







## A Report on "World Ozone Day" Organized by Department of Chemistry 13.09.2024



First place and second place winners will be awarded with cash prize.

Convener: Dr. Renjith Bhaskaran, Asst. Prof. & Head, Dept. of Chemistry, MITS Chief Guest: Dr. R. Thulasiram Naidu – Advisor, R&D and consultancy, MITS

Attendees: 125 students & 10 faculty members

Venue: Seminar Hall A Time: 12:00 PM to 01:00 PM

On 13th September 2024, the Department of Chemistry organized an awareness program on the importance of the ozone layer, the issue of ozone depletion, and its broader environmental implications. The event was held at Seminar Hall A to mark Ozone Day, celebrated globally to emphasize the urgent need to protect this vital shield in our atmosphere.

## **Background:**

The significance of Ozone Day traces back to 1987, when representatives from 24 nations came together in Montreal to commit to preventing further harm to the ozone layer, leading to the **Montreal Protocol**. To commemorate this, the United Nations General Assembly, on 19th December 1994, proclaimed **16th September as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer**, with the first observance held in 1995.

## **Program:**

The program commenced with Dr. Lipeeka Rout, representing the organizing committee from the Department of Chemistry, extending a warm welcome to the esteemed dignitaries:

- 1. Dr. R. Thulasiram Naidu, Advisor of R&D and Consultancy;
- 2. Dr. K. Chandramohan, I.B. Tech Coordinator for the Chemistry stream; and
- 3. Dr. Renjith Bhaskaran, Head of the Department of Chemistry.

The dignitaries were invited to take their places on the stage to grace the occasion.

In his opening address, Dr. Renjith Bhaskaran warmly welcomed the audience, outlining the goals of the **Montreal Protocol** and emphasizing the need for continued efforts to protect the ozone layer, which is critical for life on Earth.



Following this, Dr. K. Chandramohan provided an insightful overview of the program's background, explaining its relevance and significance in the context of environmental awareness.

Dr. R. Thulasiram Naidu, the Chief Guest of the event, delivered an impactful keynote address. He spoke about the broader environmental challenges we face today, illustrating his points with real-world examples that resonated with the participants.

In the lead-up to the event, the Department of Chemistry organized a series of competitions on 11th September 2024 to engage students and raise awareness about Ozone Day. These included **an essay writing competition**, **a quiz, and a drawing competition**. The winners of the essay writing and quiz competitions were awarded cash prizes and letters of appreciation for their outstanding contributions.



As part of the day's activities, the **campaign video for World Ozone Day 2024**, produced by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), was showcased. This video highlighted the critical need to accelerate climate action and the role of ozone layer preservation in this global effort.

The highlight of the program was a special lecture delivered by Dr. Rashmi Roy, Assistant Professor from the Department of Chemistry, MITS. Her talk, titled "Ozone: An Inevitable Molecule for Our Life," shed light on the crucial role the ozone layer plays in sustaining life on Earth.



The event concluded with an interactive session, where both students and faculty actively participated in discussions, further enriching the learning experience. The program wrapped up with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Rajaram R. from the Department of Chemistry, expressing gratitude to all those who contributed to the success of the event.

The Department of Chemistry extends heartfelt thanks to the management, Principal, and other administrative officials for their unwavering support in ensuring the smooth execution of this important program.

Faculty members and students from various departments attended in large numbers, underscoring the interdisciplinary importance of environmental protection.