



OTBL launches environment conservation programme for Gujarat schools

Students will also engage in 'Adopt a Plant' initiative with 1500 saplings in three cities

New Delhi: ONGC TERI Biotech Limited (OTBL) has recently launched a new educational programme called **'Protectors of the Environment'** to sensitize and motivate young school children and adults in environment conservation under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. This programme will employ several tools such as visual instruction and hands-on application and learning, which are designed to inspire children to translate **'thought' into 'action'**.

The programme will be conducted in 15 underprivileged government and private schools of Ahmedabad, Ankleshwar and Mehsana in Gujarat – **an operational area for OTBL**, involving more than 2000 students from class VI to IX. Students will learn the concepts of renewable energy, water and waste management as part of the principles of Sustainable Development through books specially developed for this programme by **TERI**. The students will also be engaged to undertake a plantation drive and monitor the growth of the trees.

Shri A K Dwivedi, Director (Exploration), ONGC and Chairman, OTBL, while launching the Programme, said, **"There is no denying the fact that the environment is constantly changing. We have started to experience the adverse impacts of environmental degradation and painfully beginning to learn that environmental resources are limited and need to be sensitive to everything that we do today. To make sure that the future generations do not experience the worse, we need to prepare them with the ideals and requirements of sustainability. Hence, this initiative by OTBL under its CSR programmes."**

Dr Banwari Lal, Director and CEO, OTBL stated, **"We are all dependent on Earth for our basic needs, and have been using the resources (mostly non-renewable) for years and years now. It is very evident with growing population and extensive use of natural resources that our future generations may be deprived of and may face scarcity to meet their needs. Through OTBL's initiatives by educating young children on the importance of environment conservation, it is hoped the next generation would be more environmentally conscious and sensitive in protecting this vital resource in years to come."**

Designed in **three phases over a period of one year**, following will be the major areas of activities throughout the course of the programme:

First Phase - Introductory session will be organised with students, which includes forming a group of students known as **Environment Protectors**; establishing a plant protector club; and introducing 'Adopt a Plant' initiative by students for 500 saplings in each city.

Second Phase – Through interactive activities, performing arts, and project-based learning, environment experts will address environment issues raised by students. Participants will be monitored on the level of increase in their sensitivity towards environment, awareness of the impact of their actions and measures taken by them towards a cleaner environment.

Third Phase - An impact analysis of the programme will be done to see how beneficial this programme was towards environment. The most proactive environment protector will be applauded for his/her efforts **towards a Greener Planet**.

About OTBL

ONGC TERI Biotech Limited (OTBL) is a Joint Venture of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) - a Fortune 500 Maharatna Government of India Enterprise, the largest crude and gas producing company in India, and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) - an independent, not-for-profit research institute focused on energy, environment, and sustainable development and devoted to efficient and sustainable use of natural resources.

OTBL is currently engaged in providing large-scale bioremediation solutions to Oil and Gas Industry in India and abroad, by application of '**OILZAPPER**' for cleaning up oil spills, undertaking MeOR and WDP (Wax Deposition Prevention) / PDB(Paraffin Deposition Bacteria) jobs for the prevention of paraffin deposition in oil well tubing and surface flow lines.