



A STUDY OF INITIATIVES TAKEN BY AIGESR COLLEGE FOR ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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Introduction-

The recent pandemic has taught all of us the importance of sustainable goals. No poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy, decent work and economic growth, industry innovation and infrastructure, reduced inequality, sustainable cities and communities, climate action, life below water, life on land, peace, justice and strong institutions, partnerships for the goals are the 17 sustainable development goals.

Every country, every state and every institute should work to attain the above mentioned sustainable developmental goals. In our institute, at Ashoka Education Foundation Ashoka International Centre For Educational Studies and Research we are trying our level best by taking number of initiatives for attaining some of the sustainable development goals.

With this paper researcher will be sharing those initiatives with the intention of horizontal deployment with other education institution.

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Details of the initiatives-

• Energy Saving Policy:

1. Solar is one of the easy ways to cut down electricity costs at institutions. In our college. solar-power plant were installed on the college rooftop. It has been operational since April 2018. Since the installation of this plant, the college has saving expenditure on electricity.
2. College has installed LED tube light in campus for saving energy purpose. The awareness among the students of electric power in the campus is ensured through proper informative sign boards affixed near all the strategic points of electric power supply units.
3. Anyone can save energy by taking small steps at home or office by eliminating unnecessary use of light, fan, AC or any other energy consuming equipment.
4. The college ensures that energy in the form of electricity is not wasted and hence the wiring and electrical connections are changes/ renewed from time to time.

• **Efforts for Pollution Free Environment:**

1. The college has about varieties of trees on campus that balances the ecosystem of the surrounding area. A garden in the premises, with different plants, provides a healthful ambience in the college. Also green India camping run by college. Green lawns are also maintained by college.
2. Events like tree plantation, swach bharat abhiyan are organized regularly under NSS activity. Students and Educators dedicate sapling to the college on their birthday.
3. Separate housekeeping department work for the cleanliness of campus and policy is designed for housekeeping department.
4. Steel crockery is used in the canteen.
5. Every year college celebrated difference days like World Earth day, Environment day, Ozen Day etc.

• **Waste Management:**

Institute is conscious about the environmental issues arising from improper waste handling and take responsibility to ensure that waste from the campus are properly disposed and/or recycled. The institution has taken up several measures for waste management to safeguard the environment. The waste is reduced in an organisation by training the students and staff with the help of waste management awareness program and its practices through advertisement on notice boards, displaying slogan boards in the campus. etc.

1. Waste is segregated in the form of dry and wet waste.
2. The waste which is segregated is then collected by housekeeping department and municipal corporation vehicles for proper disposal.
3. Even the furniture which is broken is also converted into reusable.
4. We have newspaper kept in library and after collection of all paper year wise and sell those paper to old newspaper collector and we get cash which is kept for institutional use.
5. Organic waste from kitchen is given to biogas plant.
6. All the canteen organic waste and gardening waste is Recycled to generate good quality manure which is used for in-house gardening. This is done in a composting. The campus has a small pilot scale composting plant that generates compost culture from the food-waste.
7. The NSS unit has conducted pledge programme on "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan" and also conduct programme on swachhtaabhiyan.
8. The college is to take care of the environment through solid waste management, in order to maintain the beauty of nature in and around the campus the college sensitizes its students and staff about the environment through various activities.
9. The Ashoka Education Foundation has centralized facility to collect e-waste from Colleges, housekeeping and disposal.
10. E-wastes such as computers, laptops, scanner, printer etc. if generated are collected centrally & disposed off. Old monitors and CPUs are repaired and reused. Electronic appliances and devices are put to excellent use where in the laboratory assistants handle minor repairs and major repairs are conducted by external technicians. All the old non-working electronic goods are given away for recycling and new electronic



appliances which adhere to the environment protection rules and power consumption norms are purchased at regular intervals. Electronic waste is minimized by reusing the electronic components and regular maintenance.

11. Recycling workshops held amongst students by the Green Society raise awareness about plastic waste, food waste and menstrual waste.
12. To save paper, printing is carried out only when essentially needed. Single sided used papers are reused for writing and printing.
13. Students are trained to convert waste into creative artifacts. For which a special exhibition is also conducted where these articles are sold and the profit that comes out of it is donated to the needy institution.

- **E- learning-**

1. Educators using ICT equipment like personal computers, laptops, audio-visual (AV) equipment, software and network equipment, CD/DVD. They teach with the help of Power Point Presentations as well as topic related audio or video sources.
2. Teachers use Google classroom, Google form, Google sheet etc.

- **Quality Education-**

1. **Flipped Classroom Methodology:** A **flipped classroom** reverses the traditional teaching methodology, giving students access to new material at home, while class time is used to assimilate this knowledge. It helps them to become thinkers.
2. **Constructivism:** In the most general sense, it usually means encouraging students to use active techniques (experiments, real-world problem solving) to create more knowledge and then to reflect on and talk about what they are doing.
3. **Teaching using ICT tools:** Educators using ICT equipment like personal computers, laptops, audio-visual(AV) equipment, software and network equipment, CD/DVD. They teach with the help of Power Point Presentations as well as topic related audio or video sources.
4. **Research Work:** Educators motivate students to participate in AVISHKAR University Level Competition organised to imbibe research area in students. Students also publish research articles in journals or conferences.
5. **Co-curricular activities:** Co-curricular activities improve the creative writing, analytical ability, leadership skills and decision making skills among the students. College Educators motivate students to participate in various activities like youth festivals. The long list of prizes won by our students and other district and state level competitions bears a testimony to it.
6. **Language Club:** Language is important for communication. As our college is minority institution every year we form language club with the help of students. We conduct different competitions like spell bee, storytelling, proverbs and idioms etc. Marathi Diwas, Hindi Pakhwada, English day celebrated for enriching language and communication.



7. **Reflective Assembly-** A value based theme is selected for the students' assembly where discussions and reflections are invited to sustain a strong value system among the students.
8. **Great Teacher Characteristic-** As our institution is teacher training institute; to develop future teachers we practice Great Teacher Characteristic. There are nine characteristics we practice in our institute which we have developed for eg, A great teacher is warm, accessible, enthusiastic and caring. A single characteristic is practiced throughout the month.

Conclusion-

Energy Saving Policy, Efforts for Pollution Free Environment, Waste Management, E- learning, Quality Education are some of the initiatives that our college has taken. We are in process of moving towards achieving sustainable development goals. A lot more needs to be done and we together will be doing it.

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