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> TITLE OF EVENT/ PROGRAMME : Outreach Program

> THEME OF THE EVENT/ PROGRAMME:

A Social outreach Activity as sensitization to maintain hygienic condition to food stalls outside Asutosh College was undertaken by the Dept. of Microbiology on 12 Sept. 2024. Faculties and Semester V students took part in the event.

> ACADEMIC SESSION: 2024-2025

DATE: 12 Sept 2024

VENUE: Food Stalls nearby Asutosh College

> OBJECTIVE/ PURPOSE:

The primary objective of this visit was to assess hygiene conditions and promote better practices among food vendors. This initiative aimed to enhance the students' understanding of microbiological principles in real-world settings and to raise awareness about food safety.

> SPEAKER/S / RESOURCE PERSON/S:

Dr. Pranab Kumar Das, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Microbiology, Asutosh College Dr. Gajendra Nath Maity, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Microbiology, Asutosh College Mrs. Nilanjana Bose, Faculty, Dept. of Microbiology, Asutosh College

> TARGET AUDIENCE/ PARTICIPANTS:

Owners of food stalls as tea stall, fast food stalls as chowmin, egg-roll stalls and poochka stall. Semester V students participated in the event enthusiastically.

> BRIEF REPORT ABOUT THE EVENT/ PROGRAMME:

All vendors did not demonstrate good practices, such as wearing gloves and masks while handling food and using sanitized utensils. Some stalls lacked proper waste disposal methods, and a few vendors did not have access to clean water for handwashing. Instances of cross-contamination were noted, particularly when raw ingredients were handled without proper cleaning of surfaces.



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Vendor Education

During discussions, students provided information on the importance of:

- · Regular handwashing and using hand sanitizers.
- Implementing a systematic cleaning schedule for equipment and surfaces.
- Hand gloves and masks were distributed to the vendors and their importance of wearing these was elucidated.

> EXPECTED OUTCOME:

The visit to local food stalls was an insightful experience for undergraduate microbiology students, allowing them to apply theoretical knowledge in practical settings. By engaging with vendors and observing hygiene practices, students not only identified key areas for improvement but also contributed to promoting food safety awareness. Continued efforts in educating food vendors and the community will be essential in enhancing hygiene standards and protecting public health.

> GEO-TAGGED PHOTOGRAPHS:





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