**OBSERVATION OF *SWACHHATA PAKHWADA* DURING 1ST APRIL TO 15TH APRIL 2019 AT**

**ICMR-REGIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE, NE REGION, DIBRUGARH**

ICMR-RMRC, Dibrugarh has organized program on Swachhata under Swachh Bharat Mission programme during 1 – 15 April 2019 and a series of programmes were organized at our centre.

In connection with observation of Swachhta Mission Plan of Govt. of India and to observe Swachhta Pakhwada w.e.f. 1st April 2019 to 15th April 2019, an Oath taking Ceremony has been done on 4th April 2019 at 11.00 AM, which was followed with cleanliness drive in the office premises of RMRC, Dibrugarh. Scientists, staffs, project staffs and outsourcing personnel have taken part in this programme actively. In this drive, the areas of Administrative Building and around the Auditorium have been cleaned.

 In continuation to the above programme, a plantation drive at the medicinal garden of this centre was observed on 5th April 2019. About 60 plant saplings having medicinal properties were planted by the staffs of RMRC, Dibrugarh. During the post lunch session of this programme, talk on ‘HEALTH AND HYGIENE’ was organized in the conference room of the State-of-the-Art-Laboratory of the Centre. Scientists and projects staffs of this Centre have attended this meeting. In this programme after brief introduction by Dr. A.M. Khan, Scientist ‘F’ of the centre, two Research Scholars put their views regarding the importance of cleanliness and hygiene practices. It was an interactive session where audience has participated actively.

Another programme of Govt. School students of class X to XII has been arranged on 6th April 2019, where students of four colleges of Dibrugarh district visited ICMR-RMRC NE Dibrugarh along with their teachers. They were taken to the conference room of the State of the Art laboratory, where a lecture cum interactive session was done by Dr. A.M. Khan of ICMR-RMRC, Dibrugarh. Students were very enthusiastic and curious to know about the research activities being under taken by our Centre. Dr Khan has delivered a lecture on Mosquito borne diseases and soil transmitted Helminths. The talk was focused on the importance of cleanliness practices to be adopted by the students in their schools and also at their homes and surrounding areas. This practice will minimize mosquito breeding sites. They have been also advised how to prevent soil transmitted infections like Ascaris, hookworm and tapeworms etc. by proper hand washing before taking their meals and after use of toilets. This programme was well appreciated by the teachers and students.