





Vidya Mandir @ Estancia Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Audit Coordinator: J Meenakshi

Category: Green School









Introduction

Green Schools Programme Audit 2016

Dear Principal,

Thank you for taking part in GSP Audit 2016, an initiative to make your school resource efficient and to inculcate green practices in your students.

As Anil Agarwal, founder-director, CSE, rightly said, '...that as they (children) grow older, it is important they begin to understand how human beings and human societies interact with their environment for their survival and their growth, how these human-nature interactions become a part of a society's culture, and why it is important to rationalize our relationship with our environment.'

The Green Schools Programme (GSP) is about fostering environmental literacy. It takes the classroom into our lives. The joy is not just in the learning. The joy is in the experience of making change in our environment. We then live the change. GSP has been built on the twin objectives of "Learning by doing" and "making change work" to help schools audit the consumption of natural resources within their premises, and assess themselves as environment managers.

Like last year, we were overwhelmed with the response we received from across India. More than 2500 schools registered for the Audit, and 700 submitted the Audit. The performance report of the school is based on the data submitted by the schools. Therefore, the school needs to make sure that the data entered is correct to the best of their knowledge. We hope that as the school continues to audit their consumption each year, they will refine the data collection and complete the report with honesty. Our endeavor is to provide India with a green report card of schools with credible data and this can be done only if schools provide accurate data.

We hope that your students immersed themselves in the activities and learnt about rainwater harvesting, waste segregation at source, non-polluting modes of transport, eating healthy, etc. While the performance report will give schools the baselines and is an indicator of the progress that the schools make on the environment front -year-on-year, we hope that your school continues to participate each year, and build a generation of environmentally responsible citizens.

This report will help you move beyond "awareness activities" such as cleanliness drives, poster-making, debates etc, which are, undoubtedly, important, but will also help you to identify long term activities that will deliver measurable impacts.

Hope, that in coming years, your school continues to participate and manage resources efficiently within your school.

Look forward to receiving your Audit report in 2017!

Warmly,

The GSP team

Introduction

A snapshot GSP Audit 2016 is as follows:

Rating	Score (Percentage)	Number of Schools	
GREEN	70% & above	71	
YELLOW	Between 50-69.9%	208	
ORANGE	Between 35-49.9%	352	
RED	Below 34.9%	69	















Sources of air pollution are many and diverse. But none are as lethal as vehicles as they are responsible for very high exposure. Vehicular emissions take place in the breathing zone of people. Experts say that those who live or work in close proximity to heavily travelled roadways are subject to high levels of exposure. No wonder that during the past few years, we have been desperately looking out for tools to assess the problem and find ways to combat the menace.

Remember:

- Circulation of fresh air keeps the mind and body healthy, therefore the total window-floor ratio of a class-room should be more than five per cent.
- The fuel type should be switched from diesel to petrol to CNG to prevent ambient air quality from deteriorating further.
- Your school should motivate most of the permanent population to use non-polluting mode of transport such as walking or cycling, or at least use a sustainably motorized vehicles such as buses, public transport.

Your School's Performance

Your school fulfils almost all the norms of Air Quality check. You can improve by considering the recommendations through the assessment below. Overall, school has done well in air section.



Classrooms Window Floor Ratio (WFR) 38.68 % Average WFR

Your window-floor ratio is more than ten per cent. It suggests that your school fulfills the oxygen requirement of the community by providing more openings for better air circulation. Please note that this result is from the sample you have provided.



Ownership of Vehicles Operator-owned vehicles

This is a good practice. Your school does not have their own buses, but have an operator-based network. This indicates that students, teaching staff and others are using sustainable modes of transport to commute to school and back.





Mode of Commuting

More than 50% population using sustainable motorized vehicles and less than 50% population using Non-polluting mode of transport

Good most of the students and staff use Sustainable Motorized Vehicle (SMV). School should now motivate them to use Non- polluting mode of transport (NPT).



The impact of 'global warming' has already reached scorching levels, and is rising rapidly. Saving energy is the first step to energy conservation. Switching off electrical gadgets when they are not in use and switching the usage of bulbs to CFLs/ LEDs are great ways to start.

Remember

- Per capita per day electricity consumption should be well within the norms (46.5 MJ) and we all know that our non-renewable resources are depleting faster than they can re-generate.
- Switching over to renewable resources and expanding its usage is the only available option.

Your School's Performance

The energy consumption of your school does not fall within the norms. Your school needs to prudently manage energy consumption. It is recommended that your school explores or experiment with renewable energy sources.



Energy per capita per day consumption School's Consumption meets the requirement

Your per day per person average consumption of energy meets the norm.

Category	Per capita/day energy consumption		
Day Scholar	46.2 MJ		
Day Boarding	49.8 MJ		
Residential	24.6 MJ		
Scholar + Boarding	48.0 MJ		
Scholar + Residential	49.8 MJ		
Boarding + Residential	46.2 MJ		



Sources of Energy

Your school uses more sources of energy that could be exhausted in the near future. We recommend that you expand/ increase your use of renewable sources of energy.



