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Sensitive youths take the initiative

Students Are Part Of Project To Make Bangalore Spotless

Aarthi R | TNN

Bangalore: Young Bangaloreans are taking the lead to show they care for the city. As part of a larger project, the 'Spotless Bangalore' programme to sensitize schoolchildren about waste management will be launched on February 10.

The five-year project (2010-15), which was unofficially launched last month, is exclusively for solid waste management and street dog welfare. More than 150 college students are part of the door-to-door campaign.

WHAT IS THE BIG PICTURE?

- Education, sensitization, awareness of immediate environmental concerns
- Creating a culture of positive attitude towards minimizing waste
- Reducing waste, minimizing energy consumption, travel and water usage, encouraging recycling, tree plantation
- Creating a partnership among various communities

The team will work with schools to create awareness, and collect bottles, plastics and newspapers from residents. The collected waste will be sent across to recycling units. As of now, the plan is to hand over plastics to K K Polymers for laying roads, and old newspapers to NGOs.

The focus is also to find innovative use for non-recyclable waste. An 'art out of waste' competition will be held for schoolchildren. Most of the participating 20 schools are government ones.

The project is a joint initiative by Jain University's community radio station Radio Active 90.4, and NGO Golden Husk. The students have already begun interactions with RWAs across the city on effective means to resolve issues of solid waste management.

ALREADY INTO IT

"Currently, students of the Jain University campus on J C Road are working on this project. We have already got a soft launch with the Times Foundation initiative at Fraser Town. This apart, our canteen waste is being collected for composting. We believe that solving garbage issues needs participation from the roots. Our observation reveals that students are more responsive to such issues," project director Pinky Chandran said.

The organizers are in talks with the BBMP to collate their efforts with larger plans for solid waste management. Interested RWAs, schools, colleges and individuals can call 9945696274.

ADOPTING THEM CAN BE A SOLUTION

PHOTOS: Md Asad



Fifteen stray pups found homes on Sunday. The pilot initiative was held under the Street Animal Management & Welfare Programme held at Cubbon Park. The pups were brought to the camp from across the city after being vaccinated.

"We will ensure they will be vaccinated at regular intervals even after adoption. We'll keep track of these pups to see that they are being taken care of properly," Pinky said. A group of volunteers will check on the adopted dogs. In case of any negligence on part of the owner, the dogs will be taken back.

The event was a hit among children. Anagha Kartik, 6, threw a tantrum when her father resisted the adoption. She finally won and adopted two pups, naming them Blacky and Sweety. "They are so cute and lovable. I am enjoying their company," she said. TNN