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**GLOCAL
UNIVERSITY**
SHAPING GLOBAL MINDS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG)

SDG14 - LIFE BELOW WATER



GLOCAL UNIVERSITY

INDIA

2023

SDG14: LIFE BELOW WATER

Introduction: Glocal University's Commitment to SDG 14 - Life Below Water

At Glocal University, we recognize the vital role that oceans, seas, and marine resources play in sustaining life and maintaining ecological balance. In alignment with **SDG 14: Life Below Water**, we are committed to promoting sustainable practices, fostering awareness, and contributing to the preservation and responsible management of aquatic ecosystems. Our university integrates the principles of environmental conservation into academic curricula, research, and community outreach initiatives. We emphasize the importance of marine biodiversity, pollution reduction, and sustainable resource utilization through interdisciplinary research and collaborative projects. By engaging students, faculty, and external partners, Glocal University works to address pressing challenges such as water pollution, overfishing, and habitat degradation. Our efforts include organizing seminars, workshops, and awareness campaigns to inspire collective action for the protection of marine life. With a commitment to nurturing responsible global citizens, Glocal University aims to contribute meaningfully to the conservation of marine ecosystems and the sustainable development of life below water.

14.2.1:

Glocal University offers educational programs focused on freshwater ecosystems, aiming to raise awareness and promote sustainable water management practices in local and national communities. Key initiatives include:

- **Workshops on Water Conservation:** We conduct workshops that teach communities about efficient water use, sustainable irrigation techniques, and the importance of preserving freshwater ecosystems.
- **Training in Water Management:** Our programs include hands-on training in water management, including rainwater harvesting, watershed management, and sustainable irrigation practices, to improve water availability and quality.
- **Community Engagement Projects:** We collaborate with local farmers and communities to implement water conservation projects, such as the use of eco-friendly irrigation systems and soil moisture management techniques.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** We run campaigns to educate the public about the value of freshwater ecosystems and the critical need for conservation to protect water resources.

14.2.2:

Glocal University offers educational programs and community outreach initiatives focused on sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and related tourism. Our initiatives include:

- **Workshops on Sustainable Fisheries:** We provide workshops for local communities and fishermen on sustainable fishing practices, fish stock management, and responsible harvesting.
- **Aquaculture Best Practices:** We train communities on eco-friendly aquaculture methods, water quality management, and reducing environmental impact.
- **Sustainable Tourism:** We educate local communities on integrating sustainable fisheries and tourism, demonstrating how responsible practices benefit both the environment and local economies.
- **Collaborative Projects:** In partnership with local authorities and NGOs, we engage in hands-on projects that promote sustainable practices in fishing, aquaculture, and tourism.

14.2.3:

Glocal University offers educational outreach activities to raise awareness about overfishing, illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing (IUU), and destructive fishing practices. Our initiatives include:

- **Awareness Campaigns:** We organize campaigns to educate local communities about the dangers of overfishing and IUU fishing, emphasizing their impact on marine ecosystems and livelihoods.
- **Workshops and Training:** We conduct workshops that focus on sustainable fishing techniques, the importance of fish conservation, and how to identify and report illegal fishing activities.
- **Community Collaborations:** In partnership with local authorities and NGOs, we work to promote policy changes and enhance enforcement against destructive fishing practices.
- **Field Activities:** We engage communities in field projects where they can learn about sustainable practices, monitoring methods, and how to protect vulnerable fish species.

14.3.1:

Glocal University organizes events to promote the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, and marine resources. Our efforts include:

- **Awareness Campaigns:** We host campaigns to educate the community about the importance of protecting aquatic ecosystems, reducing pollution, and conserving marine resources.

- **Workshops and Seminars:** We organize educational workshops focused on sustainable fishing practices, water conservation, and marine biodiversity conservation.
- **Collaborative Initiatives:** In partnership with environmental organizations, we organize beach clean-ups, river restoration projects, and water quality monitoring activities.
- **Public Engagement Events:** We host events like film screenings, exhibitions, and talks to highlight ocean conservation issues and inspire action.

14.3.2:

Glocal University has a policy to ensure that food sourced from aquatic ecosystems is sustainably harvested. Key components of this policy include:

- **Sustainable Sourcing:** We only source seafood and aquatic products from suppliers who adhere to sustainable fishing practices, including certifications like MSC (Marine Stewardship Council).
- **Local and Ethical Suppliers:** We prioritize working with local, ethical suppliers who follow responsible aquaculture and fishing practices, ensuring minimal environmental impact.
- **Educational Awareness:** The University promotes awareness among students and staff about the importance of choosing sustainably sourced aquatic products.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Regular audits are conducted to ensure all aquatic products served on campus meet our sustainability criteria, supporting responsible consumption.