Food has been at the centre of policy debate in India for many years, as more than 20 per cent of the country's population suffers from undernourishment. Meanwhile, childhood obesity is also alarmingly on the rise globally as well as in India. Given India's dubious distinction of carrying the twin burden of under nutrition and overfeeding, we need to be extra cautious.

We all are aware about the ill-effects of Ultra Processed Packaged Food (UPPF) that has high fat, sugar and salt content in it. This UPPF category is one of the most popular categories in today's market.

Remember:

- Avoid UPPF in school canteens, and encourage children to eat healthy and traditional foods/ beverages.
- Sponsorship by UPPF brands should be avoided.

Your School's Performance

Good that your school provides quality and nutritious food in your school canteen. You have scored good in this section.



What kind of food is being served / sold in your school

Your school has scored points in the food section as your canteen does not sell ultra processed packaged food and packaged/bottled drinks.



Does the school distribute packaged food items as rewards during schools events.

No

Ultra processed packaged food (UPPF) not only has ill effects on the health of the students but are also negative environmental impacts. We hope you that you serve local/ traditional snacks and discourage students to eat UPPF.





Does the school distribute chocolates/similar products as refreshments during schools events?

No

Students are easily influenced by the fancy brand advertisement and promotions. It is great that your school doesn't promote such brand promotions and advertisements.



Are your school events such as quiz shows, talent shows, debates sponsored by food companies/brands?

No

Students are easily influenced by the fancy brand advertisement and promotions. It is great that your school doesn't promote such brand promotions and advertisements.



Your school grounds can provide excellent educational opportunities for creating awareness about land resources and the natural world around you, as well as the land-use pattern. The biological diversity supported by an area is a good indicator of its ecological well-being. A proper management of land resources can transform the grounds into biologically diverse outdoor classrooms and healthy open spaces.

Remember:

- Congestion on land (more buildings and inadequate green cover) leads to pressure on resources and hence on our environment.
- We all know that a mind with plenty of oxygen has a greater power to grasp things. And for more oxygen we need more trees our only oxygen factory.
- To keep these oxygen factories healthy, we should not use chemical pesticides to raise them.

Your School's Performance

Your school does not meet the Green Cover norms. Though the norms say that minimum 33% of your total land should be green cover, we encourage that you target to increase your green cover to 40% in next two years!



Total Green Cover

Your school does not have the required green cover so aim to increase the cover by at least 20 percent in the next two years.



Use of Pesticide

No

Your school does not use any sort of chemical pesticides. Hope that you compost your waste and make your own organic fertilizer!



The right to water is really the right to life and livelihood. Just as we cannot live without water, a country cannot survive if it is water-stressed. This resource determines our future, and acts as a driving force for our economic growth. Even today, the government admits to not being able to provide' safe drinking water to more than half the country's population. Poor sanitation and unsafe drinking water account for a substantial part of the disease burden in India, contributing to diarrhea, cholera, typhoid and jaundice.

Remember:

- Children should get adequate amount of water required per day starting from drinking to flushing to mopping floors to everything.
- Catch rain where it falls. Today, rainwater harvesting has evolved as an appropriate measure to overcome the water scarcity plus water logging due to excessive rains.
- Recharge groundwater. This should be done irrespective of whether the area has high ground water level or low because it's high time to take preventive measure to stop further depletion of water table.

Your School's Performance

Your school does not provide water as per the prescribed level as well as all the sanitation facilities does not have load under the prescribed norms. Your school's score in water section is average. Hope you take suggestions and become a water efficient school at the earliest.



Per Capita Water Consumption

4.49 litres per person/day (Per capita consumption is less)

Your school's per person per day consumption is less than it should be. Refer to the table to see the recommended consumption.

School Average - CSE recommended consumption of water, per capita per day					
Type of School	Average consumption(in Litres)				
Day Scholar	13-17				
Day Boarding	15-25				
Residential	125-135				
Scholar + Boarding	14-21				
Boarding + Residential	70-80				
Scholar + Residential	50-76				
Scholar + Boarding +Residential	51-59				





Source of Water

You use a combination of either surface + rainwater or surface + recycled water or rainwater + recycled water. All of these combinations demonstrate that your school is not extracting ground water, but is making an effort to either catch rainwater or treat waste water for further use.



Does your school get daily water supply?

Yes

Please ensure that your water supply is adequate, so that you can meet required per capita income.



Water Conservation Practices

Your school should look into these water conservation practices to become more water efficient: Float valves installed to stop overflow, Spill proof taps to check overflow, Appliances with a quick-wash setting, Dual flush systems installed in the toilets, Local plant species which require limited amount of water to grow, In initiating any water conservation steps in the schools and outside, Using a drip or irrigation system



Rainwater Harvesting

Yes

It's really good that your school has rainwater harvesting system. We are glad that your school recognises how important rainwater harvesting is!



