



Project Mumbai's Zero Waste Schools



Climate Action, Bell to Bell

From February 17–19, Mumbai Climate Week reminds the city that climate action isn't a one-time event—it's a daily practice.

In our Zero Waste Schools, that practice already begins with the school bell. From zero-waste sports days to minimalist fun fairs, students aren't just learning about sustainability—they're living it. **Waste is questioned, choices are intentional, and celebrations are mindful.**

As Mumbai comes together to talk climate, our classrooms are already showing what hope in action looks like—small hands, big habits, real change.

Konark Borkar

Senior Project Officer,
Zero Waste Schools



Level 1: Building the Foundation

Under **Level 1** of the programme, **13 activity sessions** were conducted, reaching approximately **660 students**.

These sessions enabled the collection of **293.1 kg of plastic waste** and **25 kg of e-waste**.

In addition, **8 wet waste expert sessions** engaged around **320 students**, strengthening their understanding of composting and responsible organic waste management.

Level 2: Deepening the Journey

At the **Level 2** stage, **3 activity sessions** were held, impacting nearly **175 students**.

Through these engagements, schools collected **66.4 kg of plastic waste** and **3 kg of e-waste**, reflecting deeper adoption of waste segregation and reduction practices within the school ecosystem.

These outcomes indicate a growing shift from awareness to consistent, on-ground zero-waste practices within schools.

Composting as Climate Action: Stories from the schools :)

What once left classrooms as waste made its way back as nourishment for the soil. Till December, students across Level 1 and Level 2 schools collectively transformed everyday food scraps into **69 kg of solid compost** and **73 litres of liquid leachate**. Through hands-on composting, waste bins became learning tools and decomposition became a lesson in patience, care, and circularity. This journey—from plate to soil—shows how schools are not just managing waste, but closing the loop and growing a culture where nothing truly goes to waste.





From Talk to Action: Stories from the schools :)

Zero Waste Sports Day – Bombay Cambridge School, Andheri

At Bombay Cambridge School, the cheers from the playground carried more than just team spirit—they carried a lesson in sustainability. The Zero Waste Sports Day unfolded with the same energy, excitement, and inclusivity as any school sports event, but with one quiet difference: waste was treated thoughtfully.

Students took charge, guiding segregation at source, keeping single-use plastic in check, and monitoring waste throughout the day. What emerged was not a rule-bound event, but a living example of how sustainability can blend seamlessly into school traditions. Teachers and parents watched as students led by example, proving that environmental responsibility does not limit celebration—it enriches it. By the end of the day, sustainability wasn't an instruction on a poster; it was part of the joy on the field.



Check out our Insta Post to explore some BTS :)



When Less Became More

Minimalist Fun Fair – St. Mary's High School, Kalina

At St. Mary's High School, the familiar buzz of a school fair returned—but this time, with a lighter footprint. The Minimalist Zero Waste Fun Fair welcomed nearly 2,500 students, parents, and visitors, reimagining what celebration can look like when guided by intention.

Stalls were designed thoughtfully, consumption was conscious, and conversations around waste flowed as naturally as the laughter. Without excess decorations or disposable clutter, the fair proved that joy doesn't need abundance—it needs creativity and community. As families moved from stall to stall, sustainability quietly became part of the experience, not an instruction but an observation.

By the end of the day, the fair had done more than entertain. It exposed thousands to zero-waste practices at scale, sparked meaningful conversations among parents and visitors, and gave students a powerful, first-hand lesson: when choices are mindful, even the largest gatherings can tread lightly on the planet.

When Inspiration Met Action

Expert Session by Dhanashri | Diamond Jubilee Girls' High School

At Diamond Jubilee Girls' High School, sustainability came alive through a story—one rooted in choice, courage, and finding a voice. Dhanashri, a sustainability influencer, spoke to students about what inspired her to start using Instagram not just as a platform for content, but as a space to speak up for the planet.

She shared how small personal actions, consistency, and honesty helped her turn everyday sustainability practices into meaningful conversations online. The session quickly became interactive, with students asking questions—about challenges, staying motivated, and how young voices can create impact in a noisy digital world.

What followed was more than a talk; it was a moment of possibility. Students walked away seeing sustainability not as something distant or technical, but as something they too could advocate for—using their choices, their stories, and their voices.

Get to Meet Our Facilitator: Jagruti Tandel

If sustainability had a vibe, it would look a lot like Jagruti Tandel—hands-on, high-energy, and deeply rooted in action. At the heart of the Zero Waste Schools Programme, Jagruti is the one turning big climate ideas into everyday habits that actually stick.

Whether she's sparking conversations in classrooms, guiding students through waste segregation, or supporting schools as they set up practical systems, Jagruti leads with enthusiasm that's contagious. Her sessions are interactive, her approach is real, and her connection with students is instant—making sustainability feel less like a rulebook and more like a lifestyle.

What sets her apart is her on-ground presence. Jagruti doesn't just teach and leave; she stays, follows up, and ensures that learning turns into action. And with that, while she is a volunteer, she is also working with Project Mumbai and leads the Fire Safety Initiative within the volunteering team. With her motivating energy and unwavering commitment, she's helping schools build a culture where being sustainable is not just cool—but completely natural.





Together, we're building Mumbai's first Zero Waste Generation