14.3.3:

Glocal University is dedicated to directly maintaining and extending ecosystems and their biodiversity through research and collaboration with industries. Our efforts include:

- **Research on Biodiversity:** We conduct research focused on protecting and restoring ecosystems, studying plant and animal species, and identifying threats to biodiversity, especially in vulnerable ecosystems.
- **Collaborative Projects:** We work with environmental NGOs, local communities, and industries to implement biodiversity conservation projects, such as habitat restoration and sustainable land management.

- **Industry Partnerships:** We engage with industries to promote sustainable practices, such as reducing habitat destruction and supporting wildlife corridors, helping them align with conservation goals.
- **Community Engagement:** We collaborate with local communities to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity and involve them in conservation efforts, ensuring long-term protection of ecosystems.

14.3.4:

Glocal University is actively engaged in research and collaboration with industries to develop technologies and practices that prevent damage to aquatic ecosystems. Our efforts include:

- **Research on Sustainable Technologies:** We conduct research on innovative technologies, such as eco-friendly fishing gear and water filtration systems, that minimize the impact of human activities on aquatic ecosystems.
- **Industry Collaboration:** We work closely with marine industries to promote sustainable practices, such as reducing by catch, improving waste management, and adopting energy-efficient technologies in operations.
- **Development of Best Practices:** We collaborate with industry partners to create guidelines for sustainable fishing, aquaculture, and marine tourism practices that protect marine biodiversity.
- **Innovation in Conservation:** We support the development of technologies like remote sensing and monitoring tools to track marine health and detect pollution, helping industries adopt proactive measures.

14.4.1:

Glocal University has established water quality standards and guidelines for water discharges to protect ecosystems, wildlife, and human health. Our approach includes:

- **Water Quality Monitoring:** We regularly monitor water quality at discharge points to ensure compliance with local and international environmental standards, focusing on pollutants like chemicals, heavy metals, and biological contaminants.
- **Treatment and Filtration:** All wastewater undergoes treatment to remove harmful substances before being released, ensuring that only safe, clean water enters surrounding ecosystems.
- **Sustainable Practices:** We implement practices to reduce water consumption and improve storm water management on campus, minimizing pollution risks.

- **Collaboration with Experts:** We work with environmental agencies to ensure our discharge guidelines meet the highest standards for water quality and ecosystem protection.

14.4.2:

Glocal University has developed an action plan to reduce plastic waste on campus, focusing on sustainability and responsible consumption. Key elements of the plan include:

- **Elimination of Single-Use Plastics:** We are gradually eliminating single-use plastics, such as bottles and straws, replacing them with reusable alternatives and biodegradable products.
- **Recycling and Waste Segregation:** We have set up recycling stations across campus and promote proper waste segregation to ensure plastics are recycled and diverted from landfills.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** We organize campaigns to educate students and staff about the environmental impact of plastic waste and encourage reducing plastic usage.
- **Partnerships with Suppliers:** We collaborate with food vendors and suppliers to reduce plastic packaging and promote the use of sustainable materials.

14.4.3:

Glocal University has implemented a policy to prevent and reduce marine pollution, particularly from land-based activities. Key components of the policy include:

- **Waste Management:** We promote effective waste management practices on campus, including proper disposal, recycling, and reducing litter to prevent plastic and other pollutants from reaching marine environments.
- **Storm water Management:** We have implemented systems to manage storm water runoff, ensuring that water flowing off campus is free of pollutants that could impact nearby waterways.
- **Awareness and Education:** Through workshops and campaigns, we educate the university community on the impact of land-based pollution on marine ecosystems and encourage responsible behaviour.
- **Collaboration with Local Authorities:** We collaborate with local governments and environmental organizations to address pollution at the source and work on community clean-up and conservation projects.

14.5.1:

Glocal University has developed a plan to minimize the physical, chemical, and biological alterations of aquatic ecosystems. Key elements of the plan include:

- **Sustainable Practices:** We promote sustainable land and water use practices on campus, such as reducing chemical runoff and minimizing land clearing near water bodies to preserve natural habitats.
- **Monitoring and Research:** We conduct research on the impacts of human activities on local aquatic ecosystems and monitor water quality and biodiversity to identify and address potential threats.
- **Pollution Prevention:** The University has implemented strict policies for waste disposal, chemical management, and storm water runoff to prevent pollution and maintain ecosystem integrity.
- **Restoration Projects:** We support local initiatives aimed at restoring degraded aquatic ecosystems, including wetlands and rivers, through community engagement and conservation efforts.

