

2. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

To inculcate interest and awareness among citizens and students about environment and its conservation.

1.0 Objectives of the Practice

- To inculcate environmental consciousness among students and citizens
- Pollution free and environmental friendly campus.
- To cultivate and propagate endemic and threatened plants
- To conserve natural and energy resource.

2.0 The Context

Tremendous urbanization and civilization and its ever increasing rate is major global environmental threat, which not only pollute the environment but exploits the natural resources. Same trend of environmental deterioration and exploitation of nature is observed in Dapoli and its vicinity. Dapoli is famous for its cool and pleasant atmosphere and beaches. Its environmental and ecological hotspots are conserved yet, but increasing urbanization, concept of second home destination starts the deterioration of the nature, cutting of forests and creates disturbances in environment. Prevention is always better than cure. In line with this narrative we are inculcating the practice of in campus environment conservation and develop environment consciousness among the stake holders in order to protect the environment of Dapoli and stop the exploitation of natural resources and conserve, cultivate and propagate the endangered and threaten species.

3. The Practice

- ❖ Solar panels are available in College Campus to reduce the demand of energy and its utilization.
- ❖ College develops rain water harvesting system. The **harvested water** can also be utilized for groundwater recharge
- ❖ Practice of celebrating No Vehicle Day
- ❖ Compost pit is constructed in the campus in order to convert biodegradable solid waste into useful manure which is used as fertilizer for plants in the campus.
- ❖ To keep college campus clean, dust bins are placed in the college campus.
- ❖ To minimize the use of Paper, College adopts a policy of a paperless office.
- ❖ Botanical garden has huge variety of endangered and rare plant species which protect the Flora.
- ❖ Propagation and conservation of endemic, rare, endangered and threatened plants.
- ❖ Celebration of various days related to environment
- ❖ Collection of E-waste.
- ❖ Annual practice of green audit, environment audit and energy audit.

4.0 Evidences of Success.

Cleanliness drive:

Under Cleanliness drive 'Swacch Bharat Abhiyan' NSS volunteers cleaned area nearby places in their village.

Plantation Program throughout the year: -Planted plants of various varieties at appropriate location during the special week called 'Vanmahotsav'

Reduction in energy requirement -College has solar panel to reduce the use of electricity and increase the use of non conventional energy sources.

Rain water harvesting:- College constructed tanks for water conservation in college campus. In botanical garden trenches are prepared for the water and soil conservation. Rain water from the college roof is collected and it is allow to percolate in the land to increase water table.

Waste management: -College conducted E-waste collection drive in which all e-waste is collected and hand over to agency for recycling.

Conservation of rare and endangered species: Flora and fauna are continuously protected in botanical garden and preserved the virgin forest in college campus. More than hundred endemic and critically endangered plants of *Frerea indica* are propagated and distributed to some colleges for conservation.

Green care and Nature club committee conducted different activities in which all college students and teachers were involved. Some activities were conducted online because of pandemic. These are as follows

Green care committee has conducted different activities like Rain water harvesting through trenches in Botanical Garden and college campus, webinar on significance of ecology/ biology in oil and gas project on estuarine ecology and Indian Ocean, Compost preparation, On occasion of world wild life day photography competition of flora and fauna and Energy audit done in May.

Nature club committee conducted different activities like photography competition on occasion of national bird Day on 5th January 2021, an introductory state level workshop on photography, On occasion of world cancer day hosted an awareness event which include poster competition and slogan writing competition, organized a state level meme competition on occasion of science day on 28th February 2021 on the subject- science and nature. On occasion of World Sparrow Day Nature Club arranged a campaign called as Chimani Saptah in which nature club kept clay pots as bird water feeder in botanical garden.

Environmental science and botany department also organized many activities related to plant conservation and maintenance of biodiversity. These activities are helpful for students, college, environment protection and sustainability.

5.0 Problems Encountered -

Due to Covid situation this year college could not conducted the large no of activity but most of these activity are conducted by online mode. Because this activity required more human resource. Human resource is available in the form of college students but due to Covid it is not available.

6.0 Resources Required

Enthusiastic Human Resource, Financial Resource, Incubation of innovative ideas
Logistic Support .But till date these activities are successfully organized every year by overcoming the problems and generating resources.