



Environmental Policy of Rani Durgavati University



Rani Durgavati Vishwavidyalaya
रानी दुर्गावती विश्वविद्यालय

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NAAC Accredited 'B' Grade University

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Preface



Environmental conservation is the need of the hour. Factors like population explosion, technological advancements, industrialization and globalisation have resulted in extreme degradation of the biophysical environment. The institution realises its responsibility towards mother earth and is determined to promote sustainable practises, by educating and creating awareness through various programs and participative activities, among its stakeholders and nearby community about environmental conservation. Various strategies are adopted in the campus for the purpose of promoting sustainable practises and making the best possible use of the available natural resources, and where possible, to repair damage and reverse trends.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kapil Deo Mishra'.

Kapil Deo Mishra

Vice Chancellor, RDVV, Jabalpur



Abstract:

Environment and Sustainability:

The leadership as well as the teachers and students of the institute are aware of the horrific conditions and imbalances being caused in the ecosystem due to careless human intervention. The institution regularly organizes environmental friendly drives such as: Plantation in rainy season, clean n green India, community development programs for creating awareness in the society on various sensitive issues etc. University campus discourages the use of plastic. Water harvesting system and solar panels are installed for the purpose of saving energy and conserving resources. Reusable waste like dried leaves etc. are recycled in compost pits to make manure for the plants. Environmental Studies is taught in almost all departments, as a subject and is also offered as a mandatory course in all undergraduate programmes, to familiarize students with environment and sustainable development related issues.

In addition to the above, students are sensitized in the above issues through a series of extra-curricular activities including lecture series by eminent personalities and alumni, street plays and cultural events organized regularly by various departments and centres.

Introduction

In recent years, particularly since the early 1970's, the world has become aware and sensitive to the environmental issues. The steep hike in the technological advancements and population explosion has resulted in extreme abuse of environment and its resources.

Hence, in order to curb the ecological imbalance and devastation caused by mankind and to protect the earth from undue disruption, a plan



of action, in form of- environmental policies have been framed at various levels in administration. The institution realises, that development and implementation of an environmental policy for the institute is indispensable for fostering sustainable practices, raising environmental awareness, and instilling responsible behaviour in students, staff, and the wider community.

Background of the policy

Rani Durgawati University, Jabalpur acknowledges its environmental responsibilities and is committed to contributing to the reduction of local, national and global environmental damage. This environmental policy sets out the actions that Rani Durgawati University, Jabalpur is taking to reduce the environmental impact of its activities and promote environmental good practice.

Objectives of the policy:

- Conserve and protect ecological system and resources, present within the premises of the institute.
- Plant maximum number of trees within the campus, to create green and oxygen rich zones.
- Ensure the conservation of biodiversity within and around the campus.
- Improve the infrastructure of the campus for maximum energy and water conservation.
- Conduct regular self- assessment programs to monitor cleanliness and sanitation conditions, as well as eco-friendly practises, energy and water conservation management.



- Practice and promote the 4 R principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Recover.
- Indulge with the local community and stakeholders to create awareness about environmental issues and promote good practises for safe and healthy environment.
- Contribute towards climate protection and reduce the carbon footprints on the campus

Strategies for Water conservation:

The institute considers water conservation as an important step to promote sustainability, instil environmental awareness among students, and reduce water consumption. By implementing water-saving practices and educating students and staff about the importance of water conservation, the university serves as a role model for sustainable water management. The following steps are taken by the institute for promoting water conservation:

- The institute raises awareness about the importance of water conservation through educational campaigns, workshops, and seminars. Water conservation topics are integrated into the curriculum, to create awareness among students about water scarcity, water cycle, and sustainable water management practices.
- Students are engaged in water conservation initiatives by forming environmental clubs or student-led committees focused on promoting sustainable practices. They are encouraged to participate in water-saving campaigns, organize awareness events, and develop innovative ideas for reducing water consumption in campus.



- Water audits and monitoring are regularly conducted to identify areas of high water consumption and potential leaks.
- Efficient plumbing fixtures as low-flow toilets, faucets, and urinals are installed in the lavatories to reduce water usage without compromising functionality. Plumbing systems are regularly maintained and repaired to prevent leaks and wastage.
- The university campus is designed and maintained, keeping in mind the water conservation strategies. The rainwater is collected through water harvesting systems and utilized for watering plants using water-efficient practices.
- The institute is exploring the possibility of implementing grey water recycling systems to collect and treat water from hand washing stations and other non-potable water sources. The treated water can be reused for flushing toilets or irrigation purposes.
- Water Conservation Policy is developed and implemented and guidelines are issued by the institution to promote responsible water usage practices among students, staff, and visitors. The institution participates in community initiatives focused on water sustainability and engages in water-related research and projects.