14.5.2:

Glocal University actively monitors the health of aquatic ecosystems through various initiatives:

- **Water Quality Testing:** We regularly monitor key water quality parameters, such as pH, oxygen levels, and contaminants, to assess the overall health of local aquatic ecosystems.
- **Biodiversity Surveys:** Through research and field studies, we track the diversity of aquatic species, identifying any changes in populations that could indicate ecosystem stress or degradation.
- **Collaboration with Experts:** We partner with environmental agencies and researchers to gather data and share insights on ecosystem health, ensuring comprehensive monitoring efforts.
- **Community Engagement:** We involve local communities in monitoring activities, raising awareness about the importance of aquatic health and empowering them to report issues.

14.5.3:

Glocal University supports programs and incentives to encourage and maintain good aquatic stewardship practices. Our initiatives include:

- **Educational Workshops:** We organize workshops for students, staff, and local communities on sustainable water management, pollution prevention, and responsible water use.
- **Incentive Programs:** We offer incentives for students and staff who participate in conservation activities, such as water quality monitoring, aquatic clean-ups, and eco-friendly practices.
- **Partnerships and Collaboration:** We collaborate with environmental organizations and local authorities to promote aquatic stewardship, organizing community-based projects and events.
- **Research and Innovation:** We support research on best practices for aquatic ecosystem management and encourage innovative solutions to protect water resources and biodiversity.

14.5.4:

Glocal University actively collaborates with the local community to maintain shared aquatic ecosystems through various initiatives:

- **Community-Based Conservation Projects:** We partner with local communities to restore and protect local water bodies, such as rivers and lakes, through joint conservation efforts like habitat restoration and pollution control.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** We organize community outreach programs to educate local residents about the importance of protecting aquatic ecosystems and the role they play in sustaining biodiversity.
- **Collaborative Monitoring:** We work with local groups to monitor the health of shared water ecosystems, collecting data on water quality, species populations, and environmental impacts to inform conservation strategies.
- **Sustainable Resource Management:** Together with the community, we promote sustainable fishing, water usage, and land management practices to ensure the long-term health of aquatic ecosystems.

14.5.5:

Glocal University has implemented a watershed management strategy tailored to the location-specific diversity of aquatic species. Key aspects of our strategy include:

- **Ecological Assessment:** We conduct thorough assessments of local watersheds to understand the diversity of aquatic species and identify key ecological needs for their protection.

- **Sustainable Land Use Practices:** The strategy promotes sustainable farming, forestry, and urban planning to reduce soil erosion, pollution, and habitat disruption in the watershed area.
- **Water Quality Protection:** We focus on maintaining water quality through effective management of runoff, wastewater treatment, and pollution control to ensure a healthy habitat for aquatic species.
- **Community Involvement:** Local communities are engaged in monitoring and managing watershed health, helping to implement conservation practices and raise awareness about the importance of sustainable water resource management.

Event Report: Groundwater Awareness Week – Promoting Sustainable Water Management and Conservation

Introduction: In alignment with SDG 14: Life Below Water, Glocal University organized a week-long initiative, Groundwater Awareness Week, from July 16th to 22nd, 2023. This initiative was designed to raise awareness about the critical role groundwater plays in sustaining both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. As a significant natural resource, groundwater is essential for drinking, agriculture, and industry. The event aimed to educate the campus community on the importance of groundwater conservation, promote sustainable water management practices, and encourage the adoption of practices that contribute to the preservation of this valuable resource.

Objective: The primary objective of Groundwater Awareness Week was to enhance the understanding of the importance of groundwater conservation, the challenges of overuse and contamination, and the role of sustainable water management practices in achieving environmental sustainability. The week focused on encouraging proactive actions to safeguard this vital resource and contribute to the overarching goals of SDG 14, particularly in terms of protecting water ecosystems and promoting responsible use of water resources.

Key Events and Activities:

1. **Seminar on Groundwater Conservation (July 19th, 2023):** The week's activities commenced with a comprehensive seminar on "Groundwater Conservation," held on July 19th, 2023. The event was graced by the presence of esteemed dignitaries, including the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Pankaj Kumar Mishra, and Pro Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Satish Kumar Sharma. The seminar provided a platform for water conservation experts and environmentalists to discuss the importance of preserving groundwater resources and explore sustainable solutions to the growing challenges posed by water scarcity and contamination.

