



DOCUMENT ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

SESSION 2020-23

**POST GRADUATE GOVT. COLLEGE FOR GIRLS
SECTOR-42, CHANDIGARH**



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DISCLAIMER

Environment Sustainability Policy is not a legal document. It has been prepared for the reference of Administration, the Teaching and Non- Teaching staff to maintain a green campus. The postgraduate Govt. College for Girls, Sector-42, Chandigarh reserve the right to bring the required changes in the stated policy. Any error or omission will be corrected if brought into notice.

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Overview

As an institution of higher learning, Post Graduate Govt. College for Girls, Sector-42, Chandigarh has a special obligation to ensure that the ways we educate our students, manage our internal affairs, and interact with the broader community serve as an example that others might follow. Consistent with our history of courageous and morally sensitive leadership on issues of research, gender and community welfare, institution embraces an ethic of environmental stewardship. To that end, we are committed to developing a sustainable relationship between the human species and the rest of the natural world through teaching and research, through design and implementation of institutional policies, and through management of energy flows and material cycles. We recognize that it is not enough to lower the rate at which we deplete and degrade local and global resources. We therefore strive to be proactive and comprehensive.

Post Graduate Govt. College for Girls, Sector-42Chandigarh, will play a leading role in developing a community that uses renewable resources to operate and works to restore and enhance the ecological functions on which future generations will depend. Environmental stewardship is both a goal that guides daily life and a core priority that informs all aspects of decision-making at institution level.

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY STATEMENT

The core mission of Post Graduate Govt. College for Girls, Sector-42 Chandigarh is to enhance the education of its students. One aspect of such education is the demonstration by its actions of the college's concern for, and protection of its physical environment. Institution must be a responsible steward of the environment. As such, the college will seek;

- 1) To reduce the rate at which it contributes to the depletion and degradation of natural resources;
- 2) To increase the use of renewable resources and
- 3) To consider other measures that can enhance the physical environment in which we live.

The development of priorities and the implementation of decisions regarding energy production and use, the use and development of our grounds through landscaping or green cover and its maintenance, water use and conservation, solid waste management, single use plastic, smoking free campus and materials purchase /disposal, will be informed by the environmental impact they have. Different committees will be constituted to improve and maintain all the policy content at college level. The appointed officials will periodically advise the community of the College's progress in this area.

I. ENERGY PRODUCTION AND USE POLICY

A. Policy Statement

Energy transformation and use release a variety of environmental pollutants with local, regional, and global impacts. The principal impacts associated with fossil fuel use are the release of CO₂ and other pollutants into the atmosphere. The scientific consensus is that humans have already added enough CO₂ to the atmosphere to cause climate change, including elevated land surface temperatures and more frequent extreme weather events. Post Graduate Govt. College for Girls, Sector-42, Chandigarh focuses on energy usage in such a manner that it reduces harmful effects on the environment. The policy applies to the whole institution, its members and activities. Concern about environment and efficiency are part of daily routine in the college. We are responsible and dedicated to the cause of resource conservation. Our college is dedicated to the promotion of awareness on the protection of the environment, to minimize energy usage, increase green literacy, and to take up green campus initiatives.

B. Policy Objectives are;

- To limit the depletion of natural resources and to focus on renewable resources of energy.
- To harness solar energy to minimize the energy crisis.
- To use LED lighting systems to reduce energy usage.
- To minimize air pollution in and around the college by using public transport or pollution-free means of transport such as e-bikes or bicycles, to promote pool driving.
- . Choose computer and device power management settings to minimize energy usage.
- To train our students and staff to become efficient in matters of energy usage and environment protection through awareness activities and signage.
- To create awareness in the local community about efficient energy usage, environment protection and sustainable development through street plays and door to door campaigns.

