

FIRST ZERO WASTE RALLY FOR BOUDHA KATHMANDU, NEPAL



18 October 2014
Boudha, Kathmandu, Nepal



Background

Zero Waste Himalaya network started 5 years back by the initiation of Mr. Shibu K. Nair, THANAL, Kerala and made a BIR Declaration on 2010. Many organisations and group joined hand together from India, Bhutan and Nepal to spread Zero Waste on their region and also started pilot projects in their region. Pragya Seeds Nepal also started 3 pilot projects in Nepal and conducted many ToTs and workshops in Nepal. The First Zero Waste Rally at Boudha, Kathmandu been organised for the pilot project Let's clean Kathmandu and make Zero waste City funded by Small Grant Program-UNDP.

There is a need of source segregation for the pilot project, so this Rally focused on message spreading to the local community about Source Segregation. The rally was organised to make local community aware about the benefit of segregation at source.

Objective

- To create awareness about Zero waste project
- To aware community about the source segregation

Event

Local organisation members, school student, Govt official, police, celebrity and community people gathered at Ward no 6 office, Pipalbot, Boudha, Kathmandu. Pragya Seeds distributed caps, badges and placards to the participants at the beginning of the Rally.



Rally at Departing point Pipalbot, Boudha main road.

Departure Speech

A brief of Rally was given by Ward no 6 secretary before the Rally departed. Rally marched towards the Boudha Stupa and group of people doing cleaning activities also along with Rally. More than 500 people participated on Rally with many interesting placards, Charts and banners about the ally and their own organisations.

Rally continued towards Tushal on the main road of Boudha almost a kilometre and took a right turn towards Ramhiti.



Rally marching towards Ramhiti

Participants chanting many slogans for source segregation and Zero Waste marched on the street of Ramhiti and many people doing street clean up and also following the Rally. Local people of Ramhiti absorbed the Rally and some even joined the Rally from Ramhiti. After walking 3km, Rally reached Phoolbari, Boudha and continued marching towards the Boudha Stupa. Finally Rally reached the Boudha Stupa and Pragma Seeds Nepal welcomed the participants with water and light breakfast.

Participants of rally relaxed there at World Heritage site and the local media person took short note about Rally with Pragma Seeds Nepal. Selected 20 volunteers started talking about the need of segregation at source to the local community of the Boudha.

One group of participants continued doing the clean-up program around the Boudha Stupa with the support of Boudha ward no 6 staff and Boudha Sarsafai Kendra's street cleaners.

Students lauded with the slogan 'Zero Waste Zero Warming', 'Segregation at Source', 'Stop using Plastic' and many more.



Rally at Boudha stupa

Closing Speech

First Speaker from Boudhanath Development focused about the environment of Boudha Stupa and cleanliness. The major tourist attraction of Kathmandu needed to keep clean. He also said clean Boudha will attract more tourist and will help community to grow.

Second Speaker Police Inspector focused on the clean and peace Boudha and willing to support Zero Waste activities at Boudha area. He thanked to Pragma Seeds Nepal for organising Zero waste Rally at Boudha.

Third Speaker Mr. Pranay Shrestha-Chairperson Pragma Seeds Nepal (Working on Zero Waste) started with saying the importance about the Rally, historic first Zero waste Rally in Nepal. He briefly explained Zero waste Himalaya and also about the pilot project "Lets clean Kathmandu and make a Zero Waste City" Boudha-Alapot and the need to segregate at source for the Zero waste projects. He also announced the upcoming Door to door activities of Source segregation to the participants. He also mentioned about the ToT training been organised recently at Boudha and Aalapot for the project. He also mentioned about plan to implement Zero Waste for schools, Monasteries and orphanages around Boudha. At last he thanked to all the organisations, schools and Ward no 6 office for making Rally Successful. He thanked to the Small Grant Program for funding support.



Closing speech by Pranay Shrestha

Fourth speaker Mr. Yuvraj Kahanal, Secretary, ward no 6 focused on the clean street and clean Boudha. He also mentioned about the upcoming SAARC, so we citizens need to keep our City clean and set an example.

Conclusion

The focus of the Rally was to create awareness about the need of segregation at source, to make Boudha Zero Waste pilot project successful and to gather support from the community as well. The Rally targeted to bring the behavioural change in the local community and support the pilot project. Its motive was also to make the local community aware and find the right solution by joining hand with local government.

Acknowledgement

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