



Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women
Coimbatore - 641 043, Tamil Nadu, India
(Deemed to be University under Category 'A' by MHRD)
Re-accredited with 'A+' Grade by NAAC
Recognised by UGC under Section 12B

Policy document on the Green Campus

Policy No: AU/P/11
Effective From: 09-01-2019
Revised on: 16-04-2021

Registrar
Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science
and Higher Education for Women
(Deemed to be University under Category 'A' by MHRD)
Coimbatore - 641 043

S. Kamesh

Approved in 114th BOM held on 16-04-2021(Revised)-ItemNo.: 4.6

Policy document on the Green Campus

1. Preamble

Going green is a sustained and noble thought process in our Institute's core values which have helped redefine all activities by internalizing green concepts. The activities of the institute are committed to adhere to the Government's policy statements for maintaining the campuses clean and hygienic facilitating fresh air and pollution free ambience. The Value orientation endeavors envisage instilling Green practices in all stakeholders.

2. Policy Objectives

- Inculcate healthy practices among faculty (both teaching and non-teaching) and student community on environmental conservation and sustainability
- Promote micro to macro level project /research endeavors to conserve environmental resources
- Contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goals through practice / adoption of the 3R's concept

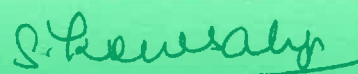
3. Policy Statement

The policy of the institute is to protect natural resources/ environment, evolve sustainable solutions for conservation issues, innovate appropriate eco-friendly technologies and contain waste reduction and disposal through viable measures. The policy statements aim to:

- Nurture generations of nature loving citizenry
- Promote the right ambience for all stakeholders to become environment-savvy and facilitate raising greenery around them
- Create awareness on effective use of resources and conservation techniques
- Foster a culture of nature conservation and promote innovative ideas
- Develop appropriate rural technologies for energy conservation
- Grow on par with nation's call for conserving non-renewable energy
- Envisage collaborative endeavours with other Institutions on environmental issues
- Highlight role of stakeholders in creating environmental awareness amongst community

4. Areas where the policy is applied

- Restricted entry of automobiles
- Use of bicycles/ battery powered vehicles



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- Pedestrian friendly pathways
- Ban on use of plastics
- Landscaping with trees and plants
- e-campus with 11 modules to go “paperless”
- Use of eco-friendly building materials
- Energy conservation – solar, wind, Biogas
- Water conservation through recycling

Procedure followed towards various green initiatives

4.1 Restricted entry of automobiles

The entry of vehicles is strictly restricted beyond the parking spaces for students. Visitors are allowed to enter only through Gate III of the Institute in the Main Campus and the main gate in Satellite Campus. Visitors’ vehicles are restricted beyond 150 meters from the entrance. Signage are kept at vantage points restricting entry and parking. Entry book is maintained for visitors to register their details in the Gates in both the campuses. All the gates are closed by 6 p.m.

4.2 Use of bicycles/ battery powered vehicles

Battery powered vehicle is available to facilitate staff transit to and fro between blocks in the Main Campus. A small proportion of students and multi-tasking assistants and few non-teaching staff commute by bicycles to the institute, where they are allotted specific parking spaces. The Institute patronizes only smoke/emission free vehicles (buses) and all have registered AMC schedules. They are subjected to fitness tests at appropriate times.

4.3 Pedestrian friendly pathways

Both the campuses are well planned with adequate pedestrian friendly pathways with shade providing trees on the sides, for all to commute at ease. Roads inside the campus are well maintained. Safety of the pedestrians is ensured as vehicles have restricted entry.

4.4 Ban on use of plastics

In compliance with the Hon’ble Tamil Nadu Chief Minister’s announcement – Environment -110 regarding ban on one-time use and throwaway plastics with effect from 01.01.2019 under Environment Protection Act, 1986, one-time use and throwaway plastics are banned from use in our Institution in both the campuses.

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- a. Use of Plastic products/materials in the form of carry covers, plates, bottles, packets, cups, sheets and any such items that may be categorized under plastic or plastic-coated products/materials especially are totally banned from use within the campuses
- b. Use of eco friendly products as alternates to ensure environmental safety in the campuses is recommended. Eco friendly products like Palm leaf plates, cups and paper cups are permitted to serve during events/celebrations and use of stainless steel serving cutlery in the canteens is made mandatory.