II.GREEN COVER

A. Policy Statement

Post Graduate Govt. College for Girls, Sector-42, Chandigarh respects the natural environment and maintenance of an eco-friendly approach in the campus by maintaining good green practices. Green cover provides a rainwater buffer, purifies the air, reduces the ambient temperature, and encourages biodiversity in the campus. It also helps to mitigate the effect of pollution and greenhouse gases, by sequestering carbon. The Institution is continuously working on the motto 'Think Globally, Act Locally' by considering the health of the entire planet and by taking action in its own community and city

B. Policy objectives are: Strategies to enhance green cover on campus through the following interventions.

- Motivating stakeholders to plant trees: and creating awareness among the local community through print and electronic media.
- Establishing gardens of different importance within the campus and a variety of plants to be planted on boundaries and sports grounds.
- Tree grooves and heritage trees will be protected at the end.
- To distribute saplings of species such as medicinal, ornamental and to organize frequent plantation drives in various colonies and blank places.
- Adequate monitoring mechanisms have been set up in place for enhancing post plantation care and to ensure higher survival rates
- Environment Society and NSS Wing primarily initiated to impart the knowledge of importance of nature among the student community to generate awareness towards protection of nature, wildlife and natural resources and to sensitize the students for a sustainable way of living.
- Van Mahotsava and the World Environment Day will be celebrated by plantation drives every year.
- Awareness workshops and Tree walk activities will be organized to sensitize our community about the importance and need of each planted tree.
- Numbering and naming of each tree will be done and Inventory will be maintained on the college website.

III. WATER USE AND CONSERVATION POLICY

A. Policy Statement.

Water is essential to institute operations to support all work, study and research. All members of the campus community will endeavor to use water in the most efficient manner possible. Water use can be managed by all departments through awareness and adoption of the most efficient procedures and practices. The campus community shall make informed choices to minimize the institution's ecological footprint associated with water, with a goal of continuous improvement and reduced operating costs.

B. Policy Objectives are;

- Display water management instructions/alerts at prominent/relevant locations in the campus.
- Any process, procedure or equipment that does not use energy or water efficiently, should be reviewed and changes implemented by appropriate responsible parties. Where ever possible the highest efficiency models should be purchased.
- Each dept. shall identify water inefficiencies and work towards continuous improvement and reductions.
- To tap rain water by constructing rainwater harvesting pits.
- Use of recycled water and maximum use of sprinkler for watering the green cover.
- Each dept. shall report water leaks to ESAC or college caretaker.

VI. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY

A. Policy Statement:

Post Graduate Govt. College for Girls, Sector-42, Chandigarh will adopt the principles of the ‘best practicable environmental option’ in the delivery of its waste management services. The institution will apply a ‘waste hierarchical approach’, to reduce, reuse, recycle and recover waste products in preference to the disposal of waste to landfill. The institution recognizes the importance of meeting these legal requirements and to manage its waste responsibly, reduce the volume of waste sent to landfill and maximize reuse and recycling wherever possible. The institution requires all the teaching and non-teaching staff, students, guests and anyone else making use of the premises to comply with this Policy to ensure compliance with all waste legislation.

Any solid waste generated in the campus shall be managed and handled in accordance with the compliance criteria and the procedure laid down in Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1999, published under the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment and Forest.

As per the policy instructions hazardous waste generated from laboratories of biotechnology and microbiology will be safely disposed off in autoclaves and waste from chemistry labs will be neutralized before disposal. Depending on the category the waste could either be recycled /reused or disposed of in captive or common treatment, storage and disposed facilities available in the campus or incinerated.

B. Policy Objectives are:

- To ensure that waste management is performed in accordance with all waste legislative requirements, including the duty of care, and to mitigate their effects.
- To minimize waste generation at source and facilitate repair, reuse and recycling.
- To provide clearly defined roles and responsibilities of disposal of wastes in a cost effective manner.
- To promote environmental awareness in order to increase and encourage activity of the waste management by minimization, reuse and recycling.
- To invest into the expansion of recycling opportunities on the campus.
- To provide appropriate training for teachers, residents, staff, students and others.
- To ensure the safe handling and storage of wastes on campus.
- To encourage paperless work culture and recycling/ reuse of paper.