The seminar focused on several key themes:

- **The Significance of Groundwater:** Experts highlighted the vital role of groundwater in sustaining life on Earth, providing over 40% of the global population's drinking water and supporting agricultural irrigation.
- **Challenges in Groundwater Conservation:** Discussions included issues such as over-extraction, pollution from industrial waste and agricultural runoff, and the impact of climate change on water availability.
- **Sustainable Water Management Practices:** Attendees learned about techniques to conserve groundwater, including rainwater harvesting, recharge methods, and the promotion of responsible water usage in daily life.

The seminar concluded with a call to action, urging participants to incorporate sustainable water practices into their lives and educate others about the importance of groundwater preservation.

2. **Poster Making Competition on "Jal Sanrakshan" (July 21st, 2023):** On July 21st, 2023, Glocal University hosted a creative poster-making competition with the theme "Preserving Groundwater for Future Generations" or "Jal Sanrakshan." This competition provided students and faculty with an opportunity to express their thoughts on groundwater conservation through visual art. The posters created during the event conveyed powerful messages about the need for responsible water use, the importance of groundwater recharge, and the consequences of neglecting water preservation.

The posters served as a tangible reminder of the urgency of protecting groundwater for future generations. They were displayed throughout the university, prompting ongoing discussions among the campus community about the steps they could take to conserve water and raise awareness about groundwater issues. The creativity and dedication demonstrated in the competition were inspiring and reinforced the importance of collaboration in solving global water challenges.

Outcome and Impact: Groundwater Awareness Week at Glocal University succeeded in raising awareness about groundwater issues and promoting SDG 14: Life Below Water. The seminar, led by distinguished experts, provided valuable insights into sustainable water management and conservation practices, while the poster-making competition allowed participants to creatively engage with the theme of groundwater preservation. These activities not only provided educational experiences but also encouraged actionable solutions to conserve groundwater.

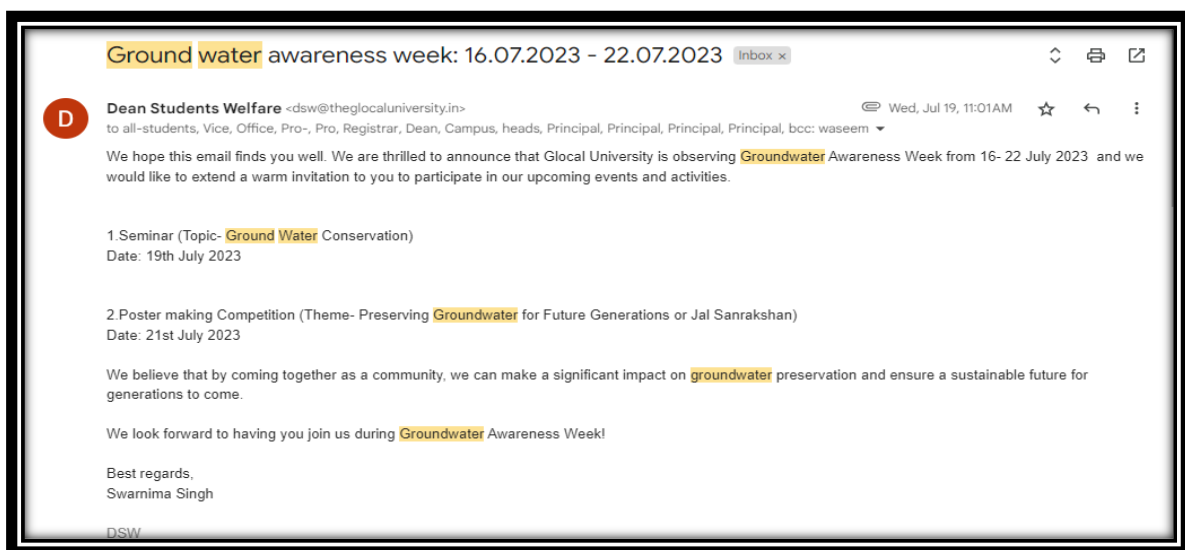
Through these events, participants were empowered to make informed decisions regarding water use and were motivated to adopt environmentally responsible practices. The involvement of faculty members, students, and staff helped to foster a sense of shared responsibility for the protection and sustainable use of water resources, contributing to a broader cultural shift towards environmental sustainability.

