

GSP SPECIAL

gobar times

ISSUE NO: 262, March 1-31, 2024

A DOWN TO EARTH SUPPLEMENT FOR THE YOUNG AND CURIOUS

GSP



CELEBRATING THE EVERGREEN SPIRIT

An exclusive coverage of The Green Schools Carnival 2024,
hosted by the Green Schools Programme (GSP) of the
Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi

And the Award goes to...

Recapitulating the prestigious Green Schools Awards and felicitating the inspiring contribution of all the awardees.

The much awaited and eagerly anticipated Green Schools Carnival of the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi was back on 30th January 2024. Against the backdrop of climate change and environmental degradation, the Carnival underscored the vital role of children and educators in championing sustainability-based initiatives. Through their collective efforts, it highlighted how they are transforming their schools into abodes of environmental consciousness and are undertaking action to save our planet for future generations. The Carnival poignantly reminded us of the urgency to mitigate our challenges, which is the core cause the Green Schools Programme (GSP) works on.



Sakshi Uniyal



Souparno Banerjee

This year, the GSP audit had a record-breaking participation of 5,305 schools. Of these, the GSP team proudly certified 199 schools from diverse corners of the nation as 'Green.' 26 distinguished institutions clinched the coveted Annual Green Schools Award for their exceptional stewardship of environment-based issues. Beyond schools, distinctions were bestowed upon for the best state and best district and the contributions of the most proactive educators were also recognised. Along with CSE's Director General Sunita Narain, the award winners were felicitated by Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Union Ministry of Education; Julia Marton

Lefevre, former Director-General, IUCN; and Joyce Poan, Programme Specialist and Chief of Education, UNESCO India.

The carnival offered much more than just accolades. The attendees were treated to a diverse and dynamic array of on-the-spot activities and events. From the annual climate change quiz to a showcase of the most innovative climate solutions—there was something catered for everyone. The highlight of the morning was the *Gobar Times* (GT) fashion fiesta, in which students reimagined a GT cover as an innovative costume and walked the ramp. The best entries in each category received prizes and certificates.

More than just a celebration of achievements, the Green Schools Carnival 2024 was a testament to the power of education and community in driving a positive change. By empowering schools and their stakeholders, it laid the foundation for a greener and resilient future.



The 2023-24 awards



BEST STATE

Punjab

★ Awarded for the highest number of audit registrations and report submissions. Total 4,734 schools submitted the report out of which 70 were rated 'Green'.

Green Schools

THE CHANGEMAKER AWARDS

For schools which improve their sustainability rating to 'Green' by monitoring and improving their practices over the year.

The winners

★ **PM SHRI Kendriya**

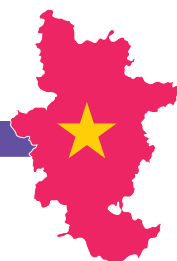
Vidyalaya No. 1,
Ordnance Factory, Katni,
Madhya Pradesh

★ **Satya Bharti School**
Lakhowal, Ludhiana, Punjab



BEST DISTRICT

Sangrur in
Punjab with
503 report
submissions



THE BEST NEWCOMER

For the school recently registered with GSP and showing great potential in managing its resources.

★ **Toc H Public School,**
Ernakulam, Kerala



THE STERLING SCHOOLS

For schools rated 'Green' for five or more consecutive years.

The winners

★ **Ashok Memorial Public School,**
Faridabad, Haryana

★ **Bal Bharati Public School,**
Noida, Uttar Pradesh

★ **Bal Bharati Public School,**
IMT Manesar, Haryana

★ **DAV International School,**
Amritsar, Punjab

★ **East Point School,**
East Delhi, New Delhi

★ **Indirapuram Public School,**
Pratap Vihar, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh



★ **Mahindra World School,**
Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu

★ **Motilal Nehru School of Sports,**
Rai, Sonapat, Haryana

★ **Sachdeva Global School,**
South West Delhi, New Delhi

★ **Sacred Heart School,**
Kalyan, Maharashtra

★ **Salwan Public School,**
Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh

★ **St Edmund's School,**
Jaipur, Rajasthan



Green Schools

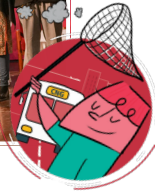
SECTION TOPPERS

For 'Green' schools that have performed outstandingly in a specific category.



