



SARAIGHAT COLLEGE, CHANGSARI

ECO CLUB

THE GREEN CAMPUS, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY



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Context

Saraighat College is situated in the northern bank of the Brahmaputra River and the area is surrounded by beautiful nature and enduring one, something that students and staff of the college are aware of. The campus can be categorized as playgrounds, lawns and gardens. Near the college campus, a swampy area acts as a natural habitat for biodiversity and a large variety of species of grasses, herbs, shrubs and trees. The college believes in reducing the consumption of electricity produced by non renewable resources by switching to clean energy sources like solar energy for purposes like lighting the campus. We commit to install environment friendly electrical appliances that save energy and reduce wasteful inefficiencies

Policy Documents on the Green Campus

Green Campus: A Green Campus is a place where environmental friendly practices and education combine to promote sustainable and eco-friendly practices in the campus. The Green Campus concept offers an institution the opportunity to take the lead in redefining its environmental culture and developing new paradigms by creating sustainable solutions to environmental, social and economic needs of mankind.

Scope of the policies

The Green Campus, Energy and Environment policies will develop exciting new co- curricular and extracurricular practices that encourage students to take the lead in creating positive change. These initiatives call for a thorough review of all infrastructural, administrative functions from the standpoint of energy efficiency, sustainability and the environment.

The focus areas of this policy are:

- Clean Campus Initiatives
- Landscaping Initiatives
- Clean Air Initiatives
- Infrastructure :
 - Solar Power Plant
 - Installation of Energy Efficiency Equipment
 - Water Conservation through Rainwater Harvesting System
- Waste Management process: Solid Waste Management
- Awareness Initiatives
- Environment – centric student, societies and departmental activities.
- Green Audit
- Energy Audit
- Plastic Free Campus

Objective of the Eco Club Committee

The first step of the green programme involves establishing a viable Eco Club Committee, within the organizational structure of the institute. Hence, to give this

initiative more clarity and authenticity, we now roll out a POLICY DOCUMENT spelling out the strategies, plans and other allied tasks to make this programme functional officially.

We believe that greening the campus is all about sweeping away wasteful inefficiencies and using conventional sources of energies for its daily power needs, correct disposal handling, purchase of environment friendly supplies and effective recycling programme. The administration of the Institute believes that everyone has to work out the time bound strategies to implement green campus initiatives. These strategies need to be incorporated into the institutional planning and budgeting processes with the aim of developing a clean and green campus. Every individuals of Saraighat College campus will work, may he/she be a student, faculty and support staff to foster a culture of self-sustainability and make the entire campus environment friendly.

- To protect and conserve ecological systems and resources within the campus
- To ensure judicious use of environment resources to meet the needs and aspirations of the present and future generations
- To integrate environmental concerns in to policies, plans and programmes development for social development and outreach activities.
- To work with all stakeholders and the local community to raise awareness and seek the adoption of environmental good practices and the reduction of any adverse effects on the environment.
- To continuously improve the efficient use of all resources, including energy and water and to reduce consumption and the amount of waste produced and recovering waste where possible.
- To make the campus plastic free.
- To conduct environmental and energy audits from time to time.
- To minimize the use of paper in administration through having policy for E-governance.

Policy:

Clean Campus Initiatives

Saraighat College had pledged to actively coordinate cleanliness activities in the college specially NSS Volunteers and beyond the campus in accordance with the vision of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. It commits to continue with this programme. The broad vision is as follows:

1. Generating mass awareness on the cleanliness and hygiene amongst students and staff members by holding regular cleanliness drives. The idea is to motivate them to contribute in a proactive manner.
2. Activities under “Swachh Bharat Abhiyan” will be a key component of all the community work being done by NSS and NCC volunteers of the college.
3. Staff Members will be encouraged to participate in the cleanliness drive in the college campus.
4. Events such as poster and slogan competitions, essay writing, poetry recitation and speeches on “Swachh Bharat” will be organized.
5. Rallies on themes connected with “Swachh Bharat Abhiyan” in and around the college campus will be conducted to create mass awareness.
6. Remove all kinds of waste material like broken unusable equipment, etc.
7. Administer of the pledge by the students and staff members to maintain cleanliness of the college campus and its surrounding areas on an annual basis.
8. Commit to manage waste and maintain clean campus especially during college events.

