

TECHNO INSTITUTE OF HIGHER STUDIES

(AFFILIATED TO UNIVERSITY OF LUCKNOW, LUCKNOW)

Policy Document on the Green Campus Initiative and

Plastic free Campus

The Techno Institute of Higher Studies, established in 2011 in Lucknow district, Uttar Pradesh, serves as a leading center of higher education. The residents of Lucknow, and more broadly Uttar Pradesh, are deeply committed to nature conservation and sustainable practices. This highlights the critical importance of environmental protection and maintaining a balance between human activity and the natural world. As a gateway to higher learning for the local population, our institution bears the responsibility of safeguarding and preserving the environment.

Scope of the Policy

This policy aims to foster new co-curricular and extracurricular activities that empower students to initiate change and more importantly medium for change. These initiatives require a thorough assessment of all administrative, co-curricular, and infrastructural activities through the lenses of energy efficiency, sustainability, and environmental stewardship. The key areas of focus for this policy include:

- Clean Campus Initiatives
- Landscaping Initiatives
- Clean Air Initiatives
- Alternative Energy Sources and Installation of Energy Efficiency Equipment
- Water Conservation Measures
- Waste Management Practices
- · Environmental Awareness Programs
- Environmental Audits

Objectives of the Policy

The primary objectives of this policy are to:

- Integrate environmental considerations into the institution's policies, strategies, and programs for social development and outreach.
- Protect an preserve the ecological systems and resources on campus.

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- Ensure the wise use of environmental resources to meet the needs and aspirations of both current and future generations.
- Collaborate with all stakeholders, including the local community, to promote environmentally responsible practices, increase awareness, and mitigate negative environmental impacts.
- Continuously improve the efficient use of resources, including water and energy, reduce consumption and waste generation, and promote the recovery and recycling of materials wherever feasible.
- Conduct periodic environmental and energy audits.
- Reduce paper usage in administration through e-governance policies and minimize plastic use on campus.

Policy on Environment and Green Initiatives

As part of the Institutional Policy on Environment and Green Initiatives, the following methods and operational procedures are established to be followed within the college across various criteria:

Clean Campus Initiatives

At Techno Institute of Higher Studies, cleanliness is regarded as an essential aspect of an educated individual's personality, encompassing both environmental and personal hygiene. We are committed to providing proper education and fostering a culture of awareness among our students regarding these crucial issues. In alignment with the objectives of the "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan", the college actively plans and supports cleaning initiatives both on and off campus.

- The college administration will spearhead the clean campus initiative, ensuring that resources, personnel, and waste management methods are adequately allocated throughout the year.
- To graduate, every undergraduate student may be required to take an environmental science course as part of the curriculum, integrating the importance of environmental protection into their education.
- Students and staff will be educated about cleanliness and hygiene through awareness campaigns and cleaning initiatives, encouraging proactive participation. Staff members will lead by example by participating in campus cleaning activities.

Community service projects led by volunteers from the college's Rotaract Clubs will incorporate activities aligned with the "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan."

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- To engage students, the college will organize various activities such as poster and slogan contests, essay writing, spoken word poetry, and speeches etc. centered on the theme of "Swachh Bharat".
- Rallies and awareness campaigns related to the "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan" will be held on and around the college campus to raise public awareness.
- Proper disposal of all waste materials, including e-waste, broken furniture, and obsolete equipment, will be ensured.
- Students will receive training in waste disposal and maintaining campus cleanliness, particularly during college events.

Landscaping Initiatives

A college's values are reflected in its campus environment, much like they are in its buildings. Landscaping is a vital part of campus life, providing spaces for study, recreation, outdoor activities, relaxation, and aesthetic enjoyment. Moreover, green landscaping helps manage runoff, aids in groundwater recharging, and purifies and cools the campus air. The landscaping on campus serves as a visible and accessible demonstration of the college community's commitment to sustainability.

- Our campus boasts large area of grass, more than 50 trees, and over 150 plants, creating a serene environment that offers clean, cool air to the 1500+ students and staff. The diverse vegetation supports various species of animals and birds, making the campus highly biodiverse.
- The college demonstrates its commitment to enhancing and preserving this healthy
 ecosystem by supporting annual tree-planting campaigns and encouraging student
 organizations to host tree-planting activities.

Clean Air Initiatives

As part of the Institutional Policy on Environment and Green Initiatives, we are committed to improving air quality both on and around the campus. Our efforts include:

- Promotion of Public Transit: We encourage the use of public transportation among students and staff to reduce individual carbon footprints.
- Carpooling Advocacy: We promote carpooling as a means of reducing air pollution while enhancing social interaction among students and staff.
- Campus as a Green Lung: The campus's rich natural environment acts as an extension of the region's green lung, helping to purify the air on campus.
- Tobacco-Free Campus: In compliance with the guidelines set by the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP), the college strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products, including smoking, within the campus.

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 Waste Management: We refrain from burning waste and instead adopt eco-friendly recycling methods to manage waste materials.

