

No Planet B, So Protect Environment: Twitteratis on World Environment Day

Shivani Saxena and Seema Shama

The hashtag # World Environment Day was trending on the number one slot on Twitter with over 80,000 tweets by Sunday evening. Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked the people to take a pledge to work for conserving the environment resources. Students, nature lovers, youth and a number of celebrities took to the online platform to express their views on the 'World Environment Day'.

Sachin Tendulkar tweeted, "On this World Environment Day let us make an effort to protect nature and leave behind a greener planet."

Art of Living founder Sri Sri Ravi Shankar also posted, "Let us not put clothes, bangles and other non-biodegradable items in the rivers under the pretext of worship World Environment Day." BJP spokesperson Shahnawaz Hussain also tweeted, "No matter what infra/material wealth we have, without a clean and green environment the quality of life cannot be good."

Bollywood actor Arjun Kapoor tweeted, "We don't have a Planet B. So let's protect and conserve the environment "#World Environment Day".

Besides the celebrities, several environment lovers also took to social media to show their love and concern for the environment on the occasion.

Youth activist Vipin Singh Rana took to Instagram to share a beautiful nature picture with resolution tags like Hovering #Rudraprayag# 'World Environment Day# lovegarhwal# resolution noplactic.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Harish Rawat also requested the people on the social media to take an oath to preserve and protect environment and contribute towards safeguarding and enriching environment on the occasion.

Meanwhile, to mark the 'World Environment Day' on Sunday, local activists organised a walk around the district court here, which is dotted with peepal trees, to highlight the multiple benefits of the tree on 'World Environment Day'.

Groups like Doon Nature Walk (DNW) and Been There Doon That (BTDT) held a joint citizen walk in the area and told people about the benefits of the tree. Sargam Mehra, member of BTDT told *TOI*, "Peepal is a magnificent tree which gives fruit throughout the year and has a lot of birds such as hornbill. Butterflies and insects are dependent on it for food and home. "This tree also has religious and cultural significance. In Kumooan, women revere it when they hold fast for the longevity of their husbands. By holding a walk related to the peepal tree on 'World Environment Day' we wanted to sensitise people not just on the benefits of the tree but also highlight the importance of such tree in nature.

The Forest Research Institute also organised a marathon and exhibition to commemorate the day.