## Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution Department of Consumer Affairs (P&C Division)

## Report of Department of Consumer Affairs containing details of activities undertaken during swachhtta Pakhwada from 16<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

In pursuance of guidelines of M/o Drinking Water and Sanitation and D.O.Letter No 561/01/01/2017-CA.IV dated 07.12.2021 from Cabinet Secretary for celebration of Swachhta Pakhwada. The campaign aims to create a clean and hygienic India by promoting the practice of cleanliness and sanitation. The Department of Consumer Affairs can play a crucial role in promoting the campaign by raising awareness about the importance of cleanliness and hygiene among consumers. The department can encourage consumers to adopt healthy habits, such as segregating waste, reducing the use of single-use plastics, and promoting composting. The department can also work on enforcing the rules and regulations related to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, such as the ban on plastic bags and the use of bio-degradable materials. By working together with the government and the public, the Department of Consumer Affairs can contribute to making India cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable.

A pledge-taking ceremony on Swachhta was held at krishi bhawan where the Secretary (CA) administered the pledge. This event aimed to raise awareness and encourage people to take responsibility for cleanliness and hygiene in their surroundings. Additionally, an essay competition on Swachhta was conducted to promote the cause among the youth and encourage them to actively participate in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan campaign. This event was a part of the larger efforts to create a cleaner and healthier environment and make India a better place to live in.

Several organizations operating under the Department, including BIS, NCCF, NTH, IILM, and RRSLs, have observed Swachhta Pakhwara in their offices as per their respective Action Plans. They have contributed to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan by undertaking various activities and initiatives during the Swachhta Pakhwara.

NATIONAL TEST HOUSE: The National Test House (NTH) actively participated in the 'Swachchata Pakhwada' initiative, held from February 16th to 28th, 2022. The initiative aimed to engage all central Government ministries and departments in "Swachchata" related activities. NTH conducted various activities and programs throughout the 16-day period to promote cleanliness and hygiene in its regional laboratories. This included taking the

Swachchata Pledge, organized cleaning efforts, Swachchata Walks, technical talks, and spreading the message of cleanliness in the community.

Regional Reference Standard Laboratories:RRSLS outlined a series of activities and events to observe the Swachhata Pakhwada initiative from February 16th to 28th, 2022. These include taking the Swachhata Shapath and engaging in Swachhata activities in laboratory premises, weeding out and digitizing old files, conducting online awareness activities on single-use plastic with State Governments and industries, promoting Swachhata Pakhwada awareness in schools, processing and disposing of unused equipment and waste materials, organizing painting and debate competitions on Swachhata Pakhwada in schools, and inaugurating renovated Divyangjan toilets and RRSL buildings. Additionally, the initiative will involve a special drive to clean nearby areas and online awareness activities on Swachhata Pakhwada and single-use plastic with State Governments and industries.

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE CONSUMERS FEDERATION OF INDIA: NCCF has been promoting cleanliness and hygiene among its staff and members, as well as in the communities it serves. The organization has organized various awareness campaigns and activities to encourage people to adopt good hygiene practices and maintain cleanliness in their surroundings. NCCF has also collaborated with other government bodies and NGOs to drive the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan forward, and continues to work towards building a cleaner and healthier India.

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS): Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has recently completed the weeding out of outdated records and files, totaling 7523, according to the retention plan. The Swachhata Pakhwara initiative was conducted in all BIS offices between February 16 and February 28, 2022. All employees participated in the drive, including the cleaning of their computer monitors, table racks, and restrooms. BIS also undertook the cleaning of equipment, machineries, terrace, solar plant, doors, windows, and fans. The disposal of old furniture and other equipment was carried out in all BIS offices, and unserviceable furniture and equipment items were identified and disposed of. The segregation of plastic and e-waste at source was also implemented, and innovative activities such as awareness programs, workshops, meetings, and vermicomposting were conducted under the Swachhta Action Plan (SAP) 2021-22.