



HSNC UNIVERSITY, MUMBAI

Kishinchand Chellaram College

Faculty of Science and Technology

Under the aegis of DBT Star Status and Star Scheme



RCRCG '21

REROUTING FROM CODE RED TO CODE GREEN

Department of Life Sciences

In Collaboration with

WCB Research Foundation and PassionEdx

Presents

Essay Writing Competition

Date: October 8 – 25, 2021

Participants: 101

"If you want to change the world, pick up your pen and write."

- Martin Luther

The Department of Life Sciences, Faculty of Science and Technology, K. C. College, HSNC University, organized an essay writing competition, under the DBT- Star Status and Star Scheme activities, as a part of the **Rerouting from Code Red to Code Green 2021** initiative. The competition was conducted from the 8th to 25th of October, 2021, in collaboration with **Wildlife and Conservation Biology Research Foundation, Gujarat** and **PassionEdx Non-Governmental Organization, Singapore**. It was conducted for school and junior college students (standard 8th to 12th) as well as undergraduate college students. The medium of expression was English, Hindi and Marathi. A total of 101 participants from across Maharashtra and all over India participated in it.

This multilingual competition invited students to write an essay of 1500– 2000 words on key areas of environmental concern to achieve sustainability, through three topics, **Green Festivals - Caring**

for Environment, Eco-Cities - A Dream for a Better India and **Earth 2050- The Guru Mantra of Nature**. The competition encouraged young students to find practical yet unique suggestions for celebrating festivals while caring for nature and its resources. It also helped understand their perspective on how urban infrastructure can be developed in a sustainable manner. It brought together the youth of today to create a world where nature does not need to be protected anymore. In all, the competition aimed at the expression of creativity and passion of youth for finding innovative solutions to better the environment.

The essays were evaluated by leading environmentalists and academicians from esteemed institutions, including, **Dr. Neelima Kulkarni**, Chairperson, Mulund Vibhag, Hariyali NGO, **Dr. Sachin Sata**, Associate Editor, Trailblazers, **Dr. Jagruti Rathod**, Founder, Centre for Nature & Ecosystem Wellbeing, **Dr. Sharada Balasubramaniam**, Environmental Journalist, **Dr. Archana Thite**, Former Faculty, Kishinchand Chellaram College, and **Dr. Meera Shrivastav**, Principal, K.G. Children's School, Gwalior.

All essays were judged on their content, organization, relevance to the theme, and novelty of ideas; after a thorough assessment, 15 participants were chosen as prize winners in each of categories. Our judges believed that this competition accomplished its goal of assisting high school and college students to take a note of the current state of our environment while allowing them to brainstorm ideas for a positive change. They further said that being environmentally conscious is extremely important and this was well reflected in the essays written by the young participants. Reading the essays was an enriching experience for all judges. They praised the efforts of the participants and team RCRCG'21 while extending their warmest wishes for future endeavors.

The results of the competition are as follows:

Category	Total No. of Participants	First Prize	Second Prize	Consolation Prize
Undergraduate Category - English	56	Sameeksha Pati Sonia Gyanchandani	Bhavika Suhas Gurav	Sanskriti Vishal Naik Ruhi Pathan Nehal Hareshwar Patil Sneha Sharma Nandini Jha
8th-12th Grade Category - English	41	Saniya Parkar	Dhruti Jhaveri	Nidhi Dnyaneshwar Wadekar Saatvik Nigam Vedanti Ghanekar
Hindi	3	Rama Dubey		

Marathi	5	Sahil Shrinivas Arekar		
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The pen is certainly mightier than the sword; the essay writing competition successfully encouraged the youth to recognize their ownership and responsibility as the creators of the future by giving them a choice to express their views on the type of world they wish to create. Team RCRCG'21 is grateful to their collaborators, WCB Research Foundation, Gujarat and PassionEdx, Singapore, through whom State, National and International participation could be invited. Lastly, kudos to all the 101 participants, as we at RCRCG'21 believe that each one of them is a Winner!

~ Team RCRCG'21
Dept of Life Sciences
K. C. College