



PURBASTHALI COLLEGE

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GREEN CAMPUS INITIATIVE

Purbasthali College recognizes the importance of environmental conservation and sustainability in creating a healthier and more resilient campus community. The Green Campus Initiative aims to integrate sustainable practices into all aspects of college operations and foster a culture of environmental responsibility among students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders.

OBJECTIVES:

- ❖ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and carbon footprint.
- ❖ Conserve natural resources and minimize waste generation.
- ❖ Promote energy efficiency and renewable energy sources.
- ❖ Raise awareness and educate the college community about environmental conservation.
- ❖ Promotion of single-use plastic free zone.
- ❖ Promotion of smoking-free zone.

KEY INITIATIVES:

Maintaining Campus Greenery

Our institution has undertaken several initiatives to promote sustainability and environmental consciousness on campus. One of the flagship projects is the maintenance of our campus greenery and garden, which encompasses diverse sections including medicinal plants, seasonal flower garden, decorative plants garden, and a rose garden. Our campus garden serves as a sanctuary of biodiversity and natural beauty, providing students, faculty, staff, and visitors with a tranquil environment for relaxation and learning.

Seven departments within our institution have been allocated specific portions of the garden for maintenance. This decentralized approach ensures widespread participation and accountability in caring for the greenery. Volunteer groups from the National Service Scheme (NSS) and the National Cadet Corps (NCC) play a pivotal role in maintaining designated areas


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of the garden. Their enthusiasm and dedication contribute significantly to the upkeep of the green spaces.

Each department and volunteer group is responsible for watering the plants in their respective areas according to a predefined schedule. This systematic approach ensures that plants receive adequate hydration for optimal growth. The medicinal plant area and rose garden receive specialized care tailored to the unique requirements of the plant species therein. This includes appropriate soil management, pest control measures, and pruning techniques to promote health and vitality.


To expand the garden and enhance its ecological diversity, several plantation drives are organized. These drives not only enrich the campus landscape but also foster a culture of environmental protection among participants.

Energy Efficiency

As part of our commitment to sustainable practices and energy efficiency, Purbasthali College has implemented a comprehensive policy aimed at reducing energy consumption and promoting renewable energy sources. Key measures include the implementation of energy-efficient lighting systems, such as LED bulbs and fixtures, throughout campus buildings. By transitioning to LED lighting, we not only reduce electricity usage but also enhance lighting quality and lifespan, leading to long-term cost savings and environmental benefits.

In addition to upgrading lighting systems, we actively promote energy conservation among faculty, staff, and students. Through awareness campaigns and education initiatives, we encourage individuals to adopt simple yet impactful habits such as turning off lights, computers, and other electrical appliances when not in use. By instilling a culture of energy consciousness, we aim to significantly reduce unnecessary energy consumption across our campus.

All the classrooms and offices are fitted with large windows strategically positioned to allow abundant natural sunlight and cross ventilation into the interior spaces. This design not only enhances the overall ambiance but also reduces the reliance on artificial lighting during daylight hours, leading to energy savings. By maximizing natural daylighting, we create a more comfortable and conducive environment for learning and work, while also promoting sustainability by reducing electricity consumption and associated carbon emissions. The institute only has two rooms where air-conditioning systems are fitted and these air-conditioners are procured based on their energy efficiency ratings. By procuring air-conditioners that prioritize


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energy efficiency, we aim to minimize electricity consumption and reduce our environmental impact.

Furthermore, regular maintenance of equipment and infrastructure is prioritized to ensure optimal energy performance. By conducting routine inspections, repairs, and upgrades, we maximize the efficiency of our energy systems, prolong equipment lifespan, and minimize energy wastage.

Moreover, we embrace renewable energy sources as part of our energy strategy. Where feasible and cost-effective, we integrate solar lights to further reduce our reliance on non-renewable resources and decrease carbon emissions.

