

From Vision to Action:

The Zero Waste Office at TMC Moodubidire



Zero Waste Logo implemented at TMC

How does one go about bringing change in a government office in India? The answer lies where passion meets purpose—and where determination fuels action.

When Vedan was first approached by the Town Municipal Council (TMC) of Moodubidire in 2021, the original ask was simple: provide **IEC (Information, Education, Communication)** services—mainly awareness sessions for local schools and colleges. But what unfolded was far more transformative than anyone expected.

In the initial meeting, Vedan emphasized a crucial point: awareness alone isn't enough. Without systems in place to apply what is learned, awareness fades. Therefore, Vedan proposed a bold idea—to help schools and colleges in Moodubidire become **Zero Waste Campuses**, just like what was successfully done at CIT, Bangalore. The fact that this was already running successfully elsewhere, gave the TMC the confidence to think bigger.



**TMC Office
Initial meeting of Vedan and TMC**

This plan was taken to the Counsellors Meeting, headed by then TMC President Mr Prasad Kumar, where during discussion a powerful question shifted the course of action: **“How can we ask our children to change if we’re not leading by example?”**

That moment of reflection led to a firm decision: the TMC would **first transform their own office** into a **Zero Waste Office**—and then use that as a working model to inspire schools, colleges, and the wider community.

From Thought to Action

With the support of **Mrs. Indu M., Chief Officer at TMC Moodubidire**, and her unwavering commitment to the cause, we got started. The work began on 13 October 2021, and in just under a month—on **8 November 2021**—the TMC Moodubidire proudly inaugurated its Zero Waste Office. The transformation was achieved on a remarkably modest budget of **₹50,000.**

Inauguration of the Zero Waste Office



Vedan Volunteer Suhasini explaining the different types of compost set-up.



Wet Waste Management

To inspire citizens to compost at home, the office installed four different types of composting systems as live demos:

- Mesh Composting
- Pot Composting
- Drum Composting
- Pipe Composting
- This variety showcases that composting is flexible, accessible, and adaptable to different households.



Different types of Leaf Composter

Dry Waste Management

A dedicated dry waste collection station was set up in the building's main corridor—a space every visitor would pass. The intention?

Normalize dry waste segregation and show that **it doesn't smell when handled right.**

The station collects:

- Cardboard
- Newspapers
- Plastics
- Multi-layered packaging (MLP)
- Stationery items
- Glass



Reject Waste

Posters in the women's restroom guide proper disposal of sanitary pads—an important but often overlooked aspect of waste management.



Awareness Through Art

Walls near the dry waste, compost, and e-waste zones were brought to life with **hand-painted visuals**. These serve as both educational tools and aesthetic additions—explaining processes, rules, and the philosophy of a Zero Waste Office.

We displayed pictures of the items banned in the office along with the alternatives that can be used



Cutlery Bank

To reduce single-use plastic during office events and meetings, the TMC set up a **cutlery bank**—a reusable collection of plates, glasses, and utensils available for all internal functions. This is still being used as of date!



Cutlery Bank

Awards

TMC Office has bagged the CMAK awards and received a Special Mention for their initiatives in **Effective Implementation of Zero Waste Office** in the CMP / TMC / TP category, presented by CMAK President, Chief Commissioner of BBMP and General Secretary CMAK, Director DMA.



CMAK Certificate



Receiving CMAK Award

Leading by Example

The TMC Moodubidire Zero Waste Office is not just about managing waste—it's about **walking the talk**. It's about demonstrating to citizens, students, and institutions that sustainability isn't just a concept—it's a **practice**.

This journey began with a request for awareness sessions. It evolved into a **model of change**—powered by belief, collaboration, and action.

Moodubidire now stands as a shining example of what's possible when government bodies commit to sustainable transformation. **And this was only the beginning.**



TMC Office Group Photo

As Mrs Indu supported and advocated for the Zero Waste Office at TMC Moodubidire, similarly, Commissioner of Police, B Dayanand, IPS supported and advocated for the Zero Waste Office in Bengaluru. [Read more about it here!](#)