- To transform waste into value added products through composting and vermicomposting
- Inventories of ‘end of life’ consumer products such as e-waste are also required to be made.
- In the hierarchy of waste management, waste avoidance and waste minimization have to be attempted first, for which dissemination of information on technological options should be a continuing exercise.
- Promote implementation of recovery of resources such as solvents, other reagents and by-products as well as re-generation of spent catalysts in a time frame manner.
- For the waste which cannot be recycled/ reused, safe and environmentally sound disposal will be adopted depending upon the waste category.

VII. SINGLE USE PLASTIC PROHIBITION POLICY

A. Policy Statement:

Ban on Single-use Plastics on the campus has been constantly adopting practices and revising its policies towards a cleaner and plastic-free campus. Following the MHRD and UGC guidelines across the country, PGGCG-42 has issued a notification to students and all stakeholders that there would be a ban implementation on the use of single use plastics. The institution will conduct sensitization programs on the harmful impact of Single-Use Plastics. The institution mandates the canteen to serve only in steel or paper plates and cups to systematically ban the use of plastics on the campus. 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 premises to make it a ‘Plastic Free Campus’.

B. Policy objectives:

- To constitute a SUPP committee to carry out awareness drives and sensitization workshops on the harmful impacts of single use plastics.
- To ensure plastic-free campus. Students and faculty must work together towards this in mission mode.
- Usage of plastics should be stopped in canteen and mess in the institution’s premises and hostels, etc.
- Students will not be permitted to bring non-bio-degradable plastic items to the institution which includes plastic bags, cups, plates, small drinking water bottles, straw and sachets.
- Every student will strive to make his/her household plastic free.
- Students will be sensitized to carry out similar campaigns at community level. Installation of necessary alternative facilities like water units to avoid the purchase and use of plastic water bottles. Ensure presence of alternative solutions like cloth/Jute bags, eathern bottles, recycled paper file covers/jute covers and other goods on campus.

VIII. DRUG FREE /SMOKING FREE CAMPUS POLICY

A. Policy statement:

In compliance with the framework provided by the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) 2007-2008, the college prohibits smoking and the use of other tobacco products. Delhi University has partnered with Delhi Police and World Lung Foundation-South Asia, in promoting a tobacco free environment. As a step in this direction, smoking and use of tobacco in and around the campus is strictly prohibited. The anti-drug committee of the college ensures enforcement of the anti-smoking policy.

B. Policy Objectives:

- To constitute a drug de addiction committee to sensitize students and others about the ill effects.
- To display signage about prohibition of smoking and any other kind of drug in the campus.
- To conduct awareness lectures and workshops for employees and students.
- To help the people who are suffering with this addiction.

V. PURCHASING, REUSE AND DISPOSAL

A. General Policy Statement

Institution purchases many products that it consumes or uses, and in the second instance, eventually exports or discards. Moreover, the College recognizes that the purchase and disposal of materials are inseparable and linked with how materials are used on campus, and consequently, it seeks solutions that simultaneously address all aspects of resource use. Sustainability is achieved in part by eliminating the concept of waste, which means that material byproducts from one process become useful inputs for other processes. The three-R's of resource-use efficiency—reduce, reuse, and recycle—are paramount to College policy. Nothing less would be defensible for a leading institution of higher learning.

B. General Policy Objectives

1. Minimize consumption by using materials as efficiently as possible and for as long as possible, i.e., maximize the useful life of materials.
2. Select materials that minimize environmental costs and maximize environmental benefits on campus and beyond. This means favoring materials that are recycled or reusable, sustainably harvested, and non-toxic and biodegradable, and energy-efficient in the sense of a low energy demand appliance.
3. Effect objectives one and two by using total product “life-cycle analysis” and “full cost accounting”. Life-cycle analysis is accomplished by considering the origin and fate of a material or service. Full-cost accounting reveals the environmental costs of its extraction, manufacture, and disposal that may not be fully reflected in its market price.
4. Favor local products to gain a variety of environmental benefits. For example, favoring locally grown foods minimizes fossil fuel use for transportation and at the same time helps sustain farmland and economy, and maintenance of a local destination for composted food waste.
5. Develop and, if possible, collaborate with others to develop infrastructure that facilitates all of the goals itemized above. Central to this effort is the establishment of an on-campus facility to inventory and manage reusable materials.
6. Educate students, faculty, staff, and the vendors from whom the College purchases materials and services about strategies that promote resource-use efficiency.
7. Seek arrangements within the city and other nearby institutions that help to promote the goals articulated above.