Alternative Energy Sources and Installation of Energy Efficiency Equipment

We are committed to minimizing and sustainably managing the consumption of electricity generated from non-renewable resources by transitioning to clean energy alternatives. Our initiatives include:

- Adoption of Solar Energy: We are transitioning to solar energy for various purposes, such as lighting the campus, thereby reducing our reliance on non-renewable energy sources.
- Installation of Energy-Efficient Appliances: The college is committed to installing
 environmentally friendly electrical appliances that conserve energy and reduce
 inefficiencies. Our preference is to use cleaner energy options, such as LED lighting,
 across the campus.

Water Conservation and Management

While our region is naturally abundant in water resources, we remain dedicated to efforts aimed at replenishing the groundwater table through rainwater harvesting methods, including pits and channels. Our approach to water management includes:

- · Maintenance of Water Fixtures: Ensuring all water fixtures are leak-proof.
- Minimization of Water Waste: Actively working to reduce unnecessary water use and wastage.
- Immediate Response to Leaks: Prompt action to repair any leaks in taps, pipes, tanks, or flush systems.
- Study of Wastewater Reuse: Investigating the potential for wastewater reuse to further conserve water resources.

Waste Management Processes

We are dedicated to reducing and managing waste produced on the college campus to minimize its negative impact on the environment. Our goal is to offer a holistic education that positively impacts the environment by adopting practices that mitigate waste generation and efficiently manage solid and liquid waste through the following methods:

- Practice of the Three Rs: We consistently implement the principles of "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle" to promote environmental friendliness.
- Paper Waste Collection and Recycling: Paper waste generated on campus is collected and partnered with recyclers to explore new uses for it.
- Reducing Solid Waste: We aim to reduce solid waste by incorporating a teaching and management approach that emphasizes technological solutions.

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- Support for Digitization: We encourage the digitization of attendance and internal
 assessment records to cut down on paper usage. Additionally, by expanding the
 college library's collection of e-books and e-journals, we aim to reduce the reliance
 on printed books.
- Online Assignment Submission: We plan to encourage faculty and students to submit assignments online to further reduce paper use.
- Food Waste Reduction Education: Steps are taken to educate students on minimizing food waste and adopting strategies to reduce it.
- Reduction of Packaged Food Consumption: We advocate for reducing the amount of packaged food consumed on campus.
- Recycling and Reuse of Non-Biodegradables: Wherever possible, non-biodegradable materials are recycled and reused.
- Solid Waste Management Workshops: Workshops on solid waste management are conducted for students to raise awareness and improve practices.
- Study on Wastewater Reuse: Research is conducted on the possibility of reusing wastewater, contributing to our overall conservation efforts.

E-Waste Management

Techno Institute of Higher Studies is committed to ensuring that the use of technology and the generation of e-waste do not harm the environment. Our efforts in this area include:

- The college plans to collaborate with e-waste recycling companies to ensure the responsible recycling of electronic waste.
- We actively create awareness among students about reducing e-waste and promoting environmentally friendly disposal practices.
- We encourage departments and student societies to organize activities that focus on ewaste management and promote eco-friendly practices.

Awareness Programs on Environmental Protection

Outreach and education are critical for ensuring that all campus community members value and contribute to the policy's objectives. To this end, we support and promote:

- Awareness Campaigns and Educational Initiatives: We encourage awareness campaigns, seminars, workshops, conferences, and interactive sessions to effectively implement the Green Campus, Energy, and Environment policies.
- Departmental and Student Organizations: We support specific student organizations, competitions, and training sessions at the department level that foster positive environmental changes from the ground up. The college is committed to

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helping departments and student associations shape students into active agents of environmental protection and conservation.

Environmental Audits

To ensure that the initiatives laid out in our policy are effectively implemented and continuously improved, the college will carry out regular environmental audits. These audits will include:

- Energy Audits: We will regularly assess our energy consumption patterns, focusing on areas where energy efficiency can be improved, and identifying opportunities for incorporating renewable energy sources.
- Water Audits: Regular audits of water usage will be conducted to ensure the efficiency of our water conservation efforts, particularly in leak detection, repair, and the effectiveness of rainwater harvesting systems.
- Waste Audits: Our waste management processes, including solid and liquid waste disposal and e-waste handling, will be regularly reviewed to ensure compliance with environmental standards and to identify opportunities for improvement.
- Green Audits: A comprehensive audit will evaluate all aspects of the campus environment, from green landscaping to air quality initiatives, ensuring that the campus continues to function as a model of environmental sustainability.

Conclusion

The Green Campus initiative and Plastic-Free Campus policy at Techno Institute of Higher Studies serves as a blueprint for creating a sustainable and environmentally responsible academic community. Through a combination of education, engagement, and accountability, we aim to inspire students, staff, and the local community to commit to the stewardship of our environment, ensuring that our campus remains a green oasis that promotes learning and well-being.

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