Alignment with SDG 14 – Life Below Water: Groundwater conservation is intrinsically linked to the protection of water ecosystems, and by addressing the issues related to

groundwater use and conservation, the university is contributing to the global efforts to achieve SDG 14. This initiative supported the goals of SDG 14 by:

- Promoting sustainable water management practices that help protect aquatic ecosystems.
- Raising awareness about the role of groundwater in maintaining ecological balance.
- Educating the community on the importance of protecting water resources for future generations.

Groundwater Awareness Week was a resounding success, engaging the university community in meaningful conversations and activities focused on preserving and conserving groundwater. The seminar and poster-making competition created an informative and interactive environment, allowing participants to connect more deeply with the issues surrounding groundwater and its impact on aquatic life. Glocal University's commitment to raising awareness about SDG 14 was evident in the active participation of faculty, staff, and students, all of whom expressed a renewed sense of responsibility towards groundwater conservation. The event reaffirmed Glocal University's dedication to fostering environmental awareness and contributing to sustainable water management practices, in line with the global agenda for the protection of life below water.





Event Report: Visit to Hathni Kund Barrage Faizabad Dam - Promoting Awareness on Life Below Water

In a significant initiative to promote awareness about the conservation of aquatic ecosystems and align with SDG 14: Life Below Water, Glocal University organized an enriching trip for students and faculty members to the Hathni Kund Barrage Faizabad Dam. This event aimed to provide an experiential learning opportunity, fostering a deeper understanding of the critical role water bodies play in maintaining ecological balance and supporting life below water.

The day began with students and faculty members gathering at the university campus, filled with enthusiasm for the journey ahead. Upon arrival at Hathni Kund Barrage, the participants were introduced to the site's significance as a critical water management structure that helps regulate river flow and prevent flooding, while also supporting aquatic biodiversity. Engaging discussions were held on the challenges of water pollution, overuse of aquatic resources, and the importance of sustainable water management practices.

The highlight of the visit was a serene boating experience on the river, organized by the university. As participants navigated the calm waters, they had the opportunity to observe the natural beauty of the aquatic ecosystem, spot local fish species, and reflect on the importance of preserving these resources for future generations. This experience was both relaxing and educational, offering a practical perspective on the relationship between humans and aquatic environments. Additionally, they explored the dam's role in irrigation, energy production, and its impact on nearby aquatic habitats, guided by experts who provided insights into sustainable management of such ecosystems.

Throughout the day, students and faculty members actively participated in group discussions and brainstorming sessions, sharing innovative ideas for integrating aquatic conservation

themes into academic projects, teaching, and research. The visit also provided a platform for fostering collaboration and camaraderie among participants, strengthening their shared commitment to environmental stewardship.

Outcome and Alignment with SDG 14:

The visit to Hathni Kund Barrage Faizabad Dam served as an excellent platform to highlight the interconnectedness of water resource management and marine conservation. By experiencing these aquatic ecosystems firsthand, participants gained practical insights into sustainable practices that can be applied to academic and community-based efforts.

This initiative reflects Glocal University's dedication to fostering environmental awareness and empowering both students and educators to champion the goals of SDG 14: Life Below Water. The event concluded on a positive note, with participants expressing their gratitude to the university for organizing such a meaningful and enjoyable experience.

The success of this event underscores the importance of experiential learning in promoting a sustainable future. It reaffirms Glocal University's commitment to addressing global challenges through education, engagement, and action.





Groundwater Awareness Week: A Comprehensive Seminar on Groundwater Conservation and Its Role in SDG 14: Life Below Water

The **Seminar on Groundwater Conservation**, held on July 19th, 2023, as a part of the **Groundwater Awareness Week at Glocal University**, was a pivotal event focused on educating participants about the importance of groundwater preservation. This initiative was strategically aligned with **SDG 14: Life Below Water**, which emphasizes the need to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development. While SDG 14 primarily addresses marine life and coastal ecosystems, its goals extend to the conservation of water resources, as groundwater is intricately linked to aquatic ecosystems and contributes to maintaining the balance of water cycles.

Purpose and Objectives:

The seminar aimed to provide an in-depth understanding of the critical role groundwater plays in supporting life both above and below the surface. Groundwater is a key component of global water resources, sustaining ecosystems, agriculture, and daily human activities. However, excessive extraction, pollution, and mismanagement of groundwater can have long-term detrimental effects on both terrestrial and marine environments. The seminar focused on creating awareness about the need to protect and sustainably manage groundwater, aligning with SDG 14's overarching goals of ensuring healthy water systems for the benefit of all life forms.

The seminar was attended by students, faculty, staff, and local community members, bringing together a diverse group of individuals committed to learning about groundwater issues and solutions.

