

LAUNCHING OF COMPOSTING PROJECT IN SCHOOLS

The Ministry of Environment & NDU in collaboration with the Ministry of Education & HR has proceeded with the **launching of Composting Project in Schools** on Wednesday 7 September 2005 at Shri Rajiv Gandhi Government School, Riche Mare, Central Flacq.



The launching ceremony was accompanied by the distribution of pamphlets explaining the process of compost making and a demonstration on the use of compost bin. In this endeavor the Ministry of Environment & NDU is working closely with the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Mauritius Institute of Education, Agricultural Research and Extension Unit, National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs and Non Governmental Organisations.



Demonstration on the use of compost bin by representative of National Federation of Young Farmer's Clubs, Belle Mare

The process of composting recycles biodegradable waste and converts it into something that is pleasant to handle and is good for the soil. Hence, composting provides a partial solution to the issue of solid waste management; and by addressing this issue, composting provides a way of instilling in each individual a sense of environmental stewardship.

The project is in accordance with the concept of environmental sustainability the more so UNESCO has decreed 2005 to 2014 **the decade of education for sustainable development**. The project will provide an opportunity for children to get involved in the process of environmental education through the compost making process. The National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs is presently providing training to the teachers at Shri Rajiv Gandhi Government School. The teachers will in turn explain students how to do composting and the topic is also being integrated within EVS. The students will eventually be able to identify biodegradable waste and use it for composting. The students can in turn replicate the project at home and hence promote backyard composting.

It is the earnest wish of this Ministry to extend this project to all schools in Mauritius.