8. Monitor purchasing, disposal and recycling activities.
9. Continuously update policy to ensure that the objectives articulated in the College's environmental policy on purchasing, reuse and disposal are accomplished.
10. Make it easy for all members of the PGGCG-42, Chandigarh community to comply with college policy on purchases; reuse and disposal (e.g., inform them about where to dispose of items such as spent batteries and obsolete equipment).

IMPLEMENTATION

A. Good policies are most likely to succeed when executed by dedicated individuals well versed in the principles that underlie those policies. In order to implement the policies contained in this document, the institute must therefore educate the individuals responsible for its operations and actively encourage the culture necessary to achieve compliance across the campus community. To this end, the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC) recommends that the College proceed by adopting the measures described below.

B. Commit to Campus-wide Environmental Education. Environmentally literate students, faculty, staff, administrators and alumni, are crucial to the goals articulated in this document. What follows are educational initiatives intended to promote effective environmental stewardship.

1. New students will be informed about environmental imperatives and related institutional responsibilities and policies during orientation.
2. New members of the faculty and staff will receive similar orientation.
3. Faculty and staff from time to time will be invited to informative sessions on compliance with institution environmental policy.
4. Pamphlets, signs, and surveys will be used to raise awareness and promote positive behavior regarding institution environmental policy.
5. Real-time computer displays and/or biannual postings about water use and energy use and production will be maintained where feasible. This information will also be posted on the institution website.

C. The EPAC therefore recommends that a suite of key indicators be assembled annually and posted on the institution website. Institutional performance in all of these categories should be verifiable and compared against appropriate benchmarks. Indicators that belong in such a report could include:

1. Energy Use identified by type (electricity, heating, cooling) amount of glass, paper, aluminum, etc. recycled as a percentage of those materials consumed; percentage of all paper purchased that has recycled content; total water use; total volume of waste sent to landfills. Every two years following adoption of its environmental policy, the institution will assess its progress and identify any shortfalls and announce how it intends to rectify them.
2. Sub Committees will be constituted to look into all parameters mentioned in EP. All responsibilities will be divided among different departments, societies and NSS in institutions. A campus sustainability committee will work under the name 'Beautification and Cleanliness' to implement the policy other than EPAC.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Members of the campus community, that is faculty, administrative staff, students, researchers and visitors will be responsible for identifying areas of inefficiency and measures to remedy and actively working towards eliminating inefficiencies.

The Environment Society ‘Srishti’, NSS, Campus Beautification and Cleanliness committee of the institution will be responsible for developing awareness campaigns and assisting members of the campus community in identifying areas of inefficient use of energy, water, pollution, solid waste and green cover and finding potential solutions to address those inefficiencies.

The Advisory and purchase Committee of the college will be responsible for the oversight, guidance and endorsement of energy efficient products on campus to meet energy reduction targets; approving water conservation procedures; engaging working groups to develop and implement solutions for energy reduction and waste reduction, to maintain good green practices and supporting working groups in allocating required resources.

The Environment Sustainability Committee is responsible for leading the institutionalization of sustainability in all areas of campus life, including reducing the institution's ecological footprint associated with energy, water and GHG emissions.

Heads of the Departments There is a legal requirement for all who produce, keep or dispose of hazardous /chemical waste of any type to comply with the various regulations under environmental protection legislation. It will be mandatory on the part of the head of the department/ principal investigator to report changes/additions in hazardous waste generation and steps taken to reduce generation of waste per unit of production. As per the hazardous waste generated from laboratories of biotechnology and microbiology will be safely disposed off in autoclaves and waste from chemistry labs will be neutralized before disposal. Depending on the category the waste could either be recycled /reused or disposed of in captive or common treatment, storage and disposed facilities available in the campus or incinerated.

