



PADMA SHRI PADMA SACHDEV

GOVT. COLLEGE FOR WOMEN GANDHINAGAR JAMMU

(A Constituent College of Cluster University of Jammu)

NAAC ACCREDITED, GRADE-A (2ND CYCLE)

Erstwhile Star College (DBT)

POLICY DOCUMENT ON ENVIRONMENT



INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL (IQAC)



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POLICY STATEMENT



At GCW, Gandhi Nagar, we are committed to promote environmental sustainability and minimizing our ecological footprint. We recognize that the environment is a precious and finite resource, and it is our responsibility to protect and preserve it for future generations. The College aims to maintain a green, clean, and eco-friendly campus. It intends to encourage projects and initiatives on waste management, water conservation, energy consumption reduction and climate change mitigation.

The policy implies to explore the renewable energy resources to reduce the burden and to find ways to switch to the sources that are energy efficient and renewable. This transition to the renewable energy and to inexhaustible sources of energy will maintain the interest of our planet and its inhabitants. This environment and energy policy is applicable for all the components of the institution and to all its stakeholders.

This policy will help us to realize our responsibilities and commitment to conservation of natural resources about reducing air & water pollution and green house gas emissions and to limit their usage. Waste Management Committee, Environment and Green Audits are devoted to the cause of environmental awareness, to undertake green initiatives and to conduct green literacy programs to save energy and protect the environment.

The Policy designed to achieve these objectives for a better environment with the involvement of students by undertaking different activities. The pattern of the environment related activities and programs conducted in the college designed and modulated in such a way that a clear and strong message is circulated amongst the students and the society regarding management, protection and preservation of environment and natural resources.



AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- To protect and conserve the natural environment, including ecosystem, biodiversity, and natural resources.
- To promote sustainable practices that balance social, economic, and environmental considerations. This includes striving for long-term environmental sustainability, reducing ecological foot prints, and supporting the well-being of present and future generations.
- To prevent pollution and minimize the release of harmful substances into the environment.
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation is a crucial objective of many environmental policies which includes adopting renewable energy sources, promoting energy efficiency, and implementing measures to adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- To promote the efficient use of natural resources, such as water, energy, and raw materials. The objective is to minimize waste generation, optimize resource utilization, and encourage recycling.
- To ensure compliance with relevant environmental laws, regulations, and standards which includes staying up to date with environmental requirements, obtaining necessary permits, and reporting on environmental performance.
- To raise awareness about environmental issues, promote sustainable practices, and provide resources and education to enable stakeholders to participate in environmental initiatives.
- An Environmental policy includes the objective for continuous improvement in environmental performance. This involves setting targets, monitoring progress, and implementing management systems to drive on going environmental improvement within the organization.



- To foster collaboration and partnerships with other organizations, government agencies, NGOs, and community groups to collectively address environmental challenges and achieve shared environmental goals.
- To develop a policy for e-governance with the intent to reduce the use of paper.
- To implement the zero-tolerance policy on single use plastic in the institution.
- To organize seminars/lectures on the initiatives that should be undertaken to conserve energy and natural resources.
- To develop rain water harvesting and underground water management system in the college.

SCOPE

In due recognition of an educational institution's significant role in the creation and maintenance of environmental consciousness in society, GCW, Gandhi Nagar outlines the following initiatives and practices:

- Integrated Solid Waste Management involving waste prevention, recycling, composting and safe disposal of dry waste, food waste, hazardous waste and e-waste.
- A Plastic-Free Campus to be achieved through a strict ban on the use of single-use plastic, in accordance with the government's efforts to ban all single-use plastic.
- To enhance the overall aesthetic appeal of the College premises and to create a sense of belonging.
- To develop Rain Water Harvesting and Underground Water Management System.
- Installation of Solar Panels, along with other energy efficient equipment's viz bulbs, tubes, etc.



ACTION PLAN

The objectives should be realistic, time-bound, and relevant to the organization's environmental priorities.

- **Conduct Environmental Assessments:**

To conduct thorough assessments to identify the organization's current environmental performance, impacts, and areas for improvement. This will be achieved by conducting energy audits, water footprint assessments, waste audits, and carbon footprint assessments.

