

# THE GREEN CAMPUS AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



**Shailabala Women's Autonomous College, Cuttack**

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सत्यमेव जयते नानृतं सत्येन पन्था वतितो देवयानः ।

# The Green Campus and Environmental Policy

A Green Campus is a place where environmental friendly practices and education system jointly promote sustainable and eco-friendly ambiance in the campus. The green campus concept offers an institution the opportunity to take the lead in redefining its environmental culture and developing new paradigms by creating sustainable solutions to environmental, social and economic needs of the mankind.

Shailabala Women's Autonomous College, Cuttack recognises that its operations can have an impact on the environment and is therefore committed to minimise this impact by adhering to a range of sustainable practices and setting targets to continually improve its environmental performance. The policy statement highlights how the college would pursue environmental best practises and inspire the sustainable use of resources at the community level within and outside college premise. It lays out the concepts, delineate priority areas, and methods for the college's environmental plans' implementation, management, and evaluation. Its goal is to reduce energy and raw materials consumption that could jeopardize the sustainability measures being taken at college level. This policy will communicate the College administration's goals and objectives to College employees, students, and staffs, as well as aid in the creation of a better environment for future generations.

The motto of the policy is, LIVE FOR THE NATURE AND LIVE WITH THE NATURE.

## **The focus areas of this policy are:**

- Clean Campus Initiatives
- Landscaping Initiatives
- Clean Air Initiatives
- Infrastructure
  - \* Solar Power Plant
  - \* Installation of Energy Efficiency Equipment
  - \* Water Conservation through water reservoir
- Waste Management processes
  - ◆ Solid Waste Management
  - ◆ Liquid Waste Management
  - ◆ E-Waste Management
- Awareness Initiatives

→ Environment-centric Student Societies and Department Activities

→ Green Audit

→ Energy Audit

→ Plastic free, Tobacco free Campus

**To accomplish this, the College will:**

- Review and analyse systematically the range of environmental issues arising from its operations
- instil awareness of environmental responsibility among students and staff
- Comply with relevant current and anticipated environmental legislation, regulations and official codes of practice
- Raise awareness of and encourage participation in environmental matters amongst its employees and students
- Ensure that the environmental policy is implemented and supported at all levels of the company
- Monitor, evaluate and continually improve its environmental performance
- Communicate openly the progress in reducing its environmental impact to internal and external stakeholders like Municipal Corporation etc.

**OBJECTIVES & PURPOSES OF THE POLICY**

This policy is intended to provide a guideline for eco-friendly living of all the stakeholders of the campus. It should also serve as a guideline to decide our stance on environmental issues of the region and the state.

- To uphold the value and nobility of mother nature
- To orient the stakeholders of Marian College on the importance of nature
- To undertake eco friendly initiatives and develop pro-active steps towards environment
- To motivate the youth for action to conserve, protect & restore the environment
- To promote networking and collaboration among professionals, agencies and youths to have a sustainable consciousness in development projects

- To activate 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' as a key component of all the community work being done by NSS volunteers and others of the college

#### **FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES**

- Sustainable living and return to nature
- Minimize negative impacts on the environment
- Conserve and wisely use natural resources
- Respect biodiversity and natural systems

#### **PRACTICE PRINCIPLES**

The practice principle of this policy is based on the 4 core principles of environment protection, that are REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE & REPLACE.

**REDUCE:** Use or buy only what we really need - there is no waste to treat when there is no waste to begin with.

**REUSE:** Don't throw away items that are reusable. Reduce waste by making full use of any item.

**RECYCLE:** Recycle broken but recyclable items so that the resources can be made usable items.

**REPLACE:** Adopt eco-friendly goods or lifestyles, such as using handkerchiefs instead of tissues, e-Notices and communications replacing papers.

The college's environmental policy will be pursued through the following priority areas:

#### **1. WATER MANAGEMENT**

- Use effective management strategies to conserve water and reduce its use.
- Use of least amount of water possible in accordance with its activities, and it will ensure that the water it uses is both provided and disposed of in the purest possible condition.
- A continuous water conservation programme would be implemented to track use, prevent leakage, and remove excessive or unnecessary use.
- Installing water reservoir systems in all campus buildings for ground water replenishment and water self-sufficiency.

- It will also support artificial recharge and the resurrection of traditional groundwater recharge processes.
- Encourage reporting leaks and swiftly repairing them.
- Employing a caretaker to take quick action to stop any water leaking from taps, pipelines, tanks, and toilet flushes, among other things.
- The institution shall promote efficient water use techniques, such as sprinkler or drip irrigation, in its gardening activities.
- Conserve water by building more Indian-style toilets rather than western-style toilets.
- Grease trap mechanism prevents the release and mixing of oil from the college canteen liquid waste in the municipal drainage system.

