

**YASHODA GIRLS'
ARTS AND COMMERCE
COLLEGE, NAGPUR**



**GREEN CAMPUS, ENERGY AND
ENVIRONMENT POLICY**

Policy document

CONTEXT

All the stakeholders of the institution are well aware of the relationship between Yashoda Girls' College and nature which is a long and enduring one. YGC has a small premises and campus but it is very often appreciated by almost all the visitors for its cleanliness and greenery.

The institution has natural water harvesting as all the four sides of the institution are surrounded with land and greenery where a natural habitat for biodiversity and a large variety of species of herbs, shrubs and trees. The management of the institution has always had sustainable initiatives at the core of all green and clean campus activities since the construction of the building.

Scope of the policy

The Green Campus, Energy and Environment Policies of the institution is going to develop a positive energy among the students and will encourage students to take the lead in creating positive change getting empowered with energy efficiency, sustainability and the environment.

The focus areas of this policy are:

- ❖ *Clean Campus Initiatives*
- ❖ *Landscaping Initiatives*
- ❖ *Clean Air Initiatives*
- ❖ *Smoking Free Campus*
- ❖ *Infrastructure*
- ❖ *Solar Power Plant*
- ❖ *Installation of Energy Efficiency Equipment*
- ❖ *Water Conservation through Natural Rainwater Harvesting System.*

Waste Management Pocesesses

- ❖ *Solid Waste Management*
- ❖ *Liquid Waste Management*
- ❖ *E-Waste Management*
- *Awareness Initiatives*

- *Environment-Centric- Department Activities*
- *Green Audit*
- *Energy Audit*
- *Plastic Free Campus*

OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

- *To ensure judicious use of environmental resources to meet the needs of the present and future generations.*
- *To protect and conserve ecological systems and resources within the campus.*
- *To integrate environmental concerns into policies, plans and programs for the benefit of the society at large.*
- *To work with all stakeholders and the local community to raise awareness for the reduction of any adverse effects on the environment.*
- *To work for climate protection and adaptation to climate change and to the conservation of global resources.*
- *To work for the efficient use of all resources, including energy and water, and to reduce consumption and the amount of waste produced.*
- *To make the campus plastic free.*
- *To conduct environmental and energy audits from time to time.*
- *To minimize the use of paper in administration adopting the policy for E-governance.*

CLEAN CAMPUS INITIATIVES :

The institution coordinate cleanliness activities in the college and outside through NSS and beyond the campus in accordance with the vision of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. The broad vision is as follows:-

1. *To generate mass awareness on cleanliness and hygiene amongst students and staff members by holding regular cleanliness drives.*
2. *Activities under “Swachh Bharat Abhiyan” will be a key component of all the community work being done by NSS.*
3. *Staff Members will be encouraged to participate in the cleanliness drive in the college campus.*
4. *Events such as poster and slogan competitions, essay writing, speeches, skits on “Swachh Bharat” will be organized.*

5. *Rallies on 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' in and around the college campus will be conducted to create mass awareness.*
6. *Remove all kinds of waste material.*

LANDSCAPING INITIATIVES

Green campus landscapes also help recharge groundwater, and clean and cool the air on campus. The campus landscape, like its buildings, can be seen as the physical embodiment of a college's values. It is a vital part of the life of a campus, providing space for study, play, outdoor events, relaxation and aesthetic appreciation. The landscape of trees and plants provide the 550 students and staff with clean and cool air and is a soothing environment. The college commits to enriching this healthy habitat and maintaining the symbiotic relation of the institution with nature by

- *Organizing annual tree plantation drives*
- *Encouraging student societies to hold tree planting events*

CLEAN AIR INITIATIVES

We encourage our students and staff to use public transportation. We encourage carpooling to college, an activity that will control air pollution and strengthen social interaction. The entry of outsiders automobiles inside the campus is restricted to discourage the use of private vehicles. The abundant natural landscape cleans the air on campus.

Smoking Free Campus

In compliance with the framework provided by the National Tobacco Control Program (NTCP) the college prohibits smoking and the use of other tobacco products. As a step in this direction, smoking and use of tobacco in and around the campus is strictly prohibited.

INFRASTRUCTURAL INITIATIVES

- **ENERGY SAVING AND ENERGY EFFICIENT EQUIPMENT**

We commit to install environment-friendly electrical appliances that save energy and reduce wasteful inefficiencies. The college believes in using cleaner energy such as LED lighting.

- WATER CONSERVATION THROUGH NATURAL RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEM (RAINWATER RECHARGED INTO GROUND)

YGC has committed itself to this effort to replenish the groundwater table by practicing natural rainwater harvesting as there is ground surrounded by the building where the rainwater gets recharged into the ground. This practice helps in the replenishment and recharge of the groundwater.

WASTE MANAGEMENT PROCESSES

YGC strives to have a minimal impact on the environment and is dedicated to reduce and manage the waste generated by the college campus.

Solid Waste Management

With its aim to provide holistic education that also has a positive impact on the environment, the college will adopt practices through the following methods:

- *Collect paper waste produced on campus and collaborate with scrap dealers to sell it.*
- *Reduce solid waste by developing a technology-centric teaching and administrative model.*
- *Reduce use of paper by supporting the use of technology.*
- *Encourage the students and teachers to use emails, whats apps for assignment submissions.*
- *Take initiatives to spread awareness amongst students about the habit of reusing and recycling non-biodegradable products.*

LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT

- *Maintain leak proof water fixtures.*
- *Minimize the use of water by constructing more Indian style toilets instead of western style toilets.*
- *Continued employment of a caretaker to take immediate steps to stop any water leakage through taps, pipes, tanks, toilet flush etc.*
- **E-WASTE MANAGEMENT**

YGC ensures that its usage of technology and generation of e-waste does not impact the environment. For this purpose, the college plans to strive towards:

 - *More provisions for the disposal of the institutional e-waste.*

- *Awareness amongst students about reduction of e-waste and environment friendly disposal practices for e-waste.*

AWARENESS INITIATIVES

Outreach and education are of utmost importance. This is why YGC supports and encourages awareness campaigns, seminars, workshops, conferences and other interactive sessions to facilitate effective implementation of the Green Campus, Energy and Environment policies.

ENVIRONMENT-CENTRIC STUDENT ACTIVITIES

YGC encourages all the departments and specific student NSS and others to organize events and activities that will bring about positive environmental changes so that they become active agents of environment protection and conservation.

- **Environment Education**

The affiliating university has made the environment education one of the compulsory subject to the fourth semester without clearing that subject the degree cannot be completed. Hence it has become a compulsory subject. The expert teachers teaches the students and even the projects are completed by the students.

CONDUCT GREEN AUDIT

A green audit is a useful tool to determine how and where most energy or water or resources are being used. The college aims to regularly conduct a Green Audit of our college campus to assess our strengths and weaknesses to further our goals of long-term sustainability. It will create health consciousness and promote environmental values and ethics. It provides a better understanding of the impact of eco-friendly practices on campus.

CONDUCT ENERGY AUDIT

An Energy Audit to be conducted as and when required to further reduce its carbon footprint. The energy audit, with its specialized tools will identify wastage of energy. Such an inspection often reveals several different flaws which cause a loss. These flaws often have easy and affordable solutions and provide significant savings.

PLASTIC-FREE-CAMPUS

YGC has been observing most of its duties in terms of solid waste management since its inception. In view of the Government of India's resolution to ban all single use plastics due to the hazardous impact of plastic use and pollution, the college administration strictly bans the use of single use plastics in its premise to make it a "Plastic Free Campus".

YASHODA GIRLS' COLLEGE