4.5 Landscaping with trees and plants

The salubrious environment and terrain in the Satellite Campus presents green and cool ambience silhouetted in front of ranges of mountains in the Nilgiris biosphere. It is a gift of nature to have a 'temple of learning' in a natural setting. Trees and plants make the landscape of the campuses more appealing and vibrant. The ecological role of flora and fauna inside the campuses being given weightage ensures our major green initiative for sustainability. The ambience is enriched and rendered pollution-free by means of air purifying and anti-pollutant plants, colorful flowers and ethnic trees like Neem, Sandalwood, Vilvam, Wild gooseberry, Jamun, Banyan and bamboo shoots. The lovely orchard, including Coconut palm, Noni(Indian Mulberry)in Satellite campus renders a classic view to all stakeholders. The **Herbal garden** and the **Nakshatra Vanam** is a special attraction in the well planned landscape in both the campuses. Mature trees are preserved and buildings are constructed around them.

4.6 e-Campus with 11 modules to go "paperless"

The e-Campus with its 11 modules (facilitating Admission, Examination, Administration, Communication etc) is an efficiently designed online platform that facilitates administrative efficiency and speedy dissemination of information and *paperless* administration. The modules are meticulously developed ensuring improved transparency and providing comfort zone for staff and students operations. The sensor based (face recognition) attendance record is also an initiative on paperless administration.

4.7 Use of eco-friendly building materials

Eco-conscious behavior in selecting and using eco friendly products for construction purposes within the premises had enabled us to fall in line with Government stipulations. Materials like M-Sand, Low VOC paints and paver blocks are utilized as green initiatives. The construction plans are aligned with the Government regulations and care is taken to comply with the prescribed standards for materials.

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4.8 Energy Conservation

The following energy conservation techniques are adopted in the Institute

4.8.1 Solar Energy

On grid Solar power plants are installed in various locations in the campuses which function enabling reduction in the consumption of electricity from the Distribution system. The Solar panels of varied capacity help generate electricity and solar water heaters facilitate supply of hot water to the hostel inmates in both the campuses.

4.8.2 Biogas Energy

Three Biogas plants installed in the campuses serve the dual purpose of digesting food wastes and generating biogas for cooking in the hostel mess. At a time, it facilitates both solid waste management and fuel energy conservation. Reports project saving of almost two commercial cylinders per month from each biogas plant.

4.8.3 Wind Energy

A wind mill generating 1 KWP per day has been installed which also helps in miniscule way to conserve energy.

4.8.4 Sensor based facilities for energy conservation

The Air conditioning facility in the Artificial Intelligence lab and the Video Wall in the Thriuchitrambalam auditorium in the main campus have been installed with the prime motive of energy conservation using sensor devices.

4.8.4 Power Saving Equipments

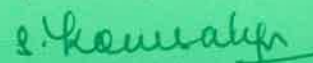
All departments have been encouraged to purchase energy labeled, star-rated appliances in order to keep a check on energy consumption in individual labs.

4.9 Water conservation through recycling

The following are the Water Conservation measures adopted by the Institute

4.9.1 Rain Water harvesting

Rain water harvesting is adopted as an important sustainable water replenishing practice in the institute. Proper well planned channels have been constructed at various locations in both the campuses in order to collect and store storm water (rain water). The collected water is utilized for irrigation and other purposes promoting self sufficiency.



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4.9.2 Sewage Treatment Plant

The Sewage treatment plants installed in both the campuses ensure efficient treatment of waste and renders recycled water safe for irrigating plants in the gardens (drip irrigation) and for flushing in restrooms. One of the solar panels generating 1 KW solar energy per day, is dedicated to supply power to one of the sewage treatment plants in the satellite campus.

5. Outcome

In consonance with the objectives defined in the policy, the following major outcomes were achieved:

- Activities aligned to policy framework of the institute and SDGs
- Green comfort zone promoted for all stakeholders
- Renewable energy harnessed to an optimal level
- Awareness generated among stakeholders to be more resourceful
- Nurtured environmentally responsible younger generations
- Successfully adopted the 3 R's Principle- *Reduce, Reuse and Recycle*
- Sponsored projects and research endeavours mooted on green initiatives

6. Conclusion

The green campus initiatives adopted by the institute encourages the stakeholders to live in a more environment friendly way and enjoy the experience of working in green and self-sufficient campuses. The positive effect of the initiatives assures reduced pollution, less waste disposal and high renewable energy conservation. The policy initiatives improve the balance between the natural environment and the cultural environment in the campuses and contribute to sustainable growth in all spheres.

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Air Purifier Plants in the Institute



Golden pothos



Indian sweet basil



Heart shape philodendron



Snake plant



Weeping fig



Warneck dracaena

