



7.1.2 Policy document on the green campus/plastic free campus.

Sarojini Naidu Vanita Pharmacy Maha Vidyalaya emphasizes the importance of a clean, green, and pollution-free environment for effective learning. We believe that being eco-friendly is not just a responsibility of industries and corporations but also educational institutions. The green campus integrates environment-friendly practices with education to promote sustainability. It serves as a serene and pristine backdrop for learning, fostering a holistic approach to education. By combining environmental awareness with academic pursuits, they strive to create an eco-friendly campus community. Our commitment reflects a broader societal shift towards environmental consciousness in education.

Objectives

- To mitigate air pollution on campus
- To implement, biodegradable alternatives
- Initiate tree-planting drives and create green spaces that can enhance and promote the greenery within the campus.
- Encourage digitalization to reduce paper consumption on campus.
- Enforce no-smoking policies to keep the campus tobacco-free.

Sarojini Naidu Vanita Pharmacy Maha Vidyalaya implements the following key initiatives

Plastic-Free Campus:

SNVPMV is Implementing a phased ban on single-use plastic items with a systematic approach to gradually eliminate these items from use within a specific timeframe. This comprehensive strategy significantly reduced various single-use plastic products, including water bottles, straws, bags, cutlery, and packaging, which are significant contributors to plastic pollution.

Awareness Programs:

SNVPMV believes and practices awareness and education campaigns to train the staff and students on various quality approaches including the need for a green campus. We have been organizing campaigns at multiple levels informing the campus community about the harmful effects of single-use plastics on the environment and human health. Management initiatives in this regard played crucial role in raising awareness about the importance of reducing plastic consumption and encouraging individuals to embrace more sustainable alternatives. We have a strong commitment to environmental sustainability and have taken several measures to reduce plastic pollution on campus and beyond.

Plastic Alternatives:

We have taken up eco-friendly alternatives such as biodegradable materials and/or reusable products for a smooth transition to plastic-free options. We are contemplating collaboration with suitable suppliers and vendors in this regard.

Waste Reduction and Recycling:

Source reduction: SNVPMV has taken several strategies that are found to be effective in the reduction of paper use across campus. This could be achieved by the institutional adoption

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of digital documentation and communication methods. Additionally, we are advocating the staff and students for the use of double-sided printing to further reduce paper consumption. We are utilizing digital platforms such as emails, Google Forms, Google spreadsheets and online portals for communication purposes which have in effect significantly reduced the need for printed materials like memos, student feedback forms and flyers.

Recycling Infrastructure: We are educating the campus community on recycling practices and proper waste sorting techniques across the 20 colleges under the Exhibition Society. SNVPMV is implementing clearly labeled recycling bins for paper, plastic, glass, metal, and organic waste across the campus.

Composting: We are educating the students and staff about the benefits of composting and the proper techniques for managing compost piles. We introduced the composting programs on campus to divert food scraps and provided designated composting bins and/or areas for collecting organic waste materials.

Green Operations:

Energy Efficiency: We have shifted towards LED lighting and utilizing energy-efficient appliances for promoting energy efficiency. These transitioning measures not only contributed towards the reduction of environmental impact but also resulted in long-term cost savings for the institution. By prioritizing energy-saving initiatives, our institution is contributing to environmental sustainability.

Water Conservation: We have implemented campus-wide, the water conservation measures like fixing leaks, installing low-flow fixtures, and promoting responsible water use habits. These initiatives were found to be effective in minimizing water wastage, reducing utility costs and contributing to environmental sustainability.

Sustainable Transportation: SNVPMV has given awareness to the staff and students and promoted sustainable transportation options like walking, cycling, and public transit. These efforts were found to significantly reduce the reliance on cars, alleviate traffic congestion, and decrease carbon emissions.

Education and Engagement:

Curriculum Integration: In the present curriculum of the Pharmacy Council of India sustainability concepts were integrated into academic courses and our students have profound knowledge and skills needed to address environmental challenges and implement sustainable solutions across various disciplines, fostering a culture of environmental stewardship within the academic and campus community.

Green Clubs and Initiatives: SNVPMV is facilitating student-led environmental groups and initiatives, especially as a part of the student clubs, enabling peer-to-peer learning and active engagement in sustainable practices. Through these initiatives, we empowered the students to drive positive environmental change within the campus community.

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Community Outreach: We are constantly interacting and partnering with local communities and organizations to exchange best practices, for raising environmental awareness, and collaborate on joint sustainability projects.

Implementation and Monitoring:

Action Plan: We have created a comprehensive action plan outlining specific timelines, responsible individuals, and allocated budgets for each sustainability initiative. This detailed plan is done for ensuring the accountability, clarity, and effective implementation of strategies to achieve environmental goals.

Monitoring and Evaluation: SNVPMV continuously monitors the progress toward policy objectives and evaluates the effectiveness of implemented initiatives to ensure alignment with sustainability goals.

Reporting and Transparency: We have procedures for regular communication on the progress and challenges being faced in the implementation of green campus initiatives in the campus community through reports and open forums. The procedures in place are transparent enough to empower individuals to contribute to sustainability efforts.

Conclusion:

Embracing plastic-free campus policies in our institution has resulted in a healthier, more sustainable, and resilient learning environment for present and future generations, showcasing our dedication to environmental responsibility through collective action, education, and innovation. Our policy document is serving as a roadmap for shaping a greener and more sustainable campus, meeting the unique needs of our institution, and thereby contributing to a brighter future for our planet. We strive hard to foster a culture of environmental stewardship and leave a positive legacy on our campus and beyond.

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