Waste and Resource Management

In our endeavor to promote environmental sustainability and reduce our carbon footprint, Purbasthali College has implemented several measures aimed at waste reduction, promotion of reusable products, and sustainable transportation options. Firstly, we have established waste reduction practices for paper, plastics, glass, and other materials across all our facilities. This includes initiatives such as paperless offices promoting e-notices to minimize environmental impact. Secondly, we actively encourage the use of reusable products, such as water bottles and coffee mugs, and discard use of plastic materials to minimize single-use plastic consumption. Through awareness campaigns, we aim to reduce plastic waste generation and promote a culture of sustainability among employees, students, and stakeholders. Additionally, the college promotes sustainable transportation options to reduce carbon emissions from commuting. This includes utilizing electric vehicles, Totos (e-rickshaws), bicycles, and walking. By encouraging employees and visitors to opt for eco-friendly modes of transportation, we contribute to reducing air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions associated with conventional commuting methods.

Purbasthali College follows segregation of waste materials into biodegradable and non-biodegradable materials. Bio-degradable materials are further segregated and one portion is directly transferred to the compost pit where the where these materials undergo decomposition and transformation into nutrient-rich compost. This compost is then utilized in various applications, such as gardening, and soil enrichment, thereby closing the loop on organic waste utilization and promoting a circular economy approach. By incorporating composting into our waste management practices, we not only divert biodegradable waste but also contribute to soil health improvement and overall environmental conservation. The college also uses vermicomposting methods. The non-biodegradable waste materials are collected by the local


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Panchayat as part of the agreement between the college and the Panchayat. The e-waste materials are centrally collected from all the sections/departments of the college and these are kept in a designated room to be sent to the concerned agency.

To foster a healthy and smoke-free environment, Purbasthali College seeks to promote smoking-free zones across all premises. The goal is to create spaces that prioritize the well-being of the employees, students, and visitors by reducing exposure to secondhand smoke and encouraging healthier lifestyle choices. Through awareness campaigns, the college aims to educate and inform individuals about the benefits of smoke-free environments and the resources available for smoking cessation support.

Rain Water Harvesting and Ground Water Recharge:

In pursuit of sustainable water management, Purbasthali College has adopted a multifaceted approach to rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge. The college has established method to collect rain-water and store it in tanks to be used for different purposes, such as watering the plants. A soak pit is also created to recharge ground-water. Through these integrated efforts, we aim to enhance water availability, reduce dependency on conventional water sources, and promote resilience in the face of water scarcity challenges.

Cleanliness Drives

The National Service Scheme (NSS) wing of Purbasthali College actively promotes cleanliness both within and outside the campus through a range of initiatives. Within the campus, NSS volunteers conduct regular clean-up drives. Departments also organize cleaning drives to ensure a clean campus. Additionally, NSS organizes cleanliness drives in surrounding areas and the adopted village. Through awareness campaigns, NSS fosters a sense of responsibility among students and the community towards maintaining cleanliness, contributing to a healthier and more sustainable environment for all.

Maintaining Safety Standards

All electrical and plumbing lines are regularly inspected and monitored to prevent any type of mishap caused by short circuits or overloads. This proactive approach aims to minimize the risk of accidents and damage by ensuring the proper functioning and safety of electrical and plumbing systems throughout the college campus. Moreover, fire extinguishers are installed throughout the campus to ensure quick response and effective containment in the event of a fire emergency. These extinguishers are regularly inspected, maintained, and easily accessible to


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faculty, staff, and students, contributing to a safer and more prepared environment for all occupants.

Environmental Education and Outreach

Purbasthali College regularly organizes awareness programmes, seminars, workshops, special lectures for the promotion of environmental ethics and spreading awareness among the students, faculty members and staff of the college. The NSS wing of the institute organizes various outreach activities to sensitize the students as well as the local inhabitants regarding environmental degradation and ways to combat the same.

CONCLUSION:

Purbasthali College is committed to creating a green and sustainable campus that promotes environmental ethics, fosters innovation, and prepares students for a sustainable future. Through the Green Campus Initiative, we aim to inspire positive change and make a meaningful contribution to the well-being of our planet and future generations.


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