Strategies for Energy Conservation

For the purpose of reducing carbon emissions, promoting sustainability, and minimizing energy costs the institution focuses on Energy conservation. The institution plays a significant role in modelling energy-efficient practices and educating students about the importance of energy conservation. The following practises are observed for promoting energy conservation in the premises:



- The institute regularly conducts energy audits to assess the current energy usage patterns, identify areas of high energy consumption, and prioritizes energy-saving opportunities. This helps in developing a baseline and setting targets for energy reduction.
- The traditional incandescent bulbs are replaced with energy-efficient LED lighting throughout the campus. Use natural light is promoted whenever possible.
- Out dated and energy-intensive appliances, such as air conditioners, refrigerators, and computers are replaced by energy-efficient appliances that meet strict energy efficiency criteria.
- Energy awareness campaigns are launched to educate students, teachers, and staff about the importance of energy conservation and energy-saving tips, such as turning off lights and electronics when not in use, using natural ventilation, and utilizing natural daylight are promoted.
- The institution encourages the use of power-saving settings on computers, printers, and other electronic devices and suggests enabling sleep or standby mode after periods of inactivity to reduce energy consumption.
- Renewable energy sources such as solar panels and solar-powered outdoor lighting are installed in the campus.
- The students are actively involved in energy conservation initiatives through student-led clubs or committees focused on sustainability. They are encouraged to organize energy-saving competitions, conduct energy audits, or propose energy-efficient projects.



- Training sessions for teachers and staff on energy-saving practices and techniques are frequently conducted and they are encouraged to incorporate energy conservation into their daily routines and teaching activities.
- The institution participates in community initiatives focused on energy efficiency and shares best practices with neighbouring institutions.

Strategies for Waste Management

By implementing effective waste management strategies, the institution minimizes waste generation, increases recycling rate, and contributes to a cleaner and healthier environment. The following strategies for waste management are adopted by the institution:

- The university conduct waste audits to assess the types and quantities of waste generated on campus. This helps in understanding waste patterns, identifying opportunities for waste reduction, and developing targeted waste management strategies.
- The institution encourages proper source separation of waste into different streams, such as recyclables (paper, plastic, glass, and metal), organic waste, and non- recyclable waste. Clearly labelled recycling bins are provided to ensure their proper placement throughout the campus. The students and staff are educated about the importance of recycling and the correct procedures for separating recyclable materials.
- Composting programs are implemented to divert organic waste, such as food scraps, garden trimmings, and dried leaves etc. into reusable form. For this purpose compost pits in campus are provided and the resulting compost is used for landscaping or



community gardens. The students are educated and involved in the composting process.

- The institution promotes waste reduction and reuse practices in campus. Efforts are being made by the institution to minimize paper usage by promoting digital communication and by providing electronic options for assignments, administrative processes etc.
- Digital platforms are extensively used for assignments, exams, and administrative tasks. Electronic communication and document sharing among students, teachers, and staff are encouraged.
- Proper procedures are established for handling and disposal of hazardous waste, such as chemicals, batteries, or electronic waste. The university ensures compliance with local regulations and collaborates with appropriate waste management facilities for safe disposal or recycling of hazardous materials.
- The institution incorporates waste management education into the curriculum and conducts awareness campaigns to promote responsible waste management practices among students, teachers, and staff.
- The university participates in community clean-up events and initiatives to foster a sense of environmental responsibility and preservation in students.

Environment friendly practices

The leadership of the institution believes in implementing environment-friendly drives as it is an effective way to raise awareness,



engage students and staff, and promote sustainable practices. These drives encourage collective action, foster a sense of responsibility, and create a culture of environmental consciousness. Some examples of environment-friendly drives that are organized in the institution are:

- The institution organizes recycling drives to collect specific items such as paper, plastic bottles, aluminium cans, or electronic waste. Collection points or bins are set up in the campus and the students and staffs are encouraged to participate in the recycling drive.
- E-Waste collection drives are conducted to collect and responsibly dispose of electronic waste such as old computers, laptops, cell phones, and other electronic devices. The institute coordinates with certified e-waste recycling organizations to ensure proper recycling or refurbishment of electronic items.
- Various tree plantation drives are organised where students and staff come together to plant trees in the campus or in nearby areas. The participants are educated about the importance of trees in controlling climate change, improving air quality, and preserving biodiversity.
- Frequent campus clean-up events or community clean-up initiatives are organized to make the students aware about sustainability and fundamental duties of a citizen. These activities involve picking up litter, cleaning common areas, parks, or nearby natural areas.
- Practices such as turning off lights, unplugging devices, and utilizing natural lighting and ventilation are encouraged among the students.



- Sustainable Transportation Campaigns: Sustainable transportation options among students and staff are promoted. Walking, cycling, or using public transportation to commute to campus are encouraged. Events like "Walk to the University" days are organized to raise awareness about the benefits of sustainable transportation and reduce carbon emissions.
- Various environmental education events such as workshops, guest lectures, poster competitions, presentations or panel discussions on topics like climate change, sustainable living, biodiversity, or environmental justice are organized in the campus. These events provide opportunities for students to learn from experts, engage in discussions, and explore solutions to environmental challenges.

Measures of the policy:

- Conserve energy and give preference to renewable sources of energy and materials wherever reasonably practicable, as referred to in its Energy Policy (see below);
- Comply with applicable legal requirements and regulations that relate to its impact on the environment and environmental aspects; Raise awareness, encourage participation and train employees in environmental matters;
- Assist, wherever reasonably practicable, in the development of solutions to environmental problems in the publishing industry;
- Encourage staff to use green methods of transport, wherever reasonably practicable; Maintain appropriate environmental policies, procedures and systems;



- Set objectives and targets which are designed to continually improve its environmental performance;
- Minimize waste by aiming to reduce consumption and pollution through effective waste-management and recycling procedures;
- Do as much as it reasonably can to reduce pollution; and Encourage Students and Staff to pursue good environmental practice.







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