

## Report on Extension Activity on Rainwater Harvesting and Groundwater Recharge Awareness Program, organized by Environmental Sustainability Club, Department of Civil Engineering held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026 at Integral University, Lucknow

The **Environmental Sustainability Club**, Department of Civil Engineering, Integral University, Lucknow, organized an outreach extension activity titled “**Rainwater Harvesting and Groundwater Recharge Awareness Program**” on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026 at two nearby institutions in Mahmudabad — *New Vision Inter College* and *Pt. Santoshi Lal Shukla Memorial Inter College*. The program aimed to create awareness among school students regarding water conservation practices, rainwater harvesting techniques, and the significance of groundwater recharge in addressing the growing challenge of water scarcity.



*Students of New Vision School during the event*

and recharge wells were explained in a simple and engaging manner. The use of charts, diagrams, and real-life examples enabled students to clearly understand how these systems can be implemented in schools and residential areas.

An interactive discussion session followed, during which students actively participated by asking insightful questions and sharing their perspectives on water conservation. The session emphasized the importance of adopting water-saving habits in daily life and encouraged students to serve as ambassadors of environmental awareness within their families and communities.

The extension activity commenced at New Vision Inter College, Mahmudabad, with an introductory session highlighting the present water crisis and the urgent need for sustainable conservation measures. The resource person elaborated on the concept, benefits, and practical applications of rainwater harvesting. Various techniques such as rooftop rainwater harvesting systems, recharge pits, percolation tanks,



*Mr. Mohd Asim, Program Coordinator with New Vision School students*



*Dr. Ammar Rizvi addressing the gathering*

Subsequently, the program continued at Pt. Santoshi Lal Shukla Memorial Inter College. The Principal and the organizing committee warmly welcomed the team from the Department of Civil Engineering, Integral University. Dr. Ammar Rizvi, who served as the Acting Chief Minister

of Uttar Pradesh, was also present during the event. He appreciated the efforts of the Department in promoting awareness about rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge.

During the session, Mr. Mohd Asim briefed the participants about the Government of Uttar Pradesh's initiatives for water conservation, particularly the "Catch the Rain 2025" campaign undertaken by the Jal Shakti Department. He highlighted that the government aims to equip over 2.35 lakh government and semi-government buildings across the state with rooftop rainwater harvesting systems, marking a significant step toward groundwater recharge and sustainable water management.



*Mr. Mohd Asim addressing the students of Pt. Santoshi Lal Shukla Memorial Inter College*



*Students of Pt. Santoshi Lal Shukla Memorial Inter College*

Additionally, it was informed that the Uttar Pradesh administration has made rainwater harvesting systems mandatory for buildings above a stipulated size, ensuring widespread adoption in both urban and rural areas. These policy measures reflect the state's strategic commitment to strengthening groundwater resources and enhancing long-term water security, aligning closely with the objectives of the awareness program.

The program significantly enhanced students' understanding of rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge and motivated them to adopt sustainable water management practices. The activity contributed positively toward nurturing environmentally responsible citizens and strengthened the University's engagement with the local community.

A total of 125 participants attended the program, including 120 students from both institutions. The event was successfully coordinated by Mr. Mohd Asim, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, and Mr. Faraz Hasan Qadri, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering. The Department expresses its sincere gratitude to Prof. Syed Aqeel Ahmad, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, for his continuous support and encouragement.

This activity is mapped with the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- **SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation:** The programme promoted sustainable water management practices by creating awareness about rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge mechanisms. It sensitized participants to the importance of conserving water resources, improving water-use efficiency, and reducing dependency on over-exploited groundwater sources, thereby contributing to long-term water security and environmental sustainability.

- **SDG 13 – Climate Action:** The activity strengthened awareness regarding climate resilience and adaptive strategies for water conservation in the face of changing rainfall patterns and increasing water scarcity. By encouraging environmentally responsible behavior and sustainable resource management, the programme supported climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts at the community level.

- **SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities:** Through advocacy of decentralized water management systems such as rooftop rainwater harvesting and recharge pits, the programme promoted sustainable urban infrastructure and responsible community participation. It encouraged environmentally conscious practices that contribute to resilient and resource-efficient settlements.

- **SDG 4 – Quality Education:** The initiative enhanced environmental literacy and experiential learning by educating students and community members about scientific water conservation techniques. It fostered sustainability-oriented knowledge, civic responsibility, and informed decision-making beyond conventional classroom instruction.

The Rainwater Harvesting and Groundwater Recharge Awareness Program was conducted successfully with enthusiastic participation. The initiative effectively achieved its intended objectives and underscored the importance of organizing such extension activities regularly to promote sustainable development and social responsibility.