

Eco-Friendly campus

Objectives of the practices

- To develop an eco-friendly and pollution free campus
- To inoculate the environmental consciousness in the students, staff and nearby society

The Context

The college is located in the high range mountain area of Idukki district of Kerala which is one of the most eco sensitive parts of the Western Ghats. Therefore college considers all types of eco-friendly promotional activities and practices in the campus are unavoidable in this region.

The practices

Since the college has around 1100 students and 90 staff members, the college can a vital role in the solving the environmental problems. The students and faculty members of our college take active participation in the activities organized under this project.

Organic farming: to promote the ecological bio diversity in the plantation farm to ensure the meaningful maintenance and improvement of soil fertility, the students and staff of the college regularly promote the organic farming. The NSS volunteers of MES College Nedumkadam participate in preparation of paddy field and plating rice buds in the field every year in the season. This event also familiarizes the rice farming legacy of Kerala to the students and society

Plastic free campus: This project is a special initiative of nature clubs of MES College Nedumkadam aims to reduce plastic pollution inside the campus and to promote the plastic free behavior in the students and staff. College organizes regular campaign and awareness program to the students and staff members. College also take initiative to avoid the Plastic bottle, carry bags, plastic pen etc. some tother notable activity of plastic free campus are

- Seed pen Project: college conduct a campaign to use paper seed pen instead of plastic pen. Also college provide this pen to each student and staff with nominal price
- Pen Friends: College set a box to collect the unused plastic pen to avoid littering
- Cloth Carry Bag: College Promote and campaign the cloth carry bag.

Planting of saplings: College takes an initiative to planting sapling trees in college campus. Under this project students and staff in the college planted trees inside campus.

Oushadha Thottam: College maintain the medicinal plantation which grows 50 varieties of medicinal plants

Nature Camp: College facilitates the nature camps to students to have close understanding about the nature in association with Department of Forest, Government of Kerala.

Water usage: Rain water harvesting facilities were established for the effective management of water. College also conducts campaign of the need of rain water harvesting to the nearby community for their plantation farm.

Green campus: Regular garden maintenance was done by green campus volunteers. As a part of this a team of volunteers visiting the garden on a set time nurtured the plants.

Grass Land: College maintain a Grasslands of fairly flat areas of grass hill top of the college campus to provide vital ecosystem services such as water and climate regulation that support agriculture, biogeochemical cycling, carbon storage, cultural and recreational service.

Evidence of success

Eco-friendly campus is the one of the important project in college and every single student and staff of the college becomes part of it. The campaign and seminars on environmental issues and protection created awareness among the students. Use of cloth banners instead of flexes in public function reduced pollution in great extent. College also use stainless steel glasses, bottles and plates to avoid the disposal of non-degradable and degradable wastes. Plastic free campaign encouraged students to use paper pens, stainless steel bottles and glasses. Students also dispose their plastic pen in the Pen friendly box after their use. Rain water harvesting and waste diversion were beneficial for drinking water and agricultural purpose. Use of LED bulbs instead of CFL bulbs and tubes reduced the consumption of electricity. Green power generation by using solar panel reduced the use of conventional electricity consumption

Problems encountered

There some problems were identified in the implementation of the programme

Availability: Scars availability of eco-friendly alternatives

Utility: Alternatives does not provide appropriate utility

Cost: Need to pay double or triple cost for the