Landscaping Initiatives

The Campus landscape, like its buildings, can be seen as the physical embodiment of a college’s values. It is a vital part of the life of a campus,

providing space for study, play, outdoor events, relaxation and aesthetic appreciation. Green campus landscapes also manage runoff, help recharge ground water, and clean and cool the air on campus. The landscape serves as a visual representation of the campus community's commitment to sustainability. As campus landscapes are so visible and accessible, landscaping initiatives are a great way to build awareness around the environment.

There are more than 240 trees, more than 27 medicinal plants or herbs and more than 500 shrubs on campus along with 1.5 acre of grass cover. The landscape of trees and plants provides 1000+ students and staff with clean and cool air and is a calming environment.

The diverse green cover of Saraighat College is also home to a number of animals and rare birds across at least 24 species, creating a campus rich in biodiversity. The college commits to enriching this healthy habitat and maintaining the symbiotic relation of the institution with nature by

- Organizing tree plantation drives thrice in a year in college campus and adopts villages.
- Encouraging student societies to hold tree planting events.

Clean Air Initiatives

We encourage our students and staff to use public transportation. We encourage carpooling to college, an activity that will control air pollution and strengthen social interaction. The entry of automobiles inside the campus is restricted to discourage the use of private vehicles.

Our college is located near the 31 National Highway and we feel responsible to maintain our green cover. The abundant natural landscape not only cleans the air on campus but also becomes an extension of the green lungs of the area.

Smoking Free Campus

In compliance with the framework provided by the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) 2007-2008, the college prohibits smoking and the use of other

tobacco products. The anti smoking committee of the college ensures enforcement of the antismoking policy.

Infrastructure Management Processes

- **Renewable source of energy**

The college is dedicated to minimize and sustainably manage its use of electricity. The college believed in reducing the consumption of electricity produced by non renewable resources by switching to clean energy sources like solar energy for purposes like lighting the administrative department.

- **Energy saving and energy efficient Equipment**

We commit to install environment – friendly electrical appliances that save energy and reduce wasteful inefficiencies. The college believes in using cleaner energy such as LED lighting.

- **Water conservation through Rain water Harvesting System**

As an institution located in the Kamrup District of Assam, the area that has been maximum fall of ground water levels, the college has committed itself to this effort to replenish the ground water table by practicing rainwater harvesting. This practice helps in the replenishment and recharge of the ground water.

Waste Management Processes

The college strive to have a minimal impact on the environment is dedicated to reduce and manage the waste generated by the college campus. The following specific procedures will be undertaken to ensure college's contribution in protecting the environment.

Solid Waste Management

With its aim to provide holistic education that also has a positive impact on the environment, the college will adopt practices that will mitigate the generation and manage solid waste through the following methods:

Biodegradable waste can be found in canteen waste, or as green waste from college campus, food waste, paper waste, etc. These waste can be segregates into biodegradable that rot (undergo degradation in the excavate) by the action of decomposers (tiny organism like bacteria and fungi found in the soil) are called

biodegradable waste. Dead plants and other products (eg. Fruits and vegetables peel, waste food, leaves, dead flowers and egg shells and paper) decay very easily. These wastes mix with the soil and produce manure. There is also a different kind of composting where a kind of earth worm called red worms act on wastes and degrade them. Wastes that do not rot by the action of decomposers are called non-degradable wastes. For example, glass, plastic, electrical wares, metals etc.

Depending on the type of wastes, two garbage excavate one for biodegradable waste and other for non biodegradable wastes should be used. This will help in easy sorting and recycling of wastes to make beneficial products. Green excavate for bio degradable wastes like vegetables and fruits peels, spoilt food, tea leaves. Egg shells, tissue paper, leaves etc. Blue excavate for non bio- degradable wastes like glass, bottles, plastics waste, old batteries, polythene bags, etc.

Composition of the Eco Club

1. Advisor: Principal
2. Chairperson: Coordinator of Eco Club
3. Four teacher members
4. Social service secretary (Students Union): Student member
5. Two students representatives from NSS