Report

<u>"We Reap What We Throw" – An Interactive Session on Solid Waste</u> <u>Management</u>

Date: 8th November, 2020

Team Enactus, Mata Sundri College for Women conducted an Interactive Webinar on Solid Waste Management on 8th November 2020 at 11:30am via Google Meet. The domain experts for the event were Mr. Omendra Srivastava, Technical Head of Swachh Bharat Mission and Mr. Ajay Arora Founder of Waste Management Corporation. Honourable Principal Dr. Harpreet Kaur graced the event with her presence and offered encouragement to the participants. A total of 125 participants attended the webinar.

Mr. Omendra Srivastava focused on changing the misconceptions around waste by emphasizing that waste is a resource which can generate energy and employment if correctly managed. He talked about the huge career potential for youth in the field of solid waste management in India, providing data through a stimulating presentation that revealed that India is currently managing only 30% of solid waste in a compliant manner whereas the rest 70% is disposed of in landfills and is gradually being managed with improved technology and resources.

Mr. Ajay Arora outlined the milestones and achievements of the start-up company Waste Management Corporation to inspire students to explore the field and emphasized the dignity of labour involved in waste-management. He outlined the business prospects of SWM and encouraged students to do field-trips to their organization and collaborate with various NGOs to get started.

The experts answered wide-ranging questions asked by the audience, including queries on biomedical waste-management and waste worker-safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic and how plastic is being recycled and being reinserted as a resource into the economy.

The webinar was a thoroughly educational event for the audience. As feedback for the event, Mr Omendra Srivastava remarked, "I on behalf of Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (Jal Shakti) congratulate the entire management, teachers, advisors, students of Mata Sundri College and assure them my best support ever for any noble cause related to environmental field."