Seminar Structure and Key Highlights:

The event began with an **inaugural session**, where **Pro Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Pankaj Kumar Mishra**, delivered a welcoming address, emphasizing the importance of preserving groundwater and its connection to the health of marine ecosystems. He pointed out that while groundwater conservation is a land-based issue, its implications extend far beyond land-based systems and directly influence water quality in marine environments, especially in coastal areas where groundwater discharge impacts the health of oceans and seas.

Campus Director, Dr. S. P. Pandey, further highlighted that groundwater conservation is essential not only for human survival but also for sustaining life below water. He outlined how unsustainable water practices can lead to contamination of freshwater systems, affecting the delicate balance of aquatic life.

Presentations and Expert Insights:

Throughout the day, **distinguished experts** from various fields of environmental science, hydrology, and water management shared their research findings and practical strategies for groundwater conservation. These sessions covered a broad range of topics relevant to **SDG 14** and the sustainable use of water resources.

1. **Groundwater and its Role in Aquatic Ecosystems:** The seminar started with a presentation on the role of groundwater in supporting aquatic ecosystems, particularly in the context of **marine life**. Groundwater often contributes to the health of rivers, lakes, and coastal waters, as it is a source of base flow to rivers and an important contributor to maintaining the salinity balance in coastal areas. The presentation detailed how the over-extraction of groundwater can result in the depletion of aquatic ecosystems, affecting the biodiversity of both freshwater and marine life.
2. **Sustainable Groundwater Use for Agriculture and Industry:** Another session focused on the role of groundwater in **agriculture** and **industry**. Groundwater is a major source of water for irrigation, especially in arid and semi-arid regions. However, excessive groundwater extraction for irrigation can lead to **land subsidence**, reduced river flows, and lower water quality, impacting both terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Experts discussed **rainwater harvesting**, **efficient irrigation technologies**, and **water recycling practices** that can help conserve groundwater while ensuring sustainable agricultural and industrial growth.
3. **Impact of Groundwater Pollution on Marine Life:** A critical discussion revolved around the **pollution of groundwater** and its cascading effects on marine life. Groundwater pollution, often due to agricultural runoff, industrial waste, and untreated sewage, leads to the contamination of rivers and coastal water bodies. This contamination can disrupt marine food chains, harm aquatic biodiversity, and pose health risks to humans and marine animals alike. Experts provided case studies and research findings on how **nitrate pollution**, **pesticides**, and **toxic chemicals** from groundwater seep into nearby aquatic ecosystems, further emphasizing the need for integrated water management strategies to mitigate pollution.

4. **Climate Change and Groundwater Depletion:** Climate change exacerbates groundwater depletion by altering precipitation patterns, increasing the frequency of droughts, and changing the water retention capacity of soil. Experts discussed how **climate change** impacts both groundwater levels and the quality of surface water, highlighting the interdependence of groundwater and the broader **hydrological cycle**. The seminar underscored the need for adaptive strategies in water management to account for the uncertainties associated with climate change.

Strategies for Groundwater Conservation:

The seminar concluded with a series of **recommendations** and **strategies** for groundwater conservation, with a special focus on practical, community-level solutions that could align with the goals of **SDG 14**:

- **Rainwater Harvesting:** A significant portion of the seminar was dedicated to **rainwater harvesting** as a sustainable method to recharge groundwater. Rainwater harvesting techniques, including the use of **percolation pits**, **check dams**, and **water retention systems**, were discussed as effective solutions to replenish depleted groundwater reserves.
- **Water Use Efficiency:** The experts advocated for **water-efficient technologies** such as **drip irrigation**, **smart irrigation systems**, and **moisture sensors** to optimize groundwater use in agriculture. They also emphasized the importance of **recycling wastewater** in industrial and domestic sectors to reduce reliance on groundwater.
- **Sustainable Water Practices in Coastal Regions:** For areas near coastal regions, groundwater management was discussed as a critical factor in **preventing saltwater intrusion**. Protecting groundwater from over-extraction in these areas is essential to prevent the encroachment of seawater into freshwater aquifers, which can severely affect the quality of water used by both humans and aquatic species.
- **Community Engagement and Education:** Experts encouraged the involvement of local communities in **groundwater management**. They stressed the need for **public awareness** campaigns, school education programs, and grassroots mobilization to promote responsible water use.

