

REPORT

Theme-Unwrap Sustainability-Review meeting

Venue-Tagore International School, East of Kailash, New Delhi

Date-20/05/2025

A team of five students of Class IX, mentored by their teacher, took part in a review meeting of the 'Unwrap Sustainability' project—Sarva Sahodaya's flagship initiative aimed at addressing packaging waste. Schools showcased a range of sustainability efforts, such as repurposing old T-shirts into cloth bags, inspecting tiffin boxes for foil usage, and adopting eco-friendly gift-wrapping methods. The workshop was highly interactive, with students sharing creative ideas to curb packaging waste during a dynamic brainstorming session. Participants also exchanged successful practices from their schools, fostering a collaborative environment for sustainable innovation.

The team from Delhi Public School, Gurgaon presented a comprehensive four-fold strategy to promote sustainable packaging practices:

1. Raising awareness about the environmental impact of non-eco-friendly packaging.
2. Showcasing eco-friendly gift-wrapping techniques, including the use of homemade, natural glue and tape.
3. Crafting reusable bags from discarded paper and fabric
4. Initiating an online petition to advocate for broader adoption of sustainable habits.

Ms. Deeksha Kumar, a Sustainability Consultant with dual master's degrees in sustainability from India and the UK, shared valuable insights on the different types of plastics, their usage, and the processes involved in their recycling.

Teams from various schools received valuable guidance and encouragement through an interactive session with sustainability experts. Ms. Sadia Sohail, Coordinator of the Resources & Sustainable Development Programme at the Heinrich Böll Foundation, and Ms. Mehak Verma, Project Coordinator at Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group—which advocates for environmental sustainability and social justice, particularly for waste-pickers and marginalised communities—shared their expertise and offered constructive feedback to the participants.

The workshop proved to be a deeply enriching experience, effectively highlighting how everyday items like food packaging can significantly harm the environment. Through relatable, real-life examples, it simplified complex ideas and encouraged participants to reflect on and reconsider their own consumption habits.

We look forward to implementing the various environmentally friendly measures within our school community.

