An Extra Initiative:
The Pawna River Water Analysis at PCCoE

Pune, Maharashtra | 16th January, 2024

The extra initiative was carried out by a group of six students of S.B. Patil Public School, and the science teacher Ms. Trupti Zarkar who visited the Pimpri Chinchwad College of Engineering (PCCoE) Campus on 16th January, 2024 for a water analysis session.

It was an activity following the Pawna Jal Dindi 2023. Analysis helps us interpret data while structuring the data into a format that's easy to understand and applicable in real-world situations. And hence, we did not stop just by taking part in Pawna Didndi we tried to understand analysis as well.

Students were guided by experts: Dr. Sandeep Mali and Mr. Rajeev Bhavsar at the Department of Environmental Engineering, where 12 different water samples were displayed. These samples were taken from various places starting from the Pawna River source to the places where it enters the city (Ravet Bhandara).

The aim was to study the change in water quality as the river leaves its source and approaches the city. Dr. Sandeep Mali and the laboratory in-charge explained to the students about various methods undertaken during the water sample analysis.

Students were introduced to the Multi-Parameter Kit: a modern-day device used to determine water purity. Students gained insights on various aspects (Chemical, Physical, Biological) of water analysis which include pH test, TDS, temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, hardness.

Mr. Rajeev Bhavsar sir enlightened our students with their thoughts on river protection. Students delved into a brief history of Jal Dindi Pratishthan which organizes Jal Dindi annually. An application called Jaldindi has been developed by the organizers to educate people about river pollution and give them an opportunity to be a part of 'River Police'.

An extensive discussion was held on the topic of water hyacinth as a pollution indicator and towards the end of the session, certain possible solutions were discussed.

There were several learning outcomes: Students developed interest in undertaking experiments for water quality checks. They understood the extent of water pollution and how it ultimately affects common man's pockets. And they developed a deeper knowledge of the rivers in their vicinity.

Key learnings were: Everyone who participated gained insight of water polluting indicators (such as water hyacinth); they understood the role of a river in our everyday life; and finally they understood the aspects of chemical, biological and physical analysis of water.

Evidences

1. Photo collage
2. **Video links**
    a. Interaction with students about water analysis
    b. Demonstration of multi parameter kit