AIR

Kendriya Vidyalaya,
AFS Akkulam,
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala



LAND

Zila Parishad High School,
Gandaboyana Palli,
Annamayya, Andhra Pradesh



ENERGY

Government Model Boys Senior Secondary School,
Nalagarh, Himachal Pradesh



WASTE

B K Birla Public School,
Kalyan, Maharashtra



WATER

Lake Montfort School,
Bengaluru, Karnataka



THE GSP AMBASSADORS

Awards for educators who go beyond the GSP audit to inculcate environmental awareness among their students and school-community.



★ **Lalita Gautam,**
Little Flowers
Public Senior
Secondary School,
North East Delhi,
New Delhi

★ **Priya Nishant,**
Countryside
International
School, Surat,
Gujarat (right-
most)

★ **Seema Dutt,**
Birla Vidya
Niketan, South
East Delhi, New
Delhi (third from
left)

★ **Surekha David,**
Kendriya
Vidyalaya,
Nalgonda,
Telangana

Sakshi Uniyal is a Programme Officer in the Environment Education Unit (EEU), and Souparno Banerjee is the Senior Director for Outreach, Publications, and EEU in CSE.



Tushita Rawat

GSP CARNIVAL 2024

The Bout: Second Edition

Young climate warriors from different parts of the country battled it out for the coveted title of the ultimate Climate Champions in *The Bout* — Green School's Programme (GSP) annual climate quiz for schools. Organised as a signature event of the Green Schools Programme Carnival & Awards Ceremony at the India Habitat Centre on 30 January 2024, the second edition of *The Bout* was double the fun and double the adrenaline!

Over 35 school teams, consisting students from Grades 6 to 10, participated in the inter-school quiz competition. The event opened with a brief address by CSE's climate change experts. The quiz comprised two rounds — an elimination round and a main round. Top eight school teams cleared the elimination round and progressed to the main round. The top three teams at the end of the main round were titled this year's Climate Champions. CSE's Director General Sunita Narain gave away prizes to the winners during the awards ceremony on stage.

The quiz also included an audience round after every set

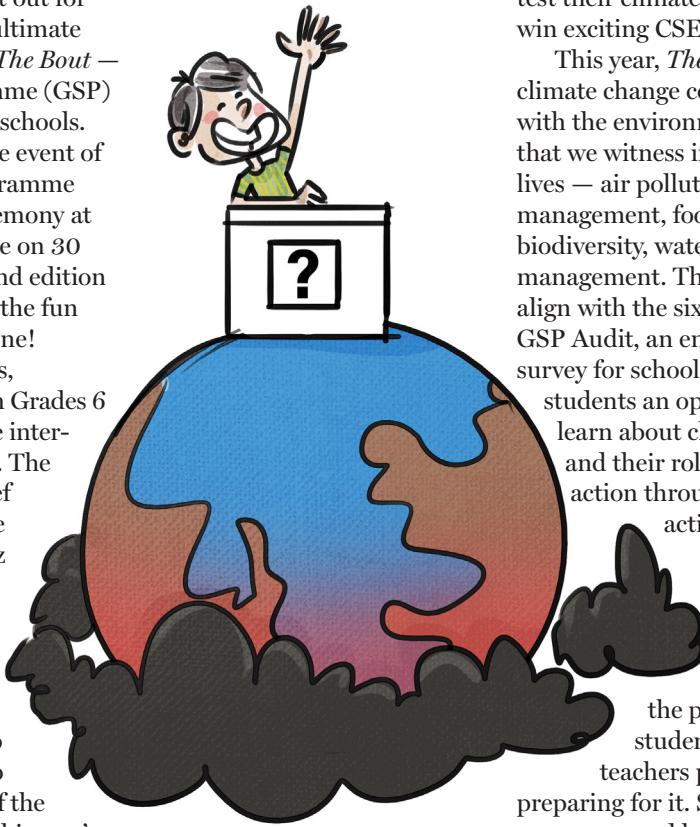
All about cracking the climate code with the Annual Climate Change Quiz in the Carnival'24.

of questions, providing an opportunity for the spectators to test their climate quotient and win exciting CSE goodies.

This year, *The Bout* explored climate change connections with the environmental issues that we witness in our everyday lives — air pollution, energy management, food patterns, biodiversity, water and waste management. These themes align with the six sections of the GSP Audit, an environmental survey for schools, that gives students an opportunity to learn about climate change and their role in climate action through hands-on activities.

The success of the quiz was a testament to the efforts and time that the participating students and their teachers put in to preparing for it. Students' awareness and knowledge about climate change and action only gives us hope and tells us that **THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT!**

The author is a Programme Manager in the Environment Education Unit of CSE.



