

A Government School Turns Zero Waste

The Transformation of GHS Konappana Agrahara

LET'S BEGIN

In **September 2024**, when Vedan conducted a Zero Waste Audit at Government High School, Konappana Agrahara in Electronics City, Bengaluru, the gaps were evident. There were no bins in classrooms or playgrounds. Waste was mixed and stored together. Leaves accumulated across the campus. The existing composting system was poorly designed. In some areas, waste was even being burnt.



Inauguration of the shed

The school, with around 200 students and 10 faculty members, had the intent – but not the system. With support from **FANUC, under the Swachha Belaku initiative, Vedan** designed a structured Zero Waste roadmap for the campus. Funding support was confirmed in January 2025, and over the next two months, the transformation began.



Changemakers discussing about the implementation



Honored dignitaries attending the Zero Waste Campus launch event

DRY WASTE AGGREGATION CENTER



Shed constructed at GHPS Konnappa Agrahara



How the shed looks from inside



Shed tour given to the delegates

The first major step was the construction of a **Dry Waste Aggregation Centre** – a dedicated shed where **paper, plastic, cardboard, and other recyclables** could be sorted and stored systematically. Visual cut-outs of waste bins were installed on the shed, turning it into both an infrastructure unit and a behavioural reminder.

LEAF COMPOSTER

Two leaf composting units were set up – one at the back of the school and another near the parking area – ensuring that dry leaves and garden waste would now return to the soil as compost instead of being discarded.



Leaf Composter 1



Leaf Composter 2

For **food waste**, perforated composting barrels were installed along with a stand fitted with segregation bags.

Litter bins were placed across the campus grounds. Blue bins were installed in classrooms and key areas to enable segregation at source.



perforated drum for food waste



Awareness given to delegates on ZWC



Practicing what was learned – Choosing the right bin!

But infrastructure alone does not change behaviour. So around **100 awareness boards** and instructional displays were installed across the campus.

At the entrance, a **“Prohibited Items”** board restricts single-use plastics and MLP pouches. Washrooms carry clear signage on proper pad disposal and hygiene practices. **“Flush after use”** and **“Close the tap”** boards reinforce water responsibility. **Segregation boards** clearly label paper, plastic, stationery, wet waste, and other categories.



Ban Board



3 step boards



Close tap after use



Class room bins



Compartment stand

On **27 March 2025**, the Zero Waste Campus was formally inaugurated in the presence of representatives from SVP India, FANUC and Vedan. The event included an orientation session, inauguration of the Dry Waste Aggregation Centre, and a campus walkthrough. Yet the real success lies in what happened afterward



Honored dignitaries attending the Zero Waste Campus launch event



Principle addressing the dignitaries on ZWC launch

Dry waste is now collected and stored in the aggregation shed instead of being mixed or burnt. Sub-staff have begun systematic segregation. The school is preparing to measure the quantity of waste generated and track revenue earned from recyclable materials. What started as an audit has become a functioning model. The success at GHS Konappana Agrahara has already created momentum – leading to plans to convert five additional government schools into Zero Waste Campuses. This journey shows that transformation does not require scale – it requires structure. With the right process, even a government school can become a model of sustainable waste management.

What our guest say

Thank you Anasani & Vidyan Trust for passionately teaching the kids, & completing the Waste Segregation project @ Konapenalligatara Govt High school.

The project was well executed and within cost and time.

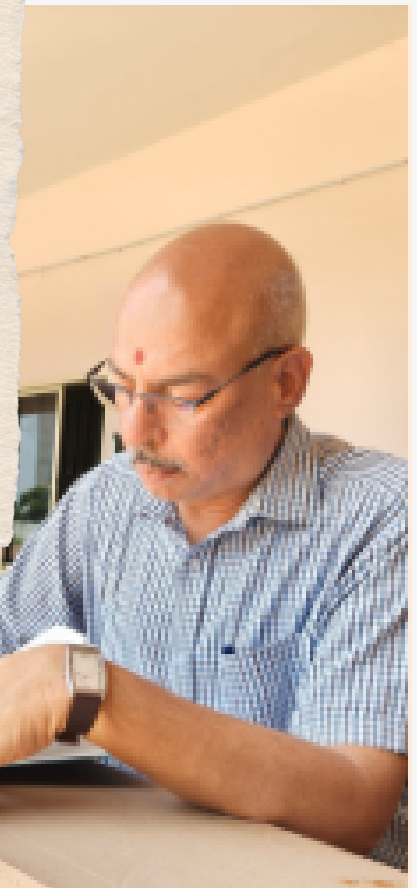
Keep up the good work!

Many more laurels your way!...

Best,

Anasani

ADVOCATE & ELCA TRUST.



- **SRIRAM**

What our guests say

I would like to congratulate Subramini and the entire VEDAN team for the excellent job done at Korappanur Agraharam Govt. School towards Zero Waste management.

Your passion towards the work and sincere / noble work gives us the inspiration and perhaps the guilt for not able to be at par with you all.

Wish you all the Very Best and please continue your excellent job.

We are here to support you

✍️

K. G. Hariharan Pillai
FANUC India.



- KG HARIHARAN PILLAI

What our guest say

Heartfelt appreciation towards your hardwork and dedication in transforming this school into a zero waste campus.

Your dedication towards environmental sustainability will go a long way.

Keep up the good work.

Manisha Agarwal
PANUC India Pvt. Ltd.

- **MANISHA AGARWAL**

