

## **Cherish the Billion year old History**

Save the soil campaign, is the talk of the town, forget the town, it is the talk of the whole world. Our Earth's soil has seen billions of years. It has been here since the formation of this very planet. It has seen the very first animals emerging from underneath the water onto the soil, growing land legs and adapting to its surroundings. It has seen the entire age of the dinosaurs, woolly mammoths and sabre-toothed tigers, supported the first humans, and seen the rise and fall of great empires and the start into the 21st century. Yet, we are destroying our soil, which has been alive for over 4.5 billion years in a matter of few years. Soil degradation is the decline in soil condition caused by its improper use or poor management, usually for agricultural, industrial or urban purposes. It is a serious environmental problem. As a part of Sadhguru's 'Each one Reach one' movement PSBB students designed posters to raise awareness about soil conservation.

We, the students of PSBB Siruseri took a step forward to spread awareness about the conservation of soil in the neighbourhood . On the 15th of June 2022, a few Eco club members from grades VIII , IX and X went to Eden Park, a community in Siruseri to campaign about Soil Conservation. We arrived at the Club House at approximately 9:30 am. As is the tradition, the programme started with an invocation to the almighty by two students from gradeVIII. Following the prayer , we had two students, Abirami from class XA1 and Aadit from class VIIIA1 sharing their views on the need for Soil Conservation and the ways in which we can help preserve soil for the future generations.They spoke about how the quality of the soil is degrading rapidly with the increased use of chemical fertilisers, the dumping of non-biodegradable garbage and toxic wastes, excess deforestation and mining and the construction of high rise building on fertile soils just to name a few.

Mr.Selvam, the Ex-Committee Executive of Eden Park, enlightened us with his horticultural wisdom. He talked about the need to preserve soil for our future generations, ways to conserve our soil and rejuvenate its fertility so that it is accessible for various scientific discoveries in the future. He said, " Just like how we have so many different people living on the planet earth, of diverse cultures, traditions and languages, there are many species under the soil dependent on it for their survival. It takes at least 100 years to form a single layer of topsoil, vital for growing crops. We need to reduce the use of one-time plastics, practice afforestation, even if it is in the form of a few plants in and around our house and encourage farmers to opt for natural fertilisers ."His speech filled with passion for trees and nature made us realise that it is our duty, not only as a citizen of this country, but as a human living on this planet, to do our part in the conservation of our soil. "If we destroy the soil beneath our feet, the earth won't be there to catch us when we fall."

Eden Park committee members Mr.Selvam and Mr.Somasundaram addressing the students



Campaigners championing the cause of SOS



**SHUTTERBUGS**  
**Arushi Balaji**  
**X B1**