

MES ASMABI COLLEGE
Department of Economics

Report on the Observance of World Ocean Day – 2025

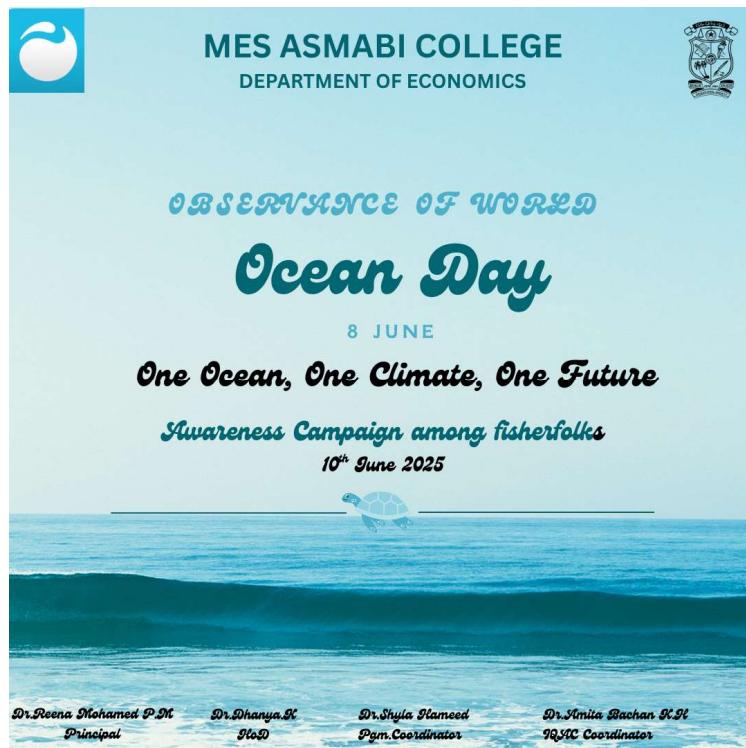
Date of Event: 10th June 2025

Venue: Coastal area of Vemballur

Theme: *"One Ocean, One Climate, One Future"*

Programme Type: Awareness Campaign and Socio-Economic Survey among Fisherfolk

As part of the global observance of **World Ocean Day**, the Department of Economics, MES Asmabi College, organized an **Awareness Campaign among fisherfolks** on 10th June 2025, aligning with the UN-declared theme *"One Ocean, One Climate, One Future."*



The campaign was intended to spread awareness on the importance of sustainable ocean practices, marine conservation, and the challenges faced by coastal communities due to climate change and environmental degradation. The programme was led under the guidance of:

- **Dr. Reena Mohamed P.M** – Principal
- **Dr. Dhanya K** – Head of Department
- **Dr. Shyla Hameed** – Programme Coordinator



Programme Highlights:

1. Inauguration and Awareness Session:

- The event began with a brief inaugural session led by student representatives, followed by an informative talk by faculty members on the significance of ocean protection, the dangers of overfishing, pollution, and rising sea levels.
- Pamphlets and brochures in Malayalam were distributed to ensure better understanding among the local fisherfolk.

2. Survey on the Socio-Economic Problems of Fisherfolk:

- A field survey was conducted by student volunteers of the Economics Department.
- A **structured questionnaire** (prepared earlier) was used to gather data from **50 fisherfolk** selected through simple random sampling.
- Students visited individual households and boatyards to interact and collect responses.

Key Issues Identified from the Survey:

- **Economic Vulnerability:**

A large percentage of respondents reported irregular income due to seasonal fishing bans and unpredictable weather patterns.

- **Debt and Credit Issues:**
Many rely on private money lenders due to the inaccessibility of formal credit.
- **Environmental Concerns:**
Respondents reported a significant decline in fish availability over the years, attributing it to pollution and climate change.
- **Lack of Modern Equipment:**
Majority still depend on traditional fishing methods due to unaffordability of modern gear and lack of training.
- **Healthcare and Education:**
Poor access to healthcare and dropout rates among children were also noted as concerns.

Outcome and Suggestions:

- The campaign served as a valuable platform for students to understand real-world issues and for fishers to voice their concerns.
- Based on the survey, it is suggested that:
 - Local authorities be informed of the data for possible policy-level action.
 - Training workshops be conducted for fishers on modern techniques and sustainable practices.
 - Awareness on government schemes and formal credit channels be improved.

Conclusion:

The observance of **World Ocean Day 2025** was a meaningful initiative by the Department of Economics to bridge the gap between academia and grassroots realities. The students' active involvement and the warm reception by the fisherfolk community underscored the impact of combining awareness with action-oriented research.