



V. M. SALGAOCAR INSTITUTE
of
INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALITY EDUCATION

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7.2: Best Practices

Best Practice No.1

Title of the Practice: "Swachhata Sankalp: A step towards cleanliness"

Objectives of the Clean and Green practices:

The age-old adage, "cleanliness is next to godliness," is a guiding principle for the Institute. A clean environment is essential for fostering a positive and healthy atmosphere. The Institute understands the significance of this saying and upholds it as a fundamental value. With an unwavering focus on cleanliness and hygiene, the Institute aims to create an environment that is conducive for teaching-learning process.

The objective is to make a conscious effort to sensitize the younger generation on the necessity of maintaining cleanliness and green vegetation cover for the future generations. The efforts are made by the institute to maintain the greenery around the campus and provide a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. The purpose is to reduce energy, water consumption, avoid pollution, plastic waste and to understand the significance of reduce, reuse and recycle.

Context:

The Government of India has launched the Swachh Bharat Mission, a nationwide cleanliness campaign on 2nd October 2014 with a goal of achieving a 'Clean India' by October 2, 2019. The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is one of the most significant cleanliness campaigns undertaken by the Government of India.

Through our efforts, the institute hopes to contribute to the larger goal of a 'Clean India' and encourage others to adopt good environmental and hygiene practices. This necessitates the creation of environmental awareness in educational institutions to minimize the damages done to the environment and to take self-responsibility to protect the environment. Clean and green campus promotes personal action to reduce the institute's energy and water consumption, reduce wastes to landfill. It integrates environmental considerations into all contracts and services considered to have significant environmental impacts.



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Practice:

The Institute lays significant emphasis on maintaining its cleanliness while also preserving the environment. With a commitment to eco-friendliness, the Institute ensures that the campus is not only aesthetically pleasing but also environmentally sustainable. A glimpse of the various initiatives will reveal our seriousness in pursuing the directives of this mission.

From the day students step foot into the Institute campus, they are taught the value of cleanliness. The campus is meticulously maintained, with no litter in sight. This ethos of cleanliness is deeply ingrained in the students, and they take pride in maintaining the immaculate state of the campus.

The Institute has adopted and implemented requisite measures to safely dispose of different types of waste generated. Colour coded dustbins are placed strategically in the institute. Appropriate methods are employed for handling and disposal of waste. Dry waste is collected by an agency validated by the Goa State Pollution Control Board. Wet waste is processed in a Bio-organic Waste Converter plant (OWC), the manure, is used for the Institute's garden, with surplus manure distributed. Vegetable peels are collected by a local and used as cattle feed. Liquid waste is sent to the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) which is treated and used for gardening purpose. E-waste, used cooking oil and generator oil is collected and disposed of to various agencies. Biomedical waste is disposed of safely following the required medical protocols.

The Institute is working towards a paperless office environment through implementation of an ERP system. Circulation of notices and official information are conveyed through digital platforms. Paperless assignments are given to students. Sheets printed on a single side are re-used.

Efforts are on to reduce plastic and to remain a Plastic Free Campus. Glass bottles, polycarbonate glasses and bio-degradable straws are used and we are replacing plastic pots by earthen pots.

PUC certificates of staff and students vehicles are made mandatory to reduce carbon footprints.

Van Mahotsav is celebrated every year, where students and staff members participate in planting the trees. The plants are also distributed to staff and students and they are taught about reducing carbon footprint.

In conclusion, the Institute is committed to effectively manage the waste and reduce adverse impact on the environment. The Institute is working towards a cleaner and healthier environment for our community and the staff/students are part of this endeavour.



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Evidence of Success:

The prestigious Swachhtam Mahavidyalaya Samman Award was bagged by our Institute for being the cleanest college in Goa for three consecutive years, from 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19. This honour was bestowed on our institute by the Goa University among 50 plus colleges affiliated to Goa University. This recognition is a testament to our unwavering commitment to maintaining cleanliness and hygiene on our campus.

Furthermore, the Institute is proud to announce that it is now a Recognized Social Entrepreneurship, Swachhata & Rural Engagement Cell (SES REC) Institution, which emphasizes our commitment to cleanliness, and engagement with rural communities.

We are a Certified ISO 14001:2015 Institute. This has provided a framework to continually improve our environmental performance.

Problems Encountered:

Institute had to bear a sizable cost towards the upkeep of the campus in terms of manpower and cleaning material cost.

The hectic academic schedule prevents students to take up many more cleanliness drives.