





Date	Publication	Туре	Edition	Headline	Page No.
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BATTING FOR ENVIRONM

SACHIN TENDULKAR ADVOCATES CONSERVATION AS From Class VI to X HE REQUESTS EVERYONE TO SAVE RESOURCES, REPORTS across 41

RAKESH KUMAR

ne has seen Sachin Tendulkar on the cricket ground, hitting the bowlers mercilessly but ever seen the batsman batting to save environment? Yes, like any other responsible citizen, Sachin too is equally concerned over environment degradation. This was witnessed at Gurgaon during a felicitation programme ~ Bat for the Planet ~ for school going children. During the programme, the master blaster request"As we keep ourselves healthy, we should keep our earth healthy. It is the duty of every individual to save natural resources by taking small steps because the change cannot happen overnight," said Sachin Tendulkar.

The programme, Bat for the Planet was organised by Toshiba along with the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) in the form of a painting competition based on eco-consciousness. Around 11,000 children



VI to X schools showcased their talent through their creative pieces. Thestudents illustrated environmental stewardship, energy efficiency greenhouse gases and climate change. And

the art work of students came as a surprise to the great Indian batsman too.

"Inever thought the students would come up with the idea of saving mothernature. I have seen their work and they have expressed it beautifully," said the Little Master.

Four best paintings from each school were selected and a committee of eminent educators and artists selected one winning entry from each school. These winning students were later recognised by Tendulkar. During the felicitation programme, the master blaster also shared some tips with the students to save water. "While traveling we buy a bottle, take a couple of sips and then leave it. So it is

waste of water. Only consume water whenever your body needs it. Don't keep the shower on while taking a bath or shampoo. I think these are small things that could make a difference," said Tendulkar: "When you start shaving don't leave the tap open. At the end of the year, this will save thousands of litres of water." On a lighter note, he cited an example from his family, "In my home there is a habit of turning off lights, fans and AC before leaving a room. Many a time, when my son leaves a room, he switches off all these irrespective of someone's presence in the room. Then I complain to him, 'What are you doing, I am still here'."