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Anekant Education Society's

**TULJARAM CHATURCHAND COLLEGE**  
of Arts, Science and Commerce, Baramati - 413102.

Dist. Pune. Maharashtra, India.

**Empowered Autonomous Status**

Religious Minority Institute

NAAC Reaccredited 'A+' Grade, CGPA 3.55

**NAAC-SSR**

**Cycle IV**

**2019 - 2024**

## Criterion VII Institutional Values and Best Practices

**7.2.1** Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per NAAC  
**Q1 M** format provided in the manual

### Best Practice-I

#### Title of the Practice: Green Initiatives

##### I) Objectives of the Practice

- 1 To provide ample opportunities to the students and other stake holders of the college to actively participate in environmental protection initiatives.
- 2 To work with students, faculty and support staff to foster a culture of self-sustainability and make the entire campus environmental friendly.
- 3 To implement a comprehensive waste management system.
- 4 To reduce water footprint and enhance water quality.
- 5 To protect and nurture the flora and fauna in and outside the campus.
- 6 To plant rare and medicinal plants.
- 7 To celebrate important environment days.
- 8 To arrange seminars, workshops, and experts' talk focusing on environmental issues

##### II) The Context:

A Green Initiative is a strategy that integrates environmental-friendly practices and education to promote sustainable and eco-friendly practices. The green initiative concept empowers institution to create an eco-friendly culture and develop sustainable solutions to meet the environmental, social and economical issues of society. National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasizes on incorporating environmental education into the curriculum to promote awareness and sensitivity towards conservation and sustainable development. Tuljaram Chaturchand College is actively engaged in creating awareness and promoting environmental conservation through its best practice of Green Initiatives with an aim to raise awareness and encourage environmental care.

### **III) The Practice:**

A good education is not merely about getting a degree. It is about understanding our responsibilities to society and the world around us. Apart from imparting career oriented quality education to the students, the college believes in creating awareness among the students to care about the environment through various initiatives implemented in the college campus. The college is actively involved in the following practices related to green initiatives:

#### **A) Infrastructural Development Measures:**

##### **1. Energy Conservation:**

The College has installed 32 kWp rooftop solar panels which are linked with Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) Baramati Zone grid system. The college has also conducted energy audit in the year 2020-21. In addition, all hostels of the college are equipped with solar water heaters. The college adopts a policy to use power efficient LED lights in the campus.

##### **2. Water Conservation:**

The college is having rain water harvesting system to conserve the rain water. The college has established two rainwater harvesting units with the capacity of 6,80,000 liters.

##### **3. Solid Waste Management:**

Wet Waste especially from kitchen, such as vegetable refuses; food scraps etc. are disposed-off in biogas and Vermi-compost plant.

###### **a. Biogas Plant:**

As a part of kitchen waste management plan a biogas plant has been set up in the campus. Its capacity is 150 kg kitchen waste.

###### **b. Vermi-composting:**

Biodegradable wastes like garden foliage, waste food, etc. are decomposed in vermi-compost plant to produce vermi-compost. This compost is used in the college garden.

##### **4. Liquid Waste Management:**

The College has a facility of ETP plant with the capacity treating 2000-5000 liter effluent from Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, Microbiology department.

##### **5. E-waste management:**

The college regularly organizes e-waste collection campaign with the help of croma in the college campus.

##### **6. *Kavivarya Moropant* Botanical Garden:**

The college has a well maintained and spacious Botanical garden which has separate sections like Medicinal Plant Garden, Cactus Plant Garden, Butterfly Garden, Bonsai Plant Section, Nursery, and Water Lily and Lotus tanks.

##### **7. Greenery and Landscaping in the college:**

The campus of the college is beautifully landscaped in a lush of green stretch of 38 acres land. Out of 38 acres land, 11.3 acres are under canopy. The college maintains the greenery of the campus by regular planting of large number of plants

#### **8. Tree Census with QR Coding:**

In an effort to give more information of plants, 130 trees in the campus have been tagged with QR codes that give information about the tree, from its scientific name to its medical value.

**9. Offering Plant Saplings to Guests:** To boost the plantation drive and cherish the memory of visiting guests, the college offers plant saplings to welcome the guests and visitors.

#### **B) Activities Organized Under Green Initiatives:**

##### **1. Tree Plantation Drive:**

The college carries out tree plantation and conservation drive every year in the campus and off the campus.

##### **2. Plastic Free Campus Campaign:**

The college organizes Plastic Free Campus Campaign on a regular basis to make the campus and the surrounding area free from plastic.

##### **3. Celebration of Important Environment Days:**

Various environment days like Ozone Day, Forest Day, World Environment Day, Sparrow Day, Geography Day, and World Food Day are celebrated every year in the college to inspire students to take action for environment protection.

##### **4. Workshops and Experts' Talk:**

The college regularly organizes various workshops on environmental awareness to educate students, faculty, and staff about the importance of preserving the environment and adopting sustainable practices.

#### **IV) Problems Encountered**

- a) Lack of sufficient funds hindered the implementation of green initiatives such as installing energy-efficient systems, purchasing eco-friendly supplies, or organizing sustainability events.
- b) To bring any change in the approach of stakeholders is one of the challenges encountered when implementing a new policy. The practice of Green Initiatives has also faced resistance by the students as well as staff as many students and staff were not fully understand the importance how even small steps could contribute towards conservation of environment.
- c) Some of the infrastructures like biogas plant, ETP plant need capacity up gradation.
- d) Society contribution is very less in the green initiative practices like campus beautification, environmental preservation, conservation, maintenance and sustainability.

#### **V) Resources Needed**

The institute has to work out the time bound strategies to implement green campus initiatives. These strategies have to be incorporated into the institutional planning and budgeting processes with the aim of developing a clean and green campus. Successful implementation of the practice depends on the following resources:

- 1) Organization of various activities, workshops, seminars and guest lecturers and commemorating important environment days for creating awareness among the college community in adopting sustainable behaviors.
- 2) Setting up waste management infrastructure including recycling bins, composting facilities, and waste reduction programs.
- 3) Support from college administration and governing bodies for prioritizing sustainability goals and allocating resources accordingly.

#### VI) Evidence of success

The College received *Ideal Environment Protection Best Green Campus National Excellence Award 2022* and *ISO 14001:2015 Green Education Campus Certification 2022*. These recognitions serve as a validation for the effectiveness of the best practices implemented by our institution. Through proper planning and execution the college has conducted various activities in the last five years with an aim to make the campus green and preserve our environment in a sustainable manner. Activities like tree plantation, plastic free campaign in the college and other places helped in making the area green and clean. The *E-waste collection drive* conducted every year at the college has become quite successful as there is a constant increase in the collection of e-waste. Celebration of days like, *Environment Day, Ozone Day, Forest Day, Sparrow Day* and *World Food Day* created awareness among the students about environment conservation. Various workshops like *Organic Farming, Agro-Tourism, Eco-Friendly Ganesh Idol Making, Apiculture, Assembling Solar Study Lamp, and Rain Water Harvesting* helped the students in getting firsthand experience of ecological development.

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