

# Press Release

**20<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

## **Inauguration of first model “Zero Waste School Campus” of Himachal Pradesh**

Mubarikpur, Senior Secondary School(Gagret), Himanchal Pradesh Dated December 20<sup>th</sup> 2014, under Swachha Bharat Mission, the School launched “Zero Waste Campus programme with support of CSR Division of SAR Group of Industries and technical collaboration of Waste-Warrior-a NGO based in Dharmashala.Te SAR Group stands for sustained support for protection and safeguard of environment and maintaining ecological balance through sustainable environmental conservation. To this end it has school through it 550 students can steer this “save environment Campaign” on sustainable basis . The students and teachers are to be trained in various phases through brainstorming and practical example with handholding support to make the school garbage and litter free on sustainable basis.

Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically *avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them*. Zero Waste is a goal that is ethical, economical, efficient and visionary, to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use. *To do so school is equipped with sufficient no. of dustbins in all classrooms. Providing dustbins in campus, building a composting site in campus, Wall murals on waste management in school camp train the student leaders on segregation and composting waste with support of Waste Warriors and finally making making the school self sustainable through 4-5 sessions of training and hand holding (To be done by waste warriors).*

While addressing the audience Dr.KailaspatiJha , Chief of CSR-SAR-Group reiterated the importance of school sanitation, personal hygiene and pure drinking water for a healthy and productive life . In his inaugural adder Dr. Jha said, “ initiating this program in school is a long term investment .Once students imbibe the practice of safe sanitation , the practice will be carried forward for next three generations as “child is father of man” he quoted an English Poem.In this inaugural ceremony, more than 500 students of GSSS Mubarikpur were trained to segregate recyclable and non-recyclable waste. SAR Group has donated 35 dustbins to be used in class rooms and school campus under this initiative. Under this program, there was a composting unit built. The student and coordinator were trained to process green

waste into the fertilizer which can be later used in the garden. The recyclable waste will be sent to the local Kabadi Walas and non -recyclable waste will be sent to the nearest legal dumping ground. The campus is declared as Zero Waste Campus with all the available facility, knowledge and practices on waste management.

The programme was officially launched by Dr.Kailaspati Jha , Chief , CSR-SAR Group .On this occasion other dignitaries were Saroj Kanwar of GSSS Mubarikpur, Mr. Ajay Bharadwaj Chief Administration Luminious, Mr. SS Rana Senior Management SAR Group, Sri Karan Thakur President School Management Committee and local leaders Sri Pooran Singh, Sri ChamanLal.The program was facilitated by Mr. VikasDadwal of GSSS school, Mr. AvinashPratap Singh from Waste Warriors and Ms. Amrita Nayak from SAR Group. Dr. Jha from SAR Group said, "GSSS Mubarikpur has set an example for waste management in school. SAR Group is committed to the program launched by government "Swachh Bharat mission " and will keep providing support for such initiatives..