

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL BARASAT GOVERNMENT COLLEGE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL



NAAC ACCREDITED 'A' GRADE (2nd CYCLE), DST-FIST SPONSORED & ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015, 50001:2018

10, K.N.C. Road, Barasat, Kolkata - 700124, West Bengal, India

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<u>Policy document on the green campus/plastic free campus</u>

Introduction: Barasat Government College is committed to promote environmental awareness not only among its students and staff, but also society at large and accordingly has adopted certain measures to reduce carbon-footprint and operate in an environment friendly and sustainable manner as much as feasible. With this aim the IQAC, Green Audit team and Environment Protection and Nature Cell of Barasat Government College have adopted the following policy for maintaining Clean and Green Campus and promoting eco-consciousness:

Policy Statement:

- 1. Promoting energy efficiency within the campus
 - a) **Solar power** plants are to be installed and maintained as an alternate source of Green Energy.
 - a) **Energy conservation through switching to LED**: As Energy conservation measures installation of LED lights in all the buildings of the college will be done and all the CFL and tube lights will be replaced over time.
 - b) **Awareness Messages on Energy Saving Practices** are to be displayed on the walls of every building to make students aware of energy conservation measures.

2. Pollution control measures to be undertaken

- a) Automobile restriction within campus and Carbon neutral vehicle utilization: Entry of automobiles into the campus will be restricted. All the students and teaching and nonteaching staff will be encouraged to commute by public transports or to use bicycle where feasible as it is a carbon neutral vehicle. The college authority has provided a stand for keeping the bicycles. **Bicycle Day** is to be observed.
- b) **Declaration of college campus as plastic free, clean and green zone**: The campus has already been declared as a plastic-free zone and this will be strictly adhered to. The NSS unit may be employed to generate awareness among the students about waste management, recycling of waste plastic wares, campus sanitization etc. .
- c) **Installation and maintainance of silent generator** to facilitate uninterrupted studies and regular activities at college campus without creating noise pollution during power cut .
- d) **Sensor based data monitoring station** for measuring ambient air quality in the campus will be installed and maintained for documenting the ambient air and sound quality of surroundings.

3. Celebration of Commemorative Days and Awareness Programmes for conservation of Natural Resources:





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- a) **Celebration of the commemorative days** like Earth Day, International Biodiversity Day, Ozone Day, World Environment Day will be done through arranging seminars, webinars, publication of wall magazine and poster competitions to promote awareness regarding conservation of nature and natural resources,
- b) **Sapling plantation** at the college campus to be encouraged.
- c) **Spreading awareness about health, hygiene and vector borne diseases** will be done regularly by campaigning within the college campus with the help of the NSS unit.

4. Academic courses to be offered on environmental issues:

- a) Departments to be requested to organise Value added courses on waste management, water conservation, bio conservation etc.
- b) **Environmental science** is compulsorily taught as a part of the University Curricula of each subject. Teachers will be requested to pay more care in imparting environmental awareness among the students.

5. Landscaping and Medicinal Plant Garden:

- a) The Department of Botany already maintains a small unit of Medicinal Plant Garden within the college campus as a green campus initiative. Various ornamental plants and a vegetable garden along with a palm garden exist within the college campus and these will be properly maintained and further enriched with new plants.
- b) The College has already installed a **Vermi-Compost Unit** which will be maintained by Zoology Department and Nature Club students. The trained students would help to produce Vermi-compost that keeps the vegetable garden and medicinal plant garden green and healthy. This practise will be continued for the learning purpose of the students as well as for maintaining the greenery of the campus.

6. Outreach Programmes to be conducted:

- a) Barasat Government College is located in the heart of Barasat town, the district headquarter of North 24 Parganas District. The major environmental issues faced by the residents of the area pertain to issues of pollution, sanitization and spread of vector borne diseases like malaria, dengue etc. Hence, most of our outreach programs will have to be designed to address these topical issues. **Awareness rallies** which are held regularly as part of this program will be continued and increased in frequency as much as feasible.
- b) The post graduate Botany department of the college has planned to take some unique initiatives in spreading agricultural knowhow and **use of bio fertilizer** among farmers of the locality and students to booster self employment schemes and increase agricultural yields.





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- c) Knowledge on **mushroom cultivation** is regularly disseminated by Department of Botany and students will be employed in percolating the practise among the farmers and general public in their neighbourhoods.
- d) **Sanitization and health hygiene awareness programmes** are regularly being held and will be further encouraged within and beyond the campus, especially at Saradapally, the adopted slum.
- e) Visit to agricultural field to study plant diseases and interaction with farmers will be arranged for students of Botany to strengthen their knowledge regarding plant pathogen interaction, to gain knowledge about control measures and to become aware about their societal and economic consequences.

7. Conducting Green Audit is mandatory and will be done regularly. **ISO Certification** on Energy and Environment for the past few years has been obtained and will be accrued from the competent certifying agency for recent years.

8. **Water conservation Measures:** Government approval and funding is to be sought for roof top rain water harvesting and ground water recharging system.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- The college administration will provide every necessary support to put the above plans into practice.
- The Green Audit Committee and Environment Protection and Nature Cell will be delegated with the designing and execution of the environment related measures.
- To this end they will rope in the NSS unit of the college which will work in tandem to put the plans into practice.
- The active involvement of students and staff will also be necessary to maintain these practices and they too will be entrusted with the responsibility of continuing with the measures once they have been adopted.

Monitoring: In order to monitor the proper execution of the plans and assess the efficacy of the programmes Green Audits will be conducted at regular intervals.

Conclusion: Barasat Government College thus plans to ensure a gradual shift towards more environment friendly operations whereby it will not only create environmental consciousness among the students and staff, but also emerge as a role model for other public offices and institutes in the neighbouring area.

