

Over 14k students brought under DJB Yamuna pathshala

New Delhi: As many as 14,097 students were associated with the Yamuna cleaning campaign in the last year through the 'Yamuna Ki Pathshala' programme, Delhi Jal Board officials have said.

The special programme — 'Yamuna Ki Pathshala' — started last year to involve school students in the Yamuna cleaning campaign and to make them aware about the river.

The programme has been organised in 543 schools so far. DJB set the target of organising the programme in 400 schools from March 2022 to April 2023 but it was expanded owing to the enthusiasm of school students, according to officials.

Under this programme, school children are made aware about the Yamuna and its ecology through activities like street plays, and essay and painting competitions. Joint teams were formed through partner NGO members and DJB employees to visit schools in different areas of Delhi to create awareness among children regarding the Yamuna.

The board is in the process of cleaning the river and generating awareness among the people of Delhi about it through several projects and programmes under the Yamuna Action Plan- III, which is a central government initiative.

Four non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for outreach and related activities under Yamuna Action Plan-III are Social Network India, Rural Education and Welfare Society, Ganga Devi Educational Society and Hariyali Center for Rural Development.

The river is the primary source of drinking water for the residents in the capital and has been facing environmental degradation due to the discharge of large amounts of harmful pollutants, **TNN**