

JSS Mahavidyapeetha

JSS College of Arts, Commerce and Science (Autonomous)

Ooty Road, Mysuru

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

This document was prepared by members of the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC) during the course of academic years 2020-21. EPAC members are listed at the end of this document.

OVERVIEW

As an institution of higher learning, JSS College of Arts, Commerce and Science (JSSCACS) has a special obligation to ensure that the ways we educate our students, manage our internal affairs, and interact with the broader community serve as examples that others might follow. Consistent with our history of courageous and morally sensitive leadership, JSSCACS embraces an ethic of environmental stewardship. To that end, we are committed to developing a sustainable relationship between the human species and the rest of the natural world through teaching and research, through design and implementation of institutional policies, and through management of energy flows and material cycles. We recognize that it is not enough to decrease the rate at which we deplete and degrade local and global resources. We therefore strive to be proactive and comprehensive. JSSCACS will put sincere efforts in developing a community that uses renewable resources to operate and works to restore and enhance the ecological functions on which future generations will depend. Environmental stewardship is both a goal that guides daily life and a core priority that informs all aspects of decision-making at JSSCACS.

Environmental Policy Statement

The core mission of JSSCACS is to provide the education for students with morality, standard ethics, social concern and other fraternity aspects. One aspect of such education is the demonstration by its actions of the College's concern for, and protection of its physical environment. JSSCACS must be a responsible steward of the environment. As such, the College will seek:

- 1) to reduce the rate at which it contributes to the depletion and degradation of natural resources;
- 2) to increase the use of renewable resources; and
- 3) to consider other measures that can enhance the physical environment in which we live.

The development of priorities and the implementation of decisions regarding energy production and use, the use and development of our grounds, facilities construction, modernization, maintenance, and materials use will be informed by the environmental impact they have. The experts and officials will periodically advise the community of the College's progress in this area.

I. USE OF ENERGY

As an institution of higher education, JSSCACS has a special obligation to be proactive and responsible in its management of energy. Consequently, it will pursue two long-term goals. Specifically, the College will substantially reduce energy use and will achieve "carbon neutrality", a condition whereby the release of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases through all activities associated with College operations is balanced by other activities that remove carbon from the atmosphere. Carbon neutrality on a planetary scale is essential to stabilize global climate, and its achievement is one of the greatest challenges to the survival of humankind as we know it. The college is not much depended on fossil fuels to do the operations. The green energy sources such as solar plants are actively functioning with almost zero generation of the waste.

II. FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION, MODERNIZATION, AND MAINTENANCE

Facilities construction, modernization, and maintenance must be considered in any campus-wide environmental plan. Consequently, JSSCACS made to program, construct, and operate buildings in ways that maximize resource-use efficiency, utilize energy generated from renewable sources, manage storm water effectively, and generally minimize the adverse impacts certain of its operations may have on humans and the natural environment.

III. TRANSPORTATION

JSSCACS encourages the administrators, faculty, staff and students to use public transportation to save energy and to contribute their own in reducing the pollution. However, the staff members are adopted using bicycles, two-wheelers, cars with more consciousness about the usage of fuels and consequences of burning. Appropriate parking facility is available in the college campus with adequate green atmosphere to avoid the drying of fuels. Moreover, a strong link between transportation use and environmental quality provides an ideal opportunity to educate JSSCACS students, faculty, and staff about environmental responsibility. In view of the very recent developments and recommendations by the Union Govt., the college is creating awareness among all the stakeholders to use electric vehicles in the forthcoming days for environmental protection. The college is using electric vehicles of its Management.

IV. GROUNDS

JSSCACS maintains about 7.08 acres of land and of which less than 50% of the area has been utilized for building of facilities. Spaces such as athletic fields, botanical gardens, rain water harvesting facilities, green facilities etc are for sustainable practices. However, most of the central campus is managed to be on at the top for natural habitats. The entire campus can be maintained in ways that minimize or eliminate dependence on nonrenewable energy sources and environmentally harmful chemicals. It is taken care always to generate only very less waste and not to dispose

the waste to the ground either in the campus or outside.

V. PURCHASING, REUSE AND RECYCLE

JSSCACS manages to purchase only essential and innocuous things through proper channel. Steps are taken to reuse the materials including water, leaves, papers etc. The solid wastes are treated appropriately to convert and to reuse for various purposes. The used papers are managed to dispose through NGOs with the objective of recycling.

IMPLEMENTATION

Good policies are most likely to succeed when executed by dedicated individuals well versed in the principles that underlie those policies. In order to implement the policies contained in this document, the College must therefore educate the individuals responsible for its operations and actively encourage the culture necessary to achieve compliance across the campus community. To this end, the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC) recommends that the College proceed by adopting the principles such as:

- Commit to Campus-wide Environmental Education
- Annual assessment of performance by adopting principles and objectives of EP
- Designating a Staff Position for Environmental Policy Implementation
- Network with Peer Institutions and Environmental Advisory Groups
- The Continuing Role of the EPAC
- Exclusive budget for maintenance of environmental standards in the campus



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