

Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti

On **1 October 2024**, pestle weed college of Information & Technology organised an awareness program at **G. I. C. Guniyal Gaon** focused on climate change, waste management, and key environmental practices. The session was attended by school students.

The key reasons for climate change, such as the burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial activities, were highlighted. The participants discussed how these actions are affecting the Earth, leading to global warming, rising sea levels, and increasing water pollution. Following this, we talked about migration and how climate change is forcing communities to move from their homes due to environmental degradation, lack of resources, and natural disasters. This brought us to the next crucial topic: waste management.

We explained what waste management entails and how it plays a pivotal role in protecting the environment. The session focused on the need for proper waste handling, starting with waste segregation, where we separate waste into biodegradable and non-biodegradable categories.

After this, we introduced the concept of composting, teaching the participants how organic waste can be transformed into valuable fertilizer for plants, reducing the overall waste burden.

Our discussion then shifted to how waste management practices are being implemented in the local context and how the students can contribute to managing waste effectively. We also discussed the challenges faced in handling waste at the community level and the importance of active participation in these efforts. The next topic of focus was menstrual waste and hygiene. We highlighted the excessive amount of waste generated from disposable sanitary products and discussed healthier, environmentally friendly alternatives like menstrual cups that are both reusable and safe.

To conclude the event, students participated in a hands-on activity where they created paper bags from waste materials. This fun and educational activity emphasized the importance of reusing waste creatively and reducing reliance on plastic bags.

