

TAMIL NADU

School bags green campus award

STAFF REPORTER

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The Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Puducherry (JNV), has been given the 'Change Maker Award' by the Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi, for its development of efficient and sustainable waste management practices on the campus.

Twenty schools from across the country have been given awards in two categories – 'new schools' and 'change makers' – at the annual competition. The JNV, a residential school under the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development at Periya Kalapet, roped in M. Nandhivarman and Golda, PhD scholars from the Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Pondicherry University, to develop a 'green school' model, a release from the Association for Promoting Sustainability in Campuses and Communities (APSCC) said.

The 'Green Campus Initiative' (GCI) integrates 10 components, which include constructed wetland, biogas, vermicompost and greenhouse. The initiative was implemented with the involvement of the staff and students led by A. Vinayathan, principal, R. Kamalam, vice-principal, and APSCC, within 100 working days. The financial cost was borne by the scholars, the release said.

Through the GCI, the school campus has reduced its share of organic solid waste by 100 per cent, Mr. Nandhivarman was quoted in the release. The waste has been converted into useful compost restoring the soil ecosystem, he said.

Ms. Golda was quoted as saying that the habitat for biodiversity was getting restored in the sites of the GCI and the micro climate was being altered with temperature reduction of 1 to 2 degree Celsius.



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