- **Engage Stakeholders:**

To involve key stakeholders such as students, alumni, and local communities in the development and implementation of the action plan. It can be achieved by seeking their inputs on different objectives and initiatives, which will be aided with their participation and support.

- **Establish Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):**

Developing a set of KPIs to monitor and measure progress towards the objectives. KPIs will include metrics such as energy consumption, water Usage, waste generation, greenhouse gas emissions, and other relevant environmental indicators.

- **Identify Priority Areas and Specific Actions:**

Identification of priority areas where significant environmental improvements are required will be based on the assessment findings, stakeholders' feedback, and the organization's environmental impacts and risks. The course of action will include assigning responsibilities, setting timelines, and allocating resources for each action.



These action plans will be put in place by implementing following basic procedures:

Waste Management

- College will collaborate with the agencies / NGOs to manage the recyclable waste generated in college at larger scale.
- The dustbins will be installed at different locations to manage solid waste which will be further separated into biodegradable and non-biodegradable categories.
- The college will follow the proper guideline for treatment and disposal of biological and chemical wastes generated.
- The college will strictly adheres to plastic usage guidelines and has already prohibited the use of single-use plastic in the campus like carry-bags, glasses, spoons, plates, etc.
- The college shall develop a compost unit that makes compost from canteen waste, leaves, grass, organic waste, and other sources.

Conservation and Management of Water

- The college will develop operational Rain Water Harvesting units. The water collected from the working unit will be discharged into the ground water to raise the ground water table.



- The water distribution system from the main water tank of the college will be repaired so that water supply to different blocks may not be hindered.
- Regular inspection of taps for leaks or drainage will be done and repaired, if required to avoid the loss of potable water.

GREEN INITIATIVES

- The college will initiate and participate in plantation drives both on and off campus in near future to maintain the green cover and enhance the ambience with the help of skilled gardeners and supervisors.
- To increase the oxygen levels in the campus, various varieties of ornamental, medicinal and wild plant species will be planted during plantation drives.
- Setting up of herbal garden in the college campus will definitely accelerate the efforts of enhancing green cover.
- The college will follow the tradition of greeting all the guests and visitors with assorted saplings of plant or herbs i.e. Green Welcome.
- A green and environmental audit shall be conducted to identify, quantify, and an environmental sustainability framework in accordance with applicable regulations, policies, and standards.
- The green habitat concept will be implemented in the college campus to reduce energy consumption, improving the aesthetic appeal of buildings and classrooms, and lowering carbon footprint.



- The College will strive to be a paperless workplace in near future shifting communication from paper to e-mail, whatsapp and other e-platforms.

ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND CONSERVATION

- More Photovoltaic Solar Panels will be installed to light the college drive way to fortify the process of energy conservation and the use of renewable sources of energy.
- The college will adopt and promote energy-saving electrical appliances.

VISION - 2030

With the College's commitment for the cause of environmental protection, we would like to take our current environmental initiatives to the next level in future.

- The college is planning to expand the solar panel installation in the campus and use renewable energy, reducing the burden on non-renewable energy resources.
- The herbal garden of the college will be enriched with more varieties of plants to enhance the oxygen level in the campus.
- Tree adoption drives will be promoted by NCC & NSS during which students in teams or groups will adopt trees in the college and vicinity and take care of them.

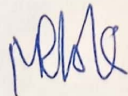


- The students will be engaged to work in environment friendly manner and inculcate this attitude in their lifestyle.

SIGNIFICANCE OF AUDIT

A well-designed and efficiently implemented environmental audit greatly assists an institution in understanding the impact of its actions on its immediate, as well as global environment. This, in turn, allows the institution to make informed choices that promote a sustainable approach to development; ensures legislative compliance of various activities undertaken by the institution; enhances resource efficiency as well as help keep alive a conversation around environmental concerns amongst its stakeholders.

Timely audits serve as a reminder of the significant role that each member plays in tackling the emerging environmental issues. GCW, Gandhi Nagar intends to pursue a programme of continuous improvement in its objectives, procedures and practices.


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