

## Green winners



**PROUD MOMENT:** Students and teachers of Salwan Public School receiving the Green School Award for 2010-11, organised by the Centre for Science and Environment, from Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit in New Delhi on Friday. PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

# Delhi, Andhra schools are 'greenest'

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**NEW DELHI:** Salwan Public School (morning), Old Rajinder Nagar, invested substantially in rainwater harvesting over the past few years and today they capture 80% of the runoffs from rainwater and taps. The school also monitors its waste generation and recycles 100% of all categories.

These and other 'green' efforts paid off on Friday. It topped the list of 'changemakers' at Delhi level and was ranked second at the national level during the CSE's Green School Awards 2010-11.



Delhi CM Sheila Dikshit with students of Sarvodaya Government Senior Secondary School, Soami Nagar (Delhi). **VIPIN KUMAR / HT**

The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) annually confers the awards to recognise schools that excel in managing their natural resources, under the Green School Programme

(GSP), being run since 2006.

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Ongole (Andhra Pradesh), topped the 'changemakers' category at the national level. The awards also included 'new'

## Million trees

At the CSE function, CM Sheila Dikshit, who gave away the awards, also announced that a million trees will be planted across the national capital from July last week till August 15.

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school category to encourage new entrants to the GSP. Kendriya Vidyalaya Number 1, Uppal (Hyderabad) topped the national level while Kendriya Vidyalaya, Vigyan Vihar in east Delhi, topped at the Delhi level.

# Salwan leads the green brigade

**S**alwan Public School, Rajinder Nagar bagged the first position at the Green School Awards '2011 by beating all the schools of Delhi and have been awarded the Chief Minister's rolling trophy. The school bagged second position at the national level beating 15,000 schools from all over the country.

"The GSP audit has given me and

my students an identity," says Rekha Lalla, the environment coordinator, who has led the school's audit teams ever since 2006.

The Salwan community now is an active partner of the local residents welfare association, sharing ideas, holding joint activities, lobbying with the local MLA for preservation of parks and the Ridge.

## The Fifth Green Schools Programme

### The Change Makers



Salwan Public School (Morning), Old Rajinder Nagar, Winners, Delhi State Chief Minister's Rolling Trophy, Change Makers Rank 1.



# Schools turn green chapters into reality

Neha Pushkarna | TNN

New Delhi: Government Girls Secondary School in Chhatarpur is located in the rocky Aravalli zone where water is scanty. Still the students maintain 105 species of native plants on the school premises. Not only that, there is no borewell but only proper management of MCD water that these girls depend on.

- In far west, Salwan Public School at Old Rajinder Nagar recycles paper to make files for administrative use. The students have planted trees on the central verge under the metro bridge stretching from Rajendra Place to Karol Bagh. They even made cloth bags from scrap material and went out to different markets on Sundays to offer them to shoppers using polythene bags.

Rainwater harvesting, waste management, tree plantation, con-

serving energy were mere chapters in the environmental sciences book till a few schools in the city turned them into practice. Seventeen of them were given the annual Gobar Times Green Schools award by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) on Friday for their efforts to make sure that the environment lands up in wise hands tomorrow.

Five city schools were awarded for making a change

over the past few years while five others were felicitated for a successful debut in the Green Schools Programme launched by CSE in 2006.

While Salwan Public School (Morning) topped the list of change-makers in the city, the school in Chhatarpur became the best resource manager for effective conservation of land. Other change-makers were St George's School at Alakhnanda, Sad-

hu Vaswani School, The Pinnacle School at Panchsheel Enclave and Deepalaya School near Kalkaji.

"We have been associated with the green school programme for the past five years. Our students and the environment teacher are really passionate and motivated for this cause. In fact, we had started the plantation drive back in 1993. In 2003, we planted

nearly 10,000 trees on either side of the Ridge though

they were all uprooted on one side to build a wall for the Commonwealth Games," said Vandana Puri, principal, Salwan Public School (Morning).

Nearly 15,000 schools from 18 states are associated with the green school programme. Of these, 144 qualified for the assessment for awards. There were 20 national toppers this year, including Salwan and St George's from Delhi. Dolly Malho-

tra, a teacher and eco-club coordinator at St George's, said: "We segregate waste and use it to make vermicompost. Our building is also designed in a way that we have enough sunlight and we do not need to switch on lights most of the times. We have also linked such environment projects with continuous and comprehensive evaluation in school."

According to CSE, schools have gone beyond token gestures for conserving environment. "They are real-time managers now. They took stock of the situation, identified problems, found solutions and are making an impact now. Many have switched to clean transport system, 100% change-maker schools have declared themselves as zero-waste zones while 70% of them are making a shift as far as energy conservation is concerned," said Sumita Dasgupta, programme director at CSE.

## SHOWING THE WAY

## GREEN CRUSADERS





# YOUNGISTAN KA VOW: THINK GREEN, GO GREEN AND DO GREEN

## SUCCESS STORY

Students from across India receive the CSE's Green Schools Awards

Anushka Bhartiya

**NEW DELHI:** The atmosphere and mood was all green on Friday when Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)'s Green Schools Awards for 2010-11 were presented to the greenest schools in the country. The award ceremony was held at India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road.

These awards are given by CSE to schools in the country that have excelled in natural resource management under the Green Schools Programme (GSP) launched in 2006. Delhi chief minister Sheila Dikshit and members of the contemporary rock band Indian Ocean — Rahul Ram, Amit

