The World Environment Day 2019 was observed by ICMR-National Institute for Research in Environmental Health (ICMR-NIREH), Bhopal. Keeping up with this year’s theme – ‘Beat Air Pollution’, the institute conducted an awareness programme on Air Pollution for Traffic Police Personnel at the Police Control Room of the city. In the awareness programme, the personnel were briefed about the potential sources of air pollution, the associated health effects and preventive measures that can be taken to mitigate the health effects. Besides, a health camp was also organized for the traffic police officials wherein the Peak Expiratory Flow Rate of about 70 officials was measured and N-95 masks were distributed to them.

The institute also organized a popular lecture on Air Pollution for its staff at its under-construction Bhauri campus. Dr. R.R. Tiwari, Director, ICMR-NIREH, Bhopal while extending a welcome to the gathering, mentioned that this year’s theme for the World Environment Day is in line with the growing global concern regarding the potential environmental and health effects of Air Pollution and underscored the need to work towards community engagement to promote practices that may help in reducing air pollution. Dr. Anil Prakash, Scientist-G in his popular lecture on Air Pollution talked at length about its major sources, and its impact on the burden of disease and discussed some of the steps that one can take in everyday life to reduce the menace of air pollution. To celebrate the spirit of environmental conservation, staff members of the institute planted around fifty saplings at the Bhauri campus of ICMR-NIREH.