Appendix I

Motion to establish an Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability

(Nominated by Head of the Institute in October 2020)

Text of the Motion: Advisory Committee on Environmental Policy has been established as a standing committee of the general faculty. The ESPC's principal duties will be to plan, oversee, and promote implementation of the PGGCG-42 Chandigarh's Environmental sustainability Policy, as set forth and approved by the Chairperson Prof. Nisha Aggarwal to facilitate future environmental initiatives; and to foster an on-campus culture of environmental stewardship. The CES will also support and facilitate efforts by the institution to publicize its role as a leader in campus sustainability and environmental citizenship in general. As such, it will be charged with ensuring a green campus. Committee will comprise of following:

About Committee Members

Prof. (Dr.) Deepika Kansal- Environment Sustainability Policy Coordinator

College Registrar, Head Dept. of Chemistry and Biotechnology, Functional Area Expert for water pollution, QCI, Member of College Purchase Committee and Advisory Committee, Member of Environment Society 'Srishti', Convener Science Club 'Neon', Member Institute of Scholars.

Ms. Sunita Kumari- Environment Sustainability Policy Convener

Head Dept. of Environment Studies, Nodal Officer to Swachhata Action Plan by MGNCRE, Ministry of Education, Delhi, Nodal officer to 'Swachhata Survekshan - 2021' by Dept.of Higher Education and Municipal Corporation, Nodal Officer to College Vector Borne Disease Control Committee and Mission Waste to Wealth by Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee and Municipal Corporation Chandigarh, Convener Single use plastic prohibition (SUPP) Committee, Co- Convener Science Club 'Neon', Member of Environment Society 'Srishti',

Dr. Harjeet Kaur – Head Dept. of Botany, Convener college beautification committee.

Dr. Gurpreet Kaur -NCC In charge

Mr. Mehar Chand– NSS In charge, Nodal officer to Swachhata Survekshan by Dept. of higher education and Municipal Corporation.

Dr. Ranjna Sharma - Convener Environment Society 'Srishti', Convener to Beautification and Maintenance of Herbal Garden in the campus, Member of Single Use Plastic Prohibition (SUPP) Committee.

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Appendix II

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL, PG.GOV'T. COLLEGE FOR GIRLS SECTOR-42, CHANDIGARH

Minutes of Meeting

(ESPAC) Environment Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee

Date: 27th October 2020

A meeting of the following members was held on 27th October 2020 in the presence of Chairperson Prof. Nisha Aggarwal to draft the document (ESP) 'Environment Sustainability Policy' for the Institution. Following members were present in the meeting.


1. Prof. (Dr.) Deepika Kansal - Head Dept of Chemistry and Biotechnology
2. Dr. Harjeet Kaur - Head, Dept. of Botany
3. Ms. Sunita Kumari - Head, Dept. of Environment Studies
4. Dr. Gurpreet Kaur - NCC Incharge
5. Mr. Mehar Chand - NSS Incharge
6. Dr. Ranjna Sharma- Convener, 'Srishti' Env. Society

It was decided unanimously to prepare Environment Sustainability document for the smooth functioning and to maintain good green practices in the college. ESP document will cover:

- i. Policy statement of energy conservation, water use and conservation, green cover, solid waste management, plastic prohibition, Drug and smoking prohibition.
- ii. The policy statement of purchase and disposal.
- iii. Advisory committee of members will be constituted from teaching staff and shall be appointed as ESPAC members based on their expertise.
- iv. ESP document will clearly mention the objective of the policy, policy statement containing action plans and its implementation.
- v. SP document will also fix the responsibilities of implementation of the policy on stakeholders, Environment society, NSS Units, NCC, college beautification committee, students and visitors.
- vi. ESP document will be prepared and compiled by Head Dept. of Environment studies in consultation with committee and it will be reviewed by ESP Coordinator.
- vii. ESP document will be approved and signed by head of the institution at the final stage.
- viii. ESP document will be uploaded on college website by the ESPAC of the Policy Document and further will be amended in 2024.


Ms. Sunita Kumari
ESP Convener


Prof. (Dr.) Deepika Kansal
ESP Coordinator


Prof. (Dr.) Nisha Aggarwal
Principal
PG Govt. College for girls,
Sector-42, Chandigarh