

7.2.1:Best Practices

1. Title of the Practice :

Promotion of sustainable Environment:

2. Objectives of the Practice :

- Dissemination of Environmental literacy to motivate Students, Teachers and Supportive staff.
- Transformation of the University campus into pollution free environmental friendly zone.
- Conservation and generation of energy by the implementation of good practices.
- Effective and efficient use of water.
- Initiation of proper waste management strategies.
- Propagation of Tree Plantation and its use for the conservation of Environment.
- Maintenance of carbon neutrality.
- Effective implementation of waste management technologies.
- Effectively maintaining solid waste, e-waste, hazardous' chemical systems.
- Audit of Carbon dioxide at different locations and its solutions.
- Integration of Industry-Oriented Capstone Projects into the Curriculum of MS Data Science Program
- To educate the teaching and non-teaching staff regarding the rules and procedures in the submission of finance bills.
- To see that the funds are utilized properly for the purpose for which they are sanctioned
- To Introduce students to basic and advanced concepts/technologies/methods of core and interdisciplinary subjects along with wide practical frameworks involving quality training of international standards.

3. The context :

The University covers a land area of 450 acres with more than 35 buildings accommodating all the academic administrative offices, residential hostels, Guest Houses and Utility centers. All the buildings are distantly apart from each other covering the entire

campus area providing appreciable size of the empty land towards establishing and maintaining a green and clean campus. Absence of intensive residential and industrial establishments nearby the university campus adds to the natural green ambience. Moreover, the administrators of the university also constantly encourage both the teaching and students to participate actively in environment promotional programmes, awareness programmes, outreach and extension activities to the public are accomplished through both by departments and NSS wing of the University.

The main challenge of the modern world is biodegradation and adversities of climate change. There is an urgent need to educate student communities about the challenges due to climate change and its ill effects not only on the communities and also human life, at present and in future.

The eco-friendly campus will give a message to the students that if nature is protected, the adversities of climate can be avoided.

The green atmosphere in the campus creates a suitable environment and also gives lessons regarding how to protect environment and help the human race.

Life can be better and enjoyable if green practices are followed perfectly.

A clean and healthy environment aids effective learning and provides a conducive learning environment.

The university authorities decided to educate and make aware the students on the issues such as waste management, recycling and renewable energy resources.

All the stakeholders of the universities work to develop an eco-friendly, sustainable campus and to disseminate the concept of eco-friendly culture.

Vision of gearing up for a green campus is embedded in the thoughts and values of the academic fraternity of S.V. University.

4. Practice:

The university conducts green audits through the NSS, aiming for a campus that minimizes plastic usage. Plans are underway to declare the campus a 'No Plastic Zone,' with stakeholders encouraged to use jute or cotton bags instead. The university focuses on initiatives such as waste management optimization, energy efficiency, and implementing the

principles of 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.' E-Governance systems further support these waste reduction efforts, aligning with the broader Swachh Bharat Abhiyan initiative.

Over the past five years, substantial efforts have been made to create a green campus, including planting approximately 4,000 saplings during various commemorative events. Students are encouraged to plant and care for at least two saplings during their time on campus. Uprooted trees are replaced with new saplings, and the Engineering Department ensures the campus is well-maintained. The NSS wing regularly conducts clean-up activities, contributing to the campus's plastic-free status.

The NSS wings are very active and take up continuous cleanup activities there by the University campus has become plastic free. The liquid wastes generated from different places like hostels, guest houses and departments were properly being used for.

Watering the plants and other activities i.e. recharging of water column by directing it to water maintenance ponds are regularly organised. The University campus has rain water harvesting structures. Litter and miscellaneous wastes generated were disposed off in the two landfills without any nuisance to the environment. Entire campus is provided with LED Bulbs thereby energy conservation takes place. Every year, large quantities of answer sheets, and stationary items were auctioned to vendors. All the Electronic equipment were purchased with buy back policy in order to reduce e-waste generation. Electronic equipment like Xerox machines and printers were periodically over hauled for reuse through equipment maintenance section. NSS Units regularly organize clean & green programmes in the campus and also in adjacent villages and also creating awareness by conducting rallies.

5. Evidence of success:

The environmental practices on campus, including tree planting, irrigation through drip systems, and energy-saving measures like LED bulbs and solar panels, have led to significant cost reductions. Rainwater harvesting systems capture and utilize runoff water, while revenue from the auction of old goods, including answer sheets and stationary, generated Rs. 67 lakhs. New buildings are designed for optimal ventilation, reducing electricity consumption.

Environmental efforts have been well recognized by both the campus community and external stakeholders.

Balance sheet of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the campus.

1. Oxygen produced by each tree on an average: 250-270 pounds /year.

2. Number of trees on the campus : more than 15,000.

3. Number of vehicles entering the campus: 2 wheelers: 425 /day.

4 wheelers : 40 /day.

Battery operated: 45/day.

4. Average population of the campus : 2500 /day (approx.).

6. Problem encountered

While the university is committed to sustainability, several challenges remain:

- Low awareness among students regarding environmental practices.
- Misunderstanding of organic products and their benefits.
- Challenges in implementing large-scale water conservation projects.
- Ineffective waste management practices in some areas.
- Limited financial resources for green initiatives.

Despite these obstacles, the university continues its efforts to optimize the use of resources and create a sustainable future for both the present and future generations.