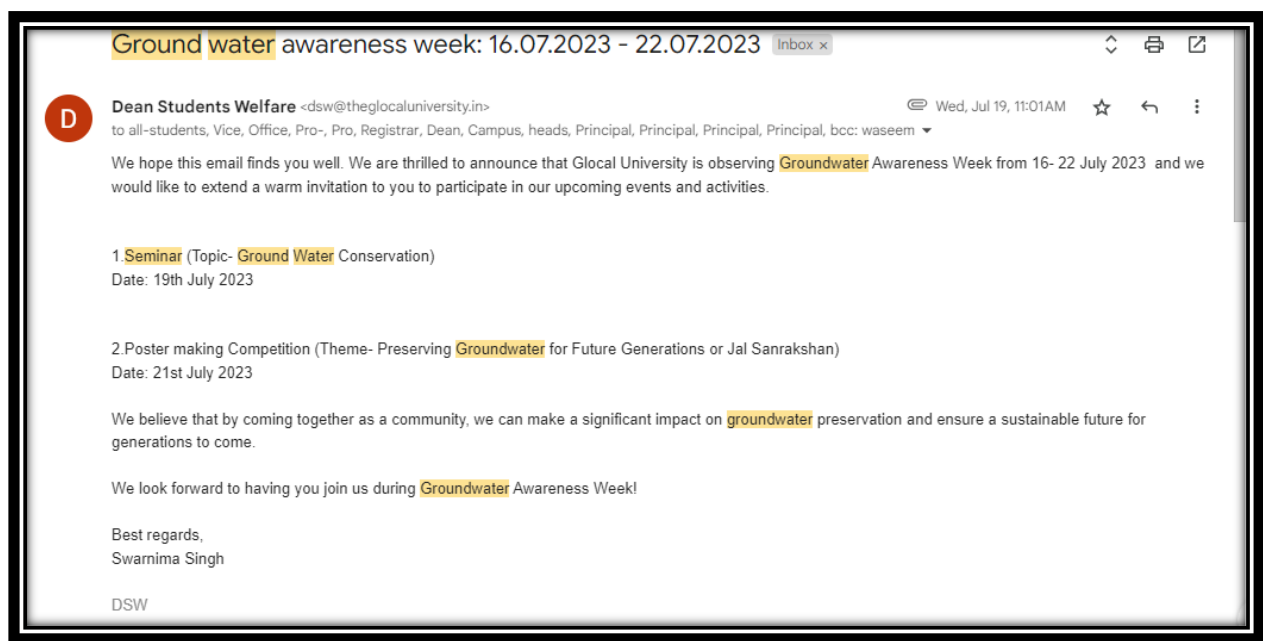
Outcome of the Seminar:

The seminar was a resounding success, providing valuable insights and fostering collaboration among participants from various sectors. It highlighted the importance of an integrated approach to water management that links groundwater conservation with the protection of marine ecosystems. By raising awareness of the critical role that groundwater plays in the **hydrological cycle**, the event reinforced the interconnectivity of water systems and the necessity of sustainable practices to ensure the preservation of aquatic life both on land and in the oceans.

The participants left the seminar with a deeper understanding of the direct and indirect effects of groundwater depletion on marine and freshwater ecosystems, and a renewed commitment to supporting initiatives that contribute to **SDG 14: Life Below Water**.

In conclusion, the **Seminar on Groundwater Conservation** at Glocal University was an essential event that not only educated participants about the significance of groundwater but also highlighted its central role in sustaining life, including life below water. The discussions, expert insights, and practical recommendations provided during the seminar underscored the importance of responsible water use and the need for sustainable groundwater management practices to achieve the targets of SDG 14.

By integrating groundwater conservation into the broader framework of **SDG 14**, the event contributed to a more holistic understanding of water resource management and the interconnectedness of terrestrial and marine ecosystems. This initiative marked an important step in fostering environmental stewardship and empowering individuals and communities to take action towards the preservation of groundwater and the health of aquatic environments.





Cleanliness Drive at Glocal University: Promoting Environmental Stewardship and Supporting SDG 14: Life Below Water

Mirzapur, 19 January 2024: In an effort to promote environmental hygiene and support sustainable practices, Glocal University, under the leadership of Vice Chancellor **Dr. P.K. Bharati**, organized a large-scale **Cleanliness Drive** on **22nd January 2024**. This initiative, part of a broader effort aligned with the **Swachh Bharat Mission**, aimed not only at beautifying the campus but also at reinforcing the importance of reducing pollution and fostering a sustainable, plastic-free environment in alignment with **SDG 14: Life Below Water**.

