

## ***Jivan Mitr*: Lesson in waste management**

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Tuesday, January 6, 2004 (Mumbai):

It's a lesson in waste management. A garbage dump in Mumbai turned into a blooming garden using a simple concept of bio-culture.

A few NGOs started the process of turning the garbage littered around the city into manure by using a device called *Jivan Mitr*.

### **Simple technique**

"There is bacteria in this, which get activated when there is moisture and they devour the garbage," explains Vijay Pavgi, Vrikshavali.

This technique has been successfully adopted in over 500 homes in Thane. All the biodegradable garbage like food and vegetable waste is turned into compost in people's homes using *Jivan Mitr*.

"Whatever one should do for the environment, it should begin in our own home first," says Nilesh, volunteer.

The remaining waste like paper and plastics are sent for recycling. As a result, the waste output from homes is almost negligible and all this comes at a one-time investment of just Rs 300.

It's a lesson in waste management that could well be adopted across the country.