

## Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad (MS) Reports for Extension/Outreach Activities Carried out in Year 2019

Name of Activity

Cleaning Drive by NSS Volunteers during Ashadhi Wari

**Date of Conduction** 

27-07-2019

Organized by

**National Service Scheme** 

**Student Participated** 

150

## **Brief Report**

On July 27, 2019, the National Service Scheme (NSS) volunteers from Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad conducted a significant cleaning drive at Saswad village near Pune during the Ashadhi Wari. The Ashadhi Wari is a major pilgrimage event that attracts millions of devotees, leading to a substantial influx of people and considerable waste generation. The cleaning drive aimed to address the environmental challenges posed by this massive gathering, promote hygiene, and ensure a cleaner and healthier environment for both pilgrims and residents. Key activities and sessions included an inauguration ceremony, cleaning activities, public awareness campaign, community engagement, feedback collection, and reflection. The event was inaugurated by a local government official, who emphasized the importance of cleanliness during large-scale events like the Ashadhi Wari. The cleaning activities involved teams of volunteers divided into teams to clean specific areas, including pilgrimage routes, resting spots, and communal gathering places. Waste was collected and segregated into recyclable and non-recyclable categories, and the collected waste was handed over to local waste management authorities for proper disposal and recycling.





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Activities carried out by students under NSS activity. The participants of the event was highly motivated by the presence of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. D. Shinde

The public awareness campaign was organized by volunteers setting up booths to distribute informational pamphlets and discuss the importance of cleanliness and waste management with pilgrims. Signs and loudspeaker announcements were used to remind pilgrims to dispose of waste responsibly and maintain cleanliness. Local residents and community leaders were encouraged to participate in the cleaning drive and share their perspectives on waste management. Reflection were collected from participants, local residents, and pilgrims to assess the effectiveness of the cleaning drive and identify areas for improvement. NSS volunteers shared their experiences and reflections on the impact of their efforts and the importance of community service. The immediate impact of the cleaning drive was enhanced cleanliness and hygiene, as it significantly reduced the amount of waste and litter in the Saswad village and along the pilgrimage routes, improving the overall cleanliness and hygiene of the area. The event promoted sustainable waste management practices among pilgrims and local residents, encouraging them to adopt responsible behaviors. The public awareness campaign educated thousands of pilgrims about the importance of cleanliness and the environmental impact of waste. Many participants expressed a commitment to maintaining cleanliness and reducing waste in their daily lives. Active participation from both university volunteers and local community members fostered a sense of collective responsibility for environmental stewardship. The involvement of NSS volunteers provided additional resources to local authorities, helping them manage the large volume of waste generated during the Ashadhi Wari more effectively. The drive highlighted the need for improved waste management infrastructure and practices in areas affected by large-scale events. Challenges and solutions for future activities include managing large crowds, separating waste on-site, and expanding coverage. Recommendations for future activities include expanding the cleaning drive to cover more areas and including additional volunteers and resources, increasing community engagement, developing more comprehensive educational programs and materials to raise awareness about the environmental impact of waste and the importance of cleanliness, and conducting follow-up activities to monitor the cleanliness of the area and assess the long-term impact of the cleaning Ambedkar Maralhwag drive.

Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Dr. Babasaleb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad (MS)



