DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

BEST PRACTICE

Ecofriendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi



Title of the Practice: Eco-friendly Vinayaka Chavithi.

The Context:

Ganesha Chaturthi (Gaṇēśa Caturthī or Vināyaka Chaviti) is the Hindu festival celebrated in honour of the God Ganesha, the elephant- headed, remover of obstacles and the God of beginnings and wisdom. The festival, also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi, is observed in the Hindu calendar month of Bhaadrapada, starting on the shukla chaturthi. (Fourth day of the waxing moon period).

The modern festival involves installing clay images of Ganesha in public pandals (temporary shrines), which are worshipped for ten days with 21 variety of herbal leaves, plants. These are immersed at the end of the festival in a body of water such as a lake, along with the Idol. After adding herbal and medicated plants and leaves (patri) in lakes, the water in the lake becomes purified. This was in practice because, in early days people used to drink lake water, and to protect people from infections and viral diseases especially in this season, this tradition was introduced. Some Hindus also install the clay images of Ganesha in their homes.

Environmental impact: The most serious impact of the festival on the environment is due to the immersion of idols made of Plaster of Paris into lakes, rivers and the sea traditionally, the idol was sculpted out of mud taken from nearby one's home. After the festival, it was returned to the Earth by immersing it in a nearby water body. This cycle was meant to represent the cycle of creation and dissolution in Nature.

However, as the production of Ganesh idols on a commercial basis grew, the earthen or natural clay (banka matti in Telugu) was replaced by Plaster of Paris. Plaster is a man-made material, easier to mould, lighter and less expensive than clay. However, plaster is non - biodegradable, and insoluble in water. Moreover, the chemical paints used to adorn these plaster idols themselves contain heavy metals like mercury and cadmium, causing water pollution. Also, on immersion, non-biodegradable accessories that originally adorned the idol accumulate in the layers of sand on the beach.

Objectives: To enlighten the public regarding the value and medicinal importance of plant leaves used in Vinayaka Chathurthi and pollution caused due to the usage of plaster of paris for making idols which results in pollution and harmful effects of the water bodies. Earthen vinayaka idols for distribution.

The Practice: Every year one programme is organized to educate the students and public regarding the importance of plants used in patri puja and to avoid the usage of plaster of paris idols. For example; distributing earthen vinayaka idols for public, arrangement of exhibitions with 21 types of leaves and plants used in Puja and organizing rallies to educate the public.

Impact of the practice

Our exhibitions regarding 21 types of leaves used in vinayaka puja educated the students regarding the importance of those herbals in our health care. It is also useful for understanding the central idea of our culture, custom and the cause for introducing such type of puja by our ancestors. Besides this aspect many of our students are now interested to use earthen idols during this puja.

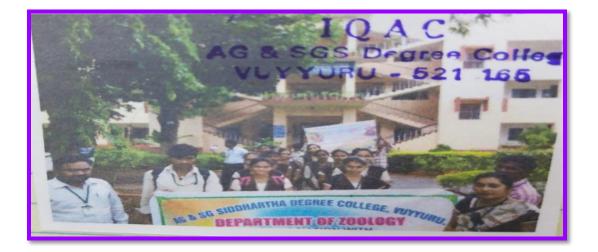
Resources required: A collection of leafy plant twigs used in Vinayaka Chavithi during this puja.

Eco friendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi.

The Department of Botany in association with IQAC organized a rally about **'VINAYAKACHAVITHI-with a slogan SAVE THE NATURE – SAVE THE NATION'** and given message **'Mattivinayakudini pujiddham – Paryaavarananni kaapadudam'** on24th August2017.In this connection students know about puja pathri and their medicinal values.



Students participated in this programme



Rally conducted on the occasition of Vinayaka Chathurdhi

Eco friendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi.

The department of Botany and garden committee in association with IQAC organized a ecofriendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi slogan with" Matti vinayakudini pujiddam – paryavarananni kaapadudam" and the department of b Botany arranged Vinayaka pathri and clay idols and distributed to all the staff members.



Biology staff distributing pathri & vinayaka clay idols to vice principal.



BZC Students participating in the rally programme

Eco friendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi.

The department of Botany in association with IQAC organized a ecofriendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi on 31st August 2019. With Slogan "matti Vinaya kudini pujiddam – paryavarananni kaapadudam" and the department of Botany arranged Exhibition on vinayaka pathri and clay idols and distributed to all the staff members.



Exhibition conducted on vinayaka chaturthi



COUNDUCTED RALLY ABOUT eco-friendly VINAYAKA CHAVITHI

2021 - 22

Eco friendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi.

The department of Botany in association with IQAC organized a ecofriendly Vinayaka chathurdhi on 09th September 2021. with Slogan" Matti vinaya kudini **pujiddam** – **paryavarananni kaapadudam**" and the department of Botany arranged Exhibition on Vinayaka pathri and clay idols and distributed them to all the staff members. All the III BZC students participated in the program.



Principal sir speaking a few words about eco-friendly Vinayaka



Our college staff gave pathri to Chief guest



Paper clipping about vinayaka chathurdhi programme

Eco friendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi.

The department of Botany in association with IQAC organized a ecofriendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi on 30 th August 2022. With a slogan"**matti vinaya kudini pujiddam – paryavarananni kaapadudam**" and the department of botany arranged an Exhibition on Vinayaka pathri and clay idols and distributed them to all the staff members. All the III BZC students participated in the program.



Student gave the idol & pathri to special officer of the college



Student gave the clay idol & pathri to Sri. J. Nageawar Rao senior member of Chemistry department

Eco friendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi.

The department of Botany in association with IQAC organized an ecofriendly Vinayaka Chathurdhi on 18 th September 2023. With slogan" Matti Vinaya kudini **pujiddam – paryavarananni kaapadudam**". The department of Botany arranged an Exhibition on Vinayaka pathri and clay idols. All the III BZC students participated in the program



Students give the pathri to the Principal





Exhibit of different types of Vinayaka idols – prepared by students