7.2.6 Green campus policy

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Sri Krishna College of Engineering and Technology is recognized for its "Clean and Green" campus, where a harmonious blend of environmentally friendly practices and education fosters a culture of sustainability and eco-friendly initiatives. The Green Campus and Environment Policy aim to introduce innovative co-curricular and extracurricular initiatives, inspiring students and staff to actively lead and contribute to positive change. The green campus concept offers an opportunity to take the lead in redefining its environmental culture and developing new paradigms by creating sustainable solutions to environmental, social and economic needs of mankind.

Policy Statement

- Promote environmental consciousness and sustainability among the stakeholders and the neighborhood community.
- Enhancing campus air quality is prioritized through multiple measures, including the use of environmentally friendly vehicles, urging stakeholders to opt for public transportation, and implementing restricted vehicle entry barriers within the campus.
- Establish and maintain rain water harvesting structures to maximize the ground water recharging capacity of the runoff.
- Regular tree plantation drives to improve the green cover in the campus.
- Security personnel monitor the entrance of the college, contributing to the seamless functioning of pedestrian facilities.
- The college campus promotes sustainability by replacing traditional fuels like coal and oil with renewable energy sources. Biogas, generated from organic waste, is used as a clean and efficient energy alternative for cooking and heating, contributing to waste management. Electric vehicles (E-vehicles) are utilized for campus transportation, significantly reducing carbon emissions and dependence on fossil fuels. Solar water heaters provide hot water by harnessing sunlight, minimizing electricity usage and promoting energy

conservation. These initiatives reflect the campus's commitment to environmental responsibility, demonstrating practical applications of renewable energy while inspiring students and staff to adopt eco-friendly practices in their lives.

- Raise awareness and seek the adoption of environmental good practice and the reduction of any adverse effects on the environment.
- Raise the awareness by organizing seminars, debates and activities focused on climate change, environmental protection and various environmental issues.

Scope of the Policy

- The Green Campus Policy will develop exciting new co-curricular and extracurricular practices that encourage students and staff to take the lead in creating positive change.
- The initiatives necessitate a comprehensive review of all infrastructural and administrative functions, emphasizing energy efficiency, sustainability, and environmental considerations.

Objectives of the Policy

- To encourage students to keep the environment clean.
- To educate students to create awareness amongst the public.
- To make students understand the importance of the environment and its problem areas.
- To protect and conserve ecological systems and resources within the campus.
- To ensure judicious use of environmental resources to meet the needs and aspirations of the present and future generations.
- To integrate environmental concerns into policies, plans and programmes for social development and outreach activities.
- ·To collaborate with all stakeholders and the local community, fostering awareness and advocating for the adoption of environmentally sound practices while minimizing adverse effects on the environment.

- To consistently enhance efforts in contributing to climate protection, adapting to climate change, and preserving global resources.
- To efficiently utilize all resources, including energy and water, with a focus on minimizing waste generation.
- To be a plastic-free campus.
- To periodically conduct environmental and energy audits for assessment and improvement purposes.
- To implement paperless practices.
- To adopt new initiatives implemented by regulatory agencies through Government schemes.

Policy Guidelines

- The Policy will be reviewed, once every five years or earlier subject to matter of exigencies, as the case may be.
- The policy will be reviewed with the sole intent of understanding the efficacy of (i) implementing sustainable 'Green Campus' practices in the institution and (ii) its facilities for creating an infrastructure for developing and strengthening implementation, provisions and operations including the aspects of resource usage, building infrastructure, transportation, use of services, advent of local, national and international regulations and standards.
- To this extent institution will facilitate the active participation of its stakeholders, particularly students, faculty, administrators and staff as well as external organizations in the implementation of this policy.

Policy Procedures

- To raise awareness among students and encourage them to minimize the use of polluting products.
- To inspire students to embrace environmental friendly practices, such as using paper bags and conserving electricity.

Policy Outcomes

- Awareness is disseminated regarding the hazards that are adversely impacting the environment.
- Students and teachers realize their individual responsibilities to save the environment.

Carbon Neutral Initiatives

The following are the initiatives to reduce the Carbon Footprint in the Institution:

- Assessments of the Campus Carbon Footprint to analyze inventory and implement initiatives to minimize emissions.
- Use of electric vehicles by staffs, students and visitors to commute inside the campus.
- Expanding the campus green cover by planting appropriate species that can counterbalance carbon emissions within the campus community.

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Note:
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