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POWER OF IDEAS



No big money and no big talk. Some young guns from various parts of the country are making their contribution to a green world with their simple ideas

YASMIN TAJ

The growing awareness about environment and the need to save it is gaining immense momentum each day. From governments to various social organisations, corporates and individuals, every segment of the society is taking active interest in this cause. When youngsters take up a cause, they give it a fresh perspective and make a considerable difference to it. And, the results are for all to see.

THE 'GREEN' ENVIRONMENTALIST

Govind Singh, Founder, Delhi Greens, is a young environmentalist who is the face behind the Delhi Greens Urban Ecotours.

So what encouraged him to do something for the environment? Singh shares, "Shortly after my Masters, I worked as a Research Fellow at the Center for Inter-disciplinary Studies of Mountain & Hill Environment (CISMHE), University of Delhi. This was an eye opening experience, and I realised there is so much that needs to be done in this country. From then on, I have always worked for the overall development of the country and made it a life-mandate for myself. In July, 2008 along with a group of friends, I founded an NGO with the same name: Delhi Greens."

Talking about the idea behind launching Delhi Greens Urban Ecotours, Singh explains, "The Urban Ecotourism Project has been a result of our previous research 'Kiski Dilli' (Whose Delhi is it anyway?) wherein we realised the city of Delhi faces a peculiar own-



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ership crisis. With this idea we launched the Urban Ecotours, with an objective of taking the people living in Delhi on tours to convert them into better informed and more responsible citizens. We organised the Urban Ecotours, hired a standard DTC bus to promote public transport, identified sites of ecological significance in the city and invited people of Delhi to come be introduced to their habitat." The response received is tremendous, from all age groups and different sections of the society. "There

is little chance that those who come on board do not become nature enthusiasts," asserts Singh.

THE ECO-FRIENDLY BAMBOO BIKE

Vijay Sharma, 34, creator of 'Bambike', a unique and environment friendly bike made out of bamboo, is an interior designer who has interest in designing furniture and products as well as, recycling materials. He runs 6mm Designs and Furniture, an office furniture studio in Bangalore and is from the Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology, School of Interior Design Ahmedabad. "Apart from doing my usual