## **2. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT:**

The college will strive to limit waste creation in all possible ways including reducing the procurement of new materials, reusing and recycling existing materials, and, if this is not possible, disposing of garbage in a manner that has the least environmental impact.

- The usage of plastic is prohibited on campus.
- Waste containers/Dustbins are positioned where they are needed.
- Composting of solid waste from canteens and hostels and/or disposing them properly through municipal agencies.
- Hazardous waste must be handled, transported, and disposed of properly.
- Hazardous chemicals and toxic hygienic compounds will be used as little as possible at the college.
- Collect and recycle paper waste generated on campus in collaboration with scrap merchants.
- Supporting the digitization of attendance and internal assessment records reduces the consumption of paper.
- Update the college library's e books and e journals collection to reduce the need for printed books.
- Encourage students and teachers to utilize email to submit assignments.
- Take steps to raise student knowledge about food waste and strategies for reducing it.

- Minimizing the usage of packaged foods, as well as the habit of reusing and recycling

non-biodegradable items

- Organizing solid waste management workshops for students.

### **3. E-WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The college assures that its technological use and e-waste output have no negative influence on the environment. The college intends to work toward the following goals:

- More arrangements for the disposal of institutional e-waste.
- Awareness among students about e-waste reduction and environmentally responsible e-waste disposal techniques.
- Encouraging e-waste management initiatives at the departmental and societal levels.

### **4. AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT**

- Maintain good green cover to enhance CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration from campus.
- No or limited vehicle day in a month to be initiated.
- To reduce dust, open places with lawn and grasses should be used.
- Prohibition of smoking and the use of other tobacco products.
- More plantations for an increase in the amount of greenery on campus.

### **5. GREEN AUDIT**

The institution intends to undertake a Green Audit of our college campus on a regular basis to analyze our strengths and weaknesses in order to advance our long-term sustainability goals. A green audit can help to figure out how and where we're wasting the energy, water, or resources. The college can then think about how to make improvements and save money. It can tell us what kind of garbage you have and how much of it we have. Waste minimization initiatives or recycling projects can be implemented. It will promote environmental principles and ethics while also raising health awareness. It helps students comprehend the implications of environmentally friendly behaviours on campus. Green auditing will help you save money by reducing your resource usage. It is critical that the college assess its own contributions to a long-term future.

## **6. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, TRAINING AND AWARENESS**

Outreach and education are very important so that all members of the campus community understand the policy's goals and can help in its execution. This is why college supports and encourages awareness campaigns, seminars, workshops, conferences, and other interactive sessions to ensure that the Green Campus, Energy, and Environment policies are implemented effectively by NSS volunteers & NCC cadets.

## **7. PLASTIC FREE CAMPUS**

Since its founding, College has complied with the majority of its responsibilities in terms of solid waste management. In light of the Indian government's decision to ban all single-use plastics due to the harmful effects of plastic use and pollution, the college administration rigorously prohibits the use of single-use plastics in its property in order to make it a "Plastic Free Campus."

## **8. CLEAN CAMPUS INITIATIVES**

In accordance with the objective of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, College vowed to aggressively coordinate cleanliness operations both on and off campus. It pledges to keep this programme going. The following is the broad vision:

- Educating students and staff members about the importance of cleanliness and hygiene by staging frequent cleanliness drives. The goal is to encourage them to be proactive in their contributions.
- All community work done by the college's NSS, NCC, and Green Society volunteers will include activities under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.
- Staff members will be encouraged to participate in the college's cleaning drive.
- Competitions for posters and slogans, essay writing, spoken word poetry, speeches, and skits on the theme of "Swachh Bharat" will be held.
- To raise public awareness, rallies on topics related to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan will be held on and around the college campus.
- Remove any waste materials, such as damaged furniture and obsolete equipment.
- Annually administer the promise by students and staff to keep the college campus and its environs clean.

- Make a commitment to manage garbage and keep the campus clean, especially during college events.

## **9. LANDSCAPING INITIATIVES**

The environment of a college's campus, like its buildings, can be considered as a tangible manifestation of its values. It is an important aspect of a campus's life, giving opportunities for study, recreation, outdoor activities, relaxation, and aesthetic enjoyment. Green campus landscapes also assist recharge groundwater, control runoff, and purify and cool the air on campus. The landscape is a visual symbol of the school community's dedication to environmental stewardship. Landscape programmes are a fantastic approach to raise environmental awareness because campus landscapes are so visible and accessible. In campus, there are more than 25 plant species as well as many acres of grass. The landscape of trees and plants provides clean, cool ambience to the visitors, students and staff, as well as a relaxing atmosphere. By organizing regular tree plantation drives and encouraging student groups to host tree planting events, the college pledges to enriching this healthy ecosystem and maintaining the institution's symbiotic relationship with nature.