Event Overview:

The event was a collaborative effort between the university's administration, faculty, and students, who enthusiastically participated in this cleanliness drive. The event served as a reminder of the essential link between land and water pollution and the vital role of universities in fostering a clean, sustainable environment. Dr. Bharati led the drive, emphasizing the urgent need to tackle plastic waste and its devastating impact on marine life and water ecosystems.

Key Participants and Activities:

Dr. Bharati, alongside **Prof. Suresh Babu Sharma, Proctor, Prof. U.P. Singh, Dr. M.P. Singh, Dr. Deepak Shrivastava**, and numerous senior faculty members, spearheaded the drive. The campus community rallied together to collect plastic waste, litter, and debris from key areas across the campus. Equipped with cleaning supplies, participants focused on areas where waste could potentially affect local waterways and soil.

The university has prioritized ensuring that its campus remains free of plastic waste, which can find its way into rivers and oceans, further threatening aquatic ecosystems. The drive, while focused on cleanliness, also brought attention to the harmful effects of improper waste management and the need for responsible consumption and disposal practices.

Environmental Awareness and SDG 14:

Dr. Bharati's address highlighted that cleanliness is not just a matter of aesthetic appeal but also a critical step in ensuring the protection of **aquatic ecosystems**, a key element of **SDG**

14: Life Below Water. He emphasized the importance of reducing plastic use, proper waste management, and sustainable practices to prevent plastic from entering the water cycle, where it poses a significant threat to marine life.

Dr. Bharati encouraged everyone to adopt more eco-friendly habits, such as reducing single-use plastic and supporting recycling efforts. He shared how such initiatives not only protect local environments but also support global efforts to combat marine pollution and ensure healthier oceans and waterways.

Impact and Outcomes:

- **Promotion of a Clean Environment:** The cleanliness drive had an immediate impact on beautifying the campus, clearing out plastic waste, and reducing the potential for pollution. The initiative also highlighted how crucial it is to prevent litter from entering water systems, which directly contributes to the contamination of rivers, lakes, and oceans.
- **Increased Awareness of Environmental Responsibility:** The event succeeded in raising awareness about the long-term effects of pollution on water bodies, inspiring participants to adopt sustainable practices and maintain a cleaner, more eco-conscious campus.
- **Commitment to SDG 14:** This drive was a direct contribution to **SDG 14**, emphasizing the link between cleaner land and healthier aquatic ecosystems. The university community showed their commitment to the goal of reducing marine pollution and protecting aquatic life for future generations.

The **Cleanliness Drive at Glocal University on 22nd January 2024** was an exemplary demonstration of the university's dedication to environmental sustainability and its active contribution to **SDG 14: Life Below Water**. By addressing the issue of plastic waste and fostering a culture of cleanliness, the event underscored the university's role in protecting water ecosystems from pollution. The drive not only beautified the campus but also reinforced the idea that environmental responsibility extends beyond land-based action and is intrinsically tied to preserving our waterways.

Through this initiative, Glocal University continues to inspire its students, faculty, and staff to engage in ongoing efforts to reduce environmental pollution, contributing meaningfully to global efforts to protect life below water and ensure a sustainable future.

ग्लोकल विश्वविद्यालय ने चलाया सफाई अभियान



ग्लोकल विश्वविद्यालय में सफाई अभियान चलाते शिक्षक व कर्मचारी। (कलीम)

मिर्जापुर, 19 जनवरी (कलीम): ग्लोकल विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति प्रो. डा. पी.के. भारती के दिशानिर्देशन में 22 जनवरी को अयोध्या में भगवान श्रीराम की प्राण प्रतिष्ठा संबंधी प्रस्तावित आयोजन के दृष्टिगत ग्लोकल विश्वविद्यालय परिसर में सफाई अभियान सहित अन्य तैयारियां की जा रही हैं। इस अवसर पर ग्लोकल विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति प्रोफेसर डा. पी.के. भारती ने कहा कि ग्लोकल विश्वविद्यालय ने

प्लास्टिक एवं गंदगी की सफाई के माध्यम से परिसर को स्वच्छ और सुंदर बनाने का संकल्प लिया है।

इस कार्यक्रम में उपरोक्त गणमान्य के साथ-साथ प्रतिकुलपति प्रो.डा. सतीश कुमार शर्मा, प्रतिकुलपति प्रोफेसर डा. पी.के. मिश्रा, डीन एकेडमिक प्रोफेसर डा. प्रमोद कुमार सहित सभी विभागों के विभागाध्यक्ष, शिक्षकगण व गैर शिक्षण कर्मचारी सहित छात्र छात्राएं ने पूरे उत्साह से सफाई आभियान में भाग लिया।

