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Effective microbes for a clean hospital

Special Correspondent

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FOR THE PEOPLE: Siruthuli Managing Trustee Vanita Mohan takes a glass of water from a cooler that was installed at the Coimbatore Medical College Hospital on Monday. Siruthuli, a public movement to conserve water resources, and Safe Express, a courier service provider, have donated two coolers. Dean (In-Charge) of the hospital V. Kumaran (left) and Resident Medical Officer A. Angusamy (second left) are in the picture. —

COIMBATORE: Effective microbes solution seems to have passed a stiff test: ridding the Coimbatore Medical College Hospital's mortuary of flies and stench. Voluntary organisation Siruthuli's four-month experiment at the mortuary and the maternity ward is said to have paid off. This was confirmed by the hospital authorities on Monday with an announcement that they planned to use the solution in all the wards.

The authorities said that Health Secretary V.K. Subburaj had been briefed on this during his visit to the hospital a few months ago. He had sought a report on the experiment and how much success it had recorded.

Siruthuli, a public initiative for reviving and conserving water resources, is spraying the solution on the garbage dumps at the Coimbatore Corporation's waste yard at Vellalore to keep flies away.

A thick layer of dirt on the mortuary floor was gone on Monday because the floor was cleaned every day with the solution, Siruthuli Managing Trustee Vanita Mohan said.

The cost of the solution would be only 25 per cent of what the hospital normally incurred on other disinfectant, experts in Siruthuli explained. At the same time, 90 per cent of the problem of smell and flies in the mortuary and the maternity ward had been controlled, they said. The hospital authorities too said that the solution was very effective.

According to Siruthuli sources, an added advantage was that the solution could prevent the breeding of the Aedes aegypti mosquitoes. These mosquitoes transmitted the Alpha virus that caused chikungunya. Spraying of the solution on stagnant water would help prevent the breeding, they said.

"We were sceptical when we began the experiment. Now, we are certain that this can be effective in keeping the hospital clean and also in keeping flies away from garbage anywhere," Ms. Mohan said. She also suggested that the hospital be divided into small zones to test the solution's effectiveness.

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