

## **Waste processing in action!**

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV), Kalyanpura, Bassi, Jaipur has got installed an organic waste processor- biogas (methanation) plant in the school campus. The processor produces biogas which is renewable resources of energy generated by decomposition of organic waste input to the plant. The move has motivated 103 girls for waste segregation as more efforts from Centre for Environment Education (CEE) continued to make the practice a habit, under the Project Prajwala. Project Prajwala is a joint initiative of National Stock Exchange Foundation and Rajasthan Elementary Education Council, being implemented by CEE as knowledge and implementation partner and UNICEF as technical partner.

The methanation plant also sets an example of convergence effort of school management for improving WASH scenario of their campus.



**Organic waste processor installed at KGBV,  
Bassi**

Before the onset of the project there was no segregation practice of waste followed in the school. The waste was thrown in open in backyard of campus and some waste was collected in common waste bin. The photo documentation conducted by CEE during the baseline survey was a turning point for the school to intensify the movement of waste segregation. The Head Mistress during a workshop recalls, “When the team was taking the photos of waste littered in my campus, I felt embarrassed. From the day, I decided to wipe out the waste from my school. Further support from the team on waste management through thematic sessions at my schools, supported me in stepping ahead for proper waste management at my campus”. Trainings and workshops were organised by CEE to develop the capacities of Head Mistress and Wardens in managing WASH at their respective levels. Trainings were focused on skilling the teaching & non-teaching staffs, Child Cabinets, Adolescent Girls Group and students in dealing with emerging and old problems of sanitation in the schools and communities. The workshops were focused on bringing behaviour change in girls by touching their knowledge, attitude and practices with relational aspects. The content dealt with sensitizing the stakeholders to guide them to take joint action for effective management of WASH commodities. Thematic sessions on Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Waste Management were organised with the girls in the schools. IEC material on Personal Hygiene, Waste Management, Handwashing steps, Cognitive reminders, and calendars were provided to the school.

The girls with the help of school guard put organic waste in the Methanation plant during evening. The waste consists of vegetable peels and dry leaves. The digester takes around 2 days to prepare gas and by-products. As this is a small unit using small input the gas produced can be used twice a week only for small amount of work such as preparing tea.

The model has encouraged the girls for waste segregation. The waste management activities demonstrated project Prajwala have ensured the long-term habits of waste segregation. The Environment Minister of the Child Cabinet feed the slurry to the garden, which according to her is appropriate manure for the plants. Now the waste is segregated in three categories: Dry, Wet and Hazardous waste in Blue, Green and Black coloured waste bins, respectively. The wet waste is sourced to the processor which has become the means of its disposal. School has also developed few copies of IEC material provided to them in WASH kit under Project Prajwala and has fixed it for instilling message of WASH. The guard says, “I am operating the machine which is very easy to handle”.



**Girls applying slurry (by-product of bio  
methanation) to the plants**