Does your school harvest different catchments

No

Your school has rainwater harvesting system, which indirectly means your school must be catching rainwater from atleast one of the catchments: Rooftop, Paved area or Unpaved area. Please fill in the correct details for better analysis of your reports.



Harvested Area

Combination of both

An excellent practice. Hope that you use the RWH systems to its full potential.



How much area in your school is harvested

51 to 60 per cent

It's great that your school's rainwater harvesting area is more than 50%! We hope you continue with this green practice and increase the catchment area in the near future. Your school has the potential!



Catchment Cleanliness

Average

You need to clean the catchments more often.



Does your school clean your catchment and system

Yes

Good you are regular with cleaning the catchment.



Monitoring Rainwater Harvesting Efficiency

No

You should ensure that the rainwater harvesting structure is monitored for its efficiency.



If your school's RWH structure is more than a year old, is there any improvement in the groundwater quality after the implementation of the RWH structure?

No

Please ensure that you maintain the groundwater level in your area.





Load on Drinking Water Taps

You do not have the required number of drinking water taps in your school. Please refer to the table for prescribed norm.

Category	Load per drinking water tap	Load per ablution tap	Load per urinal	Load per water closet
Day Scholar	50 people	50 people	50 people	45 people
Day Boarding	50 people	50 people	40 people	35 people
Residential	50 people	50 people	30 people	25 people
Day scholar + Residential	50 people	50 people	50 people	35 people
Day boarding + Residential	50 people	50 people	35 people	30 people
Day Scholar + Boarding	50 people	50 people	50 people	40 people



Hand Pumps

You do not have the hand pumps in your school. Good that your school is not extracting a lot of ground water.



Load on Ablution Taps

You have the required number of ablution taps in your school.



Load on Water Closets

You have the required number of water closets (used for defecation and urination) in your school.



Load on Urinals

You have the required number of urinals (strictly used for urination only) in your school.





Water Outlets

You have many water outlets in your school. Please ensure that you are not extracting too much of ground water.



Is there a water storage system in place to supply water in the toilets?

Yes

You have a water storage system in place to supply water in the toilets



Is the water supply sufficient?

Yes

You have enough water supply.



Are the toilets cleaned?

Yes

Good that your toilets are cleaned everyday. Cleaning of toilet more than once a day is necessary.



Does your school have a wastewater treatment facility

Yes

Good that your school has a wastewater treatment facility. Its really important that we treat our own wastewater.





Does your school reuse the treated wastewater?

Good that the treated wastewater is used within your school.



Waste is another headache arising at an alarming level. Where to dispose waste? How to dispose waste? What to do with the waste? We feel one of the easiest solution could be waste segregation. We should feed it into our system that no matter what, we will segregate our waste, even if it gets mixed after it goes out from our homes/schools.

Remember:

- Segregation at source is very important.
- Every class should have minimum of two dustbins to collect wet and dry waste.
- Schools should have a composting facility to manage the wet waste in the school premises itself.
- Send e-waste to Authorised dealers.
- Do not burn waste in school premises, especially horticultural waste. Alternatively, composting should be done by horticultural waste.
- Waste should be sent to designated dumping or landfill sites.
- Schools should have a waste policy that is to be practiced in schools.

Your School's Performance

You have done good in this section. Your school manages most of the waste. We hope that through the assessment below you will take what is required to make your school a waste management efficient school.



Segregation of Solid Waste

Yes

Your school segregates Waste at source. Inculcating this habit of waste segregation at source among students can help reform the waste related problem at a bigger level.



Waste Collection Points

Waste segregation at source is not efficient in your school. We strongly recommend that your school considers putting more collection points with two or more dustbins! We encourage that students learn to segregate waste at source.





Quantity of Waste Generated

Well done! Your school's per person per day waste generation is according to the norms.



Recycling of Waste

Your school recycles most of it's waste. You recycle 90.36 per cent of waste. We hope you are able to become waste efficient school at the earliest.



Waste Composting

Yes

Your school has a composting facility and we hope that you are using it to its potential.



Textbook Reuse

No

Your school is not encouraging the students and teachers to reuse textbooks. Please encourage your school community to reuse the textbooks.



Waste Destination

Don't know

Your school does not know where its waste goes for waste disposal. Try to recycle more of your waste within the school! And try to get your students to map the disposal of waste outside the school premises - as an exercise!





Burning of Waste

No

It's great that you do not burn waste. This practice of should be instilled in kids so that they discourage burning waste even outside the school.



E-waste Disposal

Authorised dealer

You sell your e-waste to an authorised seller which helps it get reused or recycled more effectively.

Thank You

Hope that each year your school will participate in the GSP audit and build a cadre of environmentally responsible citizens, in addition to moving up the rank to become the # 1 Green School in India!