Delhi Public School,
Sector-132, Gautam
Buddh Nagar, Uttar
Pradesh

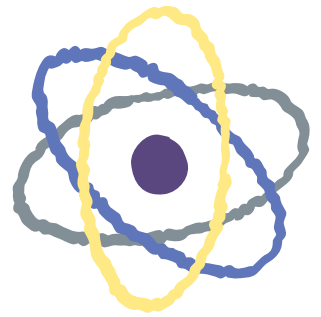


Delhi Public School,
Ludhiana, Punjab



Indirapuram Public School,
Crossings Republik,
Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh





Neeraj Kumar

GSP CARNIVAL 2024 THE SOLUTIONS SHOWCASE

An exhibition of innovative ideas, offering solutions in the sphere of climate change, hosted on 30 January 2024 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

As part of the Green Schools Carnival 2024, the Green Schools Programme (GSP) of the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) hosted *The Solutions Showcase*. Held on 30th January 2024 at the Stein Auditorium Lawns, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, the theme of the exhibition resonated with the most pressing challenge facing our world today—climate change. Hence, the GSP invited students from its affiliated schools to share their innovative and practical ideas to mitigate climate change. It truly believes that our actions today will shape our ability to survive this crisis tomorrow. The exhibition brought together ten schools to present their ideas.

The exhibition encouraged the participants to present their

solutions in various formats, including tangible working models, mobile applications, study reports, and more. Among the exceptional projects showcased, the one that stood out was the Self-Sustaining Irrigation System (SSIS) by Hitarth Singh and Samanyu Bizla of Sri Venkateswara International School, New Delhi. Their model offered a solution to the water and energy issues related to agriculture and horticulture. By leveraging natural resources and smart technology, the SSIS optimized water management, promoted plant growth, and fostered environmental sustainability. The project's potential for further development and application heralded a promising future for sustainable agriculture and gardening practices.

The success of *The Solutions Showcase* underscores the power of scientific temperament and collaboration in tackling the most pressing challenges of our time. As we move forward, events like these will serve as beacons of hope, inspiring us to work together towards a greener and resilient future for generations to come. Below are the details of the projects showcased in the exhibition.

WaterWise: An App-Based Approach to Water Conservation

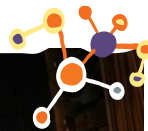
By: Bal Bharati Public School, Noida, Uttar Pradesh

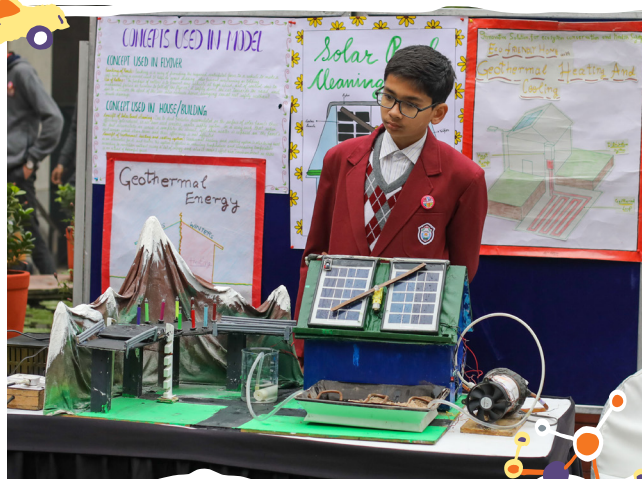
Description: WaterWise is an innovative mobile application designed to promote water conservation practices among users. The app offers tips, reminders, and personalized water usage tracking to encourage mindful consumption and reduce water wastage.

Climabot: Chatbot to Answer Your Queries on Climate Change

By: Bluebells Schools International, New Delhi

Description: Climabot is an interactive chatbot programmed to answer questions and provide information on climate change. Users can engage with the chatbot to learn about climate science, environmental policies, and sustainable practices to mitigate the climate crisis.





Self-Reliant City: Using Green Energy

By: Doon Valley Public School, Solan, Himachal Pradesh

Description: Self-Reliant City is a project aimed at creating a sustainable urban environment by harnessing renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power. The initiative focuses on reducing carbon emissions and promoting energy independence among urban communities.

Prakriti Anukul Vikas: Utilizing Geothermal Energy to Maintain A Constant Building Temperature

By: Indraprastha International School, New Delhi

Description: Prakriti Anukul Vikas utilizes geothermal technology to maintain a constant temperature within buildings by harnessing the natural thermal energy stored underground. This creative approach to temperature control reduces the dependence on conventional heating and cooling systems, leading to energy saving and many environmental benefits.

