

## 7.2.1

### Best Practice: 01

1. **Title of the Practice:** Environmental consciousness and Green Campus Initiative

2. **Objectives of the Practice:** The idea behind the green campus activity is to transmit the message that planting trees helps to maintain a clean and friendly environment by reducing pollutants and improving the green atmosphere. The environment is a multidimensional issue that affects human existence. Progress and pollution are inextricably linked. Environmental protection is a global concern, not a problem related to one region or country. It affects all countries, regardless of their size or development level. To resist this wave of devastation, increasing awareness is a must. It is the responsibility of the youth to champion the cause of a cleaner environment with zeal and vigor. As a result, there is a need to raise environmental awareness among the stakeholders.

3. **The Context:** The rise of industrialization has resulted in an unchecked growth in pollution, which is damaging not only the flora and fauna of the earth but also the air we breathe thereby lowering the quality of human existence. The college has consciously involved itself in raising awareness about this issue and has taken the required efforts to safeguard the country's age-old tradition of reverence for nature. Every tiny effort to environmental protection and preservation can protect the world from impending devastation.

4. **The Practice:** The College is surrounded by lush greenery maintained by the students and staff, making the campus an exemplary model for many colleges. The college boundary features palm and various other trees like mango, cadamba, chatim, neem, eucalyptus giving a respite from scorching rays of the sun, dust, and extreme winds. Trees offer shade, hold the soil and keep the groundwater table at a safe level. It is critically important that students understand their obligations and responsibilities to society and the world at large. Being environmentally conscious and responsive is a quality that must be instilled in students at an early age in school and reinforced at the post-secondary level. This framework covers general rules for making campus activities as environmentally friendly as possible, as well as guiding on topics including campus planning, architecture and development, green catering, and waste management. The college strives to maintain a strong vigilance on environmental issues. This institution believes that environmental sensitization and excellent environmental practices will help to improve the present situation. Students cannot reach the desired result on their own since they confront difficulties at every turn. All the stakeholders are required to join students in this effort. Each program made by the College is a little step toward advancing humanity's cause. And it is expected that these programs will produce considerable results with time.

**5. Evidence of Success:** Continuous preservation of the beautiful campus, which includes plenty of greenery and two ponds, is maintained. Secondly, students and staff are encouraged to plant saplings every year and the campus is kept cool in this manner. Thirdly, rainwater harvesting is done by the college authority. The institution enhances awareness of biodiversity conservation. Endangered animals like snakes, turtles, fishing cats, jungle cats, palm civet and different species of birds are rescued by the students and concerned teachers of Zoology Department. The college has greatly benefited from the reduced electricity bill since solar panels were put on campus to minimize routine energy consumption. Additionally, all electrical and electronic devices are regularly monitored to ensure that they are in good working order and that no energy is wasted. Students and staff alike have developed habits of turning off lights, fans, and other appliances. Moreover, the college environment is carefully monitored to ensure that carbon emissions and pollution are kept to a minimum level, ensuring that everyone on campus is healthy. The usage of plastic bags is discouraged within the campus. The college has been designated as a "No Smoking Zone." The concept of 'Green Campus' is meticulously maintained with the help of volunteers. Throughout the year, a variety of participatory events such as field demonstrations are held around this theme.

**6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:**

Problems- i) Lack of awareness among students. ii) Lack of recycling facility for plastic waste in the locality. iii) Plastics are not properly disposed of.

Resources Required: i) We are producing bio-fertilizer using bio-degradable solid waste management units within the campus to make it a sustainable venture and we need to commercialize our products in near future.

ii) Better consultancy is needed for ongoing projects like solid waste management, bio-fertilizer production, medicinal plant garden, etc.

**Best Practice: 02**

1. **Title of the Practice:** Medicinal Plant and Herbal Garden
2. **Objectives of the Practice:** India has long been renowned as a source of medicinal plants among ancient civilizations. The medicinal plants that can be found here are regarded as valuable resources for drug development. Treatment with medicinal plants is thought to be a safe alternative with few adverse effects, and it can be used as a herbal treatment for people of all ages and genders.
3. **The Context:** Plants have been utilized to treat a variety of health problems since prehistoric times. India has long been renowned as a rich repository of medicinal herbs among ancient civilizations. Currently, we rely primarily on synthetic medications, which, while highly effective,

have been linked to a variety of negative effects and may be harmful to humans and the environment. Herbs have no adverse effects because they are natural goods.

4. **The Practice:** This medicinal garden was created primarily to preserve locally available plants and to encourage students to use them in a sustainable manner. The conservation and long-term use of therapeutic plants have been thoroughly researched. Several sets of conservation recommendations have been compiled, including the creation of mechanisms for species inventorying and status monitoring, as well as the necessity for coordinated conservation activities. Sustainable use of wild resources can be an effective conservation strategy for medicinal plants with increasingly limited supply.

Through trial and error, humans gradually learned to recognize and use plants to create food and medicine, and they were able to meet the requirements of their surroundings. With the establishment of civilizations and the supply of greater facilities, information about medicinal plants has long been progressively handed from generation to generation, and human knowledge has gradually become full. Herbal medications can aid the creation of a new age of the healthcare system to cure human ailments in the future by standardizing and analyzing the health of active plant-derived chemicals. Traditional knowledge and medicinal plants can be useful in the exploration and use of natural plant resources. To preserve this knowledge, a comprehensive approach and teamwork are required to preserve historical data on medicinal plants and to utilize these resources for the benefit of humans before they are lost forever.

5. **Evidence of Success:** The garden currently has 22 different types of medicinal plant which includes *Hygrophila auriculata*, *Marsilea minuta*, *Kalanchoe pinnata*, *Aloe barbadensis*, *Justicia adhatoda*, *Eupatorium triplinerve*, *Paederia scandens*, *Centella asiatica*, *Catharanthus roseus*, and *Eclipta prostrata*. Tulsi plants such as *Ocimum tenuiflorum*, *Ocimum gratissimum*, and *Ocimum sanctum* can also be found in the garden. These plants produce a variety of active principles that can aid with cough, cold, asthma, stomach issues, diarrhea and constipation, among other things.

#### 6. **Problems Encountered and Resources Required :**

Problems: i) No proper maintenance of medicinal plant and herbal garden throughout the year.

ii) No fencing around the plants and the garden itself, and hence they easily become the victim of the cows and goats.

Resources Required: i) Recurring assistance for maintenance of the garden from a professional gardening expert. ii) More medicinal plants to be procured with time.

iii) Facility to preserve seeds and germplasm of different medicinal plants can be arranged in the future.