Introducing CSE’s Gobar Times Green Schools Programme
About CSE

Centre for Science and Environment

- a New Delhi-based public interest group.
- Raises issues of concern
- Informs people, influences public thinking
- Creates public opinion And Catalyses Change
GSP and Design Practices

What does ‘building green’ really mean?

and

What role does the Green Schools Programme play in that?
No more clones please!

Architects, designers are thinking differently. No more building energy guzzlers first and then trying to fix the leaks.

The New Formula:

Building green = Optimizing local ecology = planning efficient resource-use = setting new building codes
GSP and Design Practices

Current policy status:

- National Building code touches resource efficiency standards as afterthought.
- Energy Conservation Building Code is voluntary.
The new formula will only work if the **USERS** want it. And are willing to practice it. Therefore, **Setting a new Behavioral Code is critical.** **GSP does that.**
Why Schools?

A. Because they are an ideal breeding ground:
   Of mindset. Of practices.

B. Because they are the fastest growing sector:

   Education Act signals explosion of structures. Strategic planning can have revolutionary impact.
HOW GREEN IS MY SCHOOL?
A DO-IT-YOURSELF MANUAL
Beyond Books

A do-it-yourself handbook on how to audit water, air, energy, waste, and land, within school premises.

Students and teachers come out of classrooms—to count, weigh, measure, explore and analyse.
Helping hand

- They rate themselves as environmental managers.
- And then plug the gaps identified in current practices.

GSP is a smooth curriculum fit
Why GSP is a must?

- It is a tool to teach environment in the right perspective. Especially in a nation where Economy thrives on Environment. It's about real life and livelihood.

- It assembles authentic data on status of resources and to identify trends. It clearly indicates what do we need to do, where and how.
Under the scanner

Water

Energy

Waste

Land

Air
Our partners

GSP institutionalised.  
5 state governments adopt it.  

Other partners: 
• 8 state school networks 
• 3 Union government chain 

Manual translated in 6 languages. 15000-strong network.
Water

- The rating is on:
  - How much does your school use?
  - Are the sanitation facilities adequate?
  - Are conservation practices in place?
  - Does it harvest rainwater?
  - How much does it recycle?
Water audit team of Kerala Public School, Kadma, Jamshedpur
Water audit team of Adarsh School, Vikaspuri, New Delhi
How would children find out the water reused?
– Monitor it.

Evergreen School, Delhi
The rating is on:

- What is the air quality in the locality?
- How does the school community commute?
- How eco-friendly are the school-run vehicles?
Students from many schools have really enjoyed this process
This is a commuter audit of Class VIII A in Presentation Convent, New Delhi.

Similar audit needs to be done with each member of the school community.
The rating is on:

- How much does it consume?
- What are the main sources of energy...and how eco friendly are they?
- How much does it save?
Data collection for the energy chapter can be fun for students. For the first time students located the electric meters in the school. Some saw an electric meter for the first time.
Energy audit team of Salwan School, Rajinder Nagar at the school canteen
Land

- The rating is on:
  - How much of its land is under green cover?
  - How many types of plants and animal species can you identify within premises?
  - Which pesticides do they use?
Students with oldest trees
The rating was on:

- How much waste does it generate?
- How does it collect?
- How much does it recycle?
- How does it dispose?
- Does it reuse text books?
Sister Nivedita Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Defence Colony also did a precise waste audit by measuring the amount of waste generated using a spring balance.
For any kind of waste management practice, the first step is segregation of waste.
DATA REPORTING SYSTEM

UPLOADING OF DATA ON THE INTERNET

Analysis of data uploaded and shortlisting of schools

School 1
School 3
School 5

On site visit or Telephonic Interview of the school

FINAL SCORES

SCHOOL 1 = 297 POINTS
RANK 3

SCHOOL 3 = 305 POINTS
RANK 2

SCHOOL 5 = 314 POINTS
RANK 1

GREEN SCHOOLS AWARD
The Awards Gala
2006 audit said..

- Schools are aware of the importance of wise management. **But are weak in making linkages with real life situations.**

- Innovative methods are applied. **But follow-up process to measure and quantify the impact does not exist.**

- Environment-related programmes are still **extracurricular.** No structured approach is evident.
2007 audit said

Schools have mastered the art of auditing

- Outstanding data collection, tabulation, and analysis
- Assessment of impact of resource management practices more precise, structured, and accurate.
- Students involved in every step. Sharp increase in awareness level.
In 2008...

For the veterans a new category
THE CHANGEMAKERS
Who are they?
Schools which have been able to achieve basic and long-term changes in the mindset and lifestyle of:
School community, Parents, and the Neighbourhood
Water in 2006
rain water harvesting

But only 1 was harvesting the full potential. Most captured less than 3 per cent...
Water in 2009

Action on the ground

- All schools install rainwater harvesting structures. Most tap maximum potential.
- Sharp hike in conservation techniques. Schools recycle 100 per cent gray water.
Waste in 2006
Per capita waste generated??No data

Only 5 out of 20 could account how much....
Waste in 2007

Action on the ground.
- Every school assigned student groups to weigh waste. Teams included sweepers, gardeners, waste dealers
- Used spring balances; hand balances; weighing machines.

Scores had fallen. Quality of data has improved.
Waste in 2009

**Action continues...**

- Changemakers **record 100 per cent recycling**
- Set up systems to reuse paper, plastic and food waste
Leading edge

School rated on two parameters:

How holistic is it: Has it been able to bring all divergent elements under one umbrella. Create cohesion.

How effectively has the GSP tool been used: Evaluation of the level of involvement of different sections of the school community.
Why GSP is a must?

- **Schools where resource is scarce.** Audit is needed to ensure basic needs are met.

- **Schools where there is plenty.** Audit is required to prevent wastage.
Is GSP relevant to Climate variability?

Climate Change is embedded in every section. Land, Air, Water, Energy, and Waste.

It teaches how to manage the resources prudently.

It helps to adapt a less polluting, therefore, more sustainable lifestyle.

It indicates mitigation measures.
GSP vis a vis Design?

GSP changes mindsets. Radically.

AND it triggers real time action on the ground.
The GSP goal

IT BUILDS
A RESOURCE-LITERATE
GENERATION

IT BUILDS
A NEW BEHAVIOUR CODE TO
MATCH THE NEW BUILDING
CODE.