Agro-Waste Solution: Transforming Stubble into Daily Life Products

By: Little Flowers Public Senior Secondary School, New Delhi

Description: The Agro-Waste Solution project focuses on repurposing agricultural waste, specifically stubble, to create everyday products. By converting stubble into usable materials, the initiative aims to reduce agricultural waste burning, mitigate air pollution, and promote sustainable resource utilization.

ENVIROVISION: Transforming Stubble into Valuable Resources

By: Shiv Nadar School, Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Description: Envirovision aims to address the issue of stubble burning by transforming agricultural residue into valuable resources. The project seeks to empower farmers with alternative income opportunities while promoting environmental sustainability through innovative waste management practices.

Climate Management & Visualization System: Website to Visualize Climate Data

By: Dr. Rajendra Prasad Kendriya Vidyalaya, New Delhi

Description: The Climate Management & Visualization System is a web-based platform designed to visualize climate data and trends. Through interactive tools, like chatbots

and carbon calculators, users can explore environmental data and gain insights into climate change mitigation strategies.

River Cleaner: Smart Waterbody Cleaner Robot

By: Birla Vidya Niketan, New Delhi

Description: The River Cleaner project introduces a smart robotic system for cleaning waterbodies. Controlled via a mobile application, the robot efficiently removes debris and pollutants from rivers and lakes, thereby improving aquatic ecosystems and water quality.

E-companion: Real-Time Environmental Data and Tips

By: Toc H Public School, Ernakulam, Kerala

Description: E-companion is a mobile application that provides users with real-time temperature, weather, and air quality data based on their location. With personalized suggestions and tips, the app promotes environmental awareness and empowers users to take proactive measures for improving air quality and sustainability.

The author is a Deputy Programme Manager in the Environment Education Unit, CSE.

GSP CARNIVAL 2024 Gobar Times Walk The Talk!

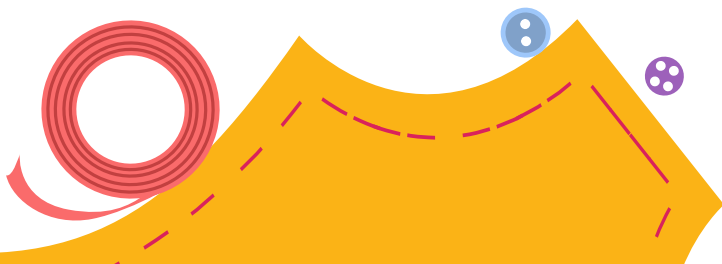


Anubhuti
Sharma

A glimpse from the 'Gobar Times: Walk The Talk,' a Fancy Dress Fun Fiesta organized as part of the Green Schools Carnival 2024 held on 30 January 2024 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.



All the fashionistas of the *Gobar Times: Walk The Talk*, showcasing their style quotient with chic aesthetics, inspired by the diverse covers of the *Gobar Times* (GT)! Through their understanding and vision of sustainability, these contestants imagined an out-of-the-box, ramp-worthy dress that triggered environmental consciousness among our audience. Their costumes encouraged our followers to read and become personally sensitive to the issues covered in GT and, thereby, promote the magazine's legacy.



Green Schools



This ramp walk was by Bhavya Pandey, a student of class 6, Cambridge School, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. She won the first prize for her costume which was inspired by the cover of *Gobar Times* May 2022: *Trash Landing*.



This ramp walk was by Amanjot Singh, a student of class 9, Government High School, Dandrala Kharoud, Patiala, Punjab. He won the second prize for his costume which was inspired by the cover of *Gobar Times* January 2023: *Mingling with Millets*.



This ramp walk was by Siddharth Suraj Pisharody, a student of class 6, Sacred Heart School, Kalyan, Thane, Maharashtra. He won the third prize for his costume which was inspired by the cover of *Gobar Times* May 2022: *Trash Landing*.

The author is the Senior Reporter-cum-Sub Editor for the Young Environmentalist and Gobar Times at the Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi.

**Kya aapke phasal pe
MSP hai?**



Farmers in India face huge challenges in selling their crops profitably. So, they are demanding that the government should guarantee a Minimum Support Price (MSP) on all 23 crops that it provides for. MSP is the rate at which the government buys crops from farmers no matter what the crop's prices prevail in the market. This assures an income to the farmers and offers them security. That is why they want that a legal guarantee should be provided for MSP.