envirocare-green-awards

The event was supported by Mr Nilesh Lele, President of Chamber of Advancement of small and Medium Businesses, Ms Subhaprda Nisthala, President of Association of Food Scientist and Technologist of India, Mumbai Chapter, Mr Ravi Raghavan, Chief Editor of Chemical Weekly, Mr Milind Kokje, Chief Editor of Agrospectrum and Dr Nitin Nagrale of Hospitality Purchasing Mangers Fourm. The knowledge partner and original think tanks of EGA were Dr Priti Amritkar, Director Envirocare Labs.