



**Department of Environment Science**  
**Rajkiya Kanya Mahavidyalaya (RKMV) Shimla**

**Innovative Environmental Initiatives at RKMV College**

With the full support of the RKMV administration, the Department of Environmental Science has spearheaded several transformative projects aimed at fostering sustainability and environmental responsibility on campus. These pioneering initiatives focus on waste management, recycling, and nurturing a green ethos, demonstrating a deep commitment to eco-friendly practices.

- 1. Plastic Milk Bag Collection and Recycling Project:** This innovative project encourages students, staff, and their communities to collect clean, dried plastic milk bags from their homes and surrounding areas. The Department of Environmental Science at RKMV College has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a Mumbai-based NGO for the collection and recycling of plastic milk bags. This partnership facilitates the responsible recycling of plastic waste, contributing to the department's sustainability initiatives and promoting plastic waste reduction. Since February 2024, over 70 kg of these milk bags have been sent to a Mumbai-based NGO for recycling. This initiative raises awareness about the importance of managing plastic waste and promotes responsible disposal methods, such as recycling and reuse.



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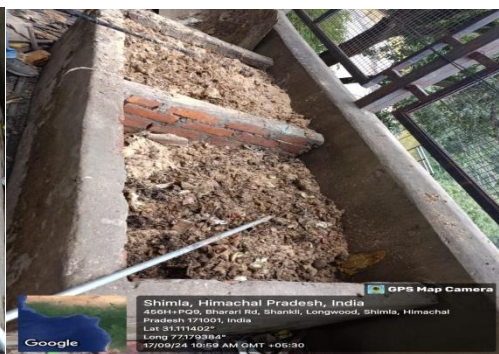
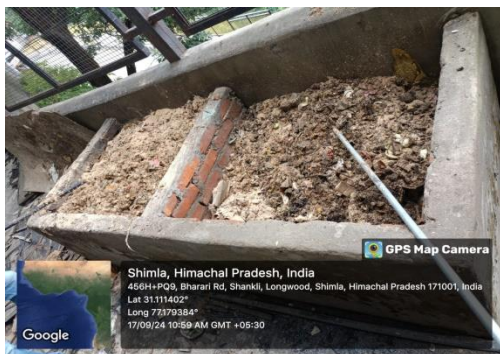
2. **Single-Use Plastic Collection:** In an effort to combat plastic pollution, the department launched a campus-wide and community-based drive to collect single-use plastic. Plastic waste is collected from students, staff, and localities, then handed over to the Municipal Corporation (MC) Shimla for proper disposal at a rate of ₹75 per kg. So far, over 100 kg of plastic waste has been collected, earning the college more than ₹7,000 while reducing environmental pollution. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Municipal Corporation (MC) and RKMV Shimla was signed to collection and responsible disposal of single-use plastics. This formal collaboration ensures that plastic waste collected from the campus, staff, and students is handed over to MC Shimla for proper processing, contributing to environmental sustainability and waste management efforts in the region.



3. **PyarePaudhae: Gifting Greens:** As part of this initiative, the department manages a green nursery (polyhouse) at RKMV College, where a variety of plants are cultivated and nurtured. These plants are thoughtfully gifted to guests during college events, fostering a culture of environmental consciousness and promoting the values of love, care, and respect for nature.



4. **Composting of Biodegradable Waste:** Under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the EarthJust NGO, the department has introduced a composting project to process biodegradable waste generated by the college canteen and two girls' hostels. This initiative converts organic waste into nutrient-rich compost, reducing landfill waste and providing natural fertilizer for the college's gardens.



These initiatives exemplify the Department of Environmental Science's dedication to sustainable practices and environmental stewardship, serving as a model for the broader community to embrace eco-friendly solutions.

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