

The Green Campus Policy of the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences

I. Introduction

The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata is an academic community committed to the pursuit of knowledge, wisdom, discovery, and creativity. Its mission is to provide student-centric education and foster personal and intellectual growth to prepare students for productive careers, meaningful lives, and responsible citizenship in a global society. The university envisions a **Clean and Green Campus** where environmentally friendly practices and education combine to promote sustainable and eco-friendly practices in the campus and beyond the campus.

II. Green Campus Policy

The Green Campus Policy offers the institution an opportunity to take the lead in redefining its environmental culture through instilling environmental ethics among students and staff. The Institute also promotes clean and green campus through adopting, practicing and promoting environmentally friendly practices among students and staff to generate environmental consciousness among them and in the world around them. Although establishment and maintenance of green campus is important, spreading awareness on the green practices among students and educating stakeholders is the priority of the university.

III. The Nature Committee

The NUJS Nature Committee is a student run society based out of the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata. Established in 2018, the society aims to create a healthier and greener life at the university by facilitating biological diversity and promoting an eco-friendly environment in and around the campus. Its policy has always been to create a green, clean and sustainable campus.

IV. Vision

The vision of the university is to create awareness about the significance of eco-friendly practices and conservation of nature among the students, faculty and public.

V. Mission

- To bring awareness among everyone on campus about the hazardous impacts of destruction of the environment and why eco-friendly habits are important.
- To help everyone on campus understand their responsibility to take an initiative to protect and save the environment.
- To help everyone on campus take small steps in saving and protecting the environment.
- To encourage and sensitise everyone on campus to keep the environment clean.
- To educate students to create awareness amongst the public

VI. Objectives of the GREEN POLICY

- To impart understanding about the importance of environment in students and all stakeholders and their accountability to take environment friendly initiatives to save the environment.
- To work with all stakeholders and the local community to raise awareness and seek the adoption of environmental good practice and the reduction of any adverse effects on the environment.
- To facilitate students, take small steps in protecting and conserving the environment and sustain natural 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 continuously improve our contribution to climate protection and adaptation to climate change and to the conservation of global resources.
- To audit and continuously improve the efficient use of all resources, including energy and water, and to reduce consumption and the amount of waste produced, recovering and recycling waste where possible.
- To make the campus plastic free.

VII. Approaches to achieve GREEN POLICY

- To sensitize the students/Faculty's to minimize the use of polluting product.

- To increase the usage of renewable sources of energy such as
 - improvising the solar plant
 - implementation of biogas plant
 - usage of automatic cut off system with sensors
 - Replacing CFL bulbs with LED bulbs, etc.
- To improvise the waste handling methods so that the waste disposed from University campus do not create any sort of pollution to the environment. The waste includes solid waste of all form from the campus, liquid waste, biomedical waste, hazardous chemicals from laboratories, etc.
- The E-waste of the university must be properly handed over to approved E-waste handling agencies so that they do properly discard and dispose them.
- The water conservation facilities of the university such as
 - rainwater harvesting pits
 - surface water conserving facility
 - recycling the waste water from campus
 - proper water distribution system in the campus
- To motivate students/Faculty's to adopt environment friendly practices which include paper bags, save electricity, etc.
- Improving the green system of the campus in all aspects such as
 - To reduce the use of vehicles in order to save non-renewable source of energy
 - To gradually decrease and attain the zero point of usage of single use plastics.

VIII. Outcomes of the GREEN POLICY

- Awareness is created about the hazards that are spoiling the environment.
- Students and teachers realize their individual responsibilities to save the environment.
- Fuel are saved for the next generation
- Plastic free environment is created and awareness of avoiding plastics are imparted.

IX. Environmental Policy of the Campus

The university is committed to managing its campus in accordance with responsibilities towards promoting sustainable environment in accordance with its Clean and Green Campus Policy by establishing the following infrastructure and carrying out the following activities:

- a. Green Environment and Clean Campus
- b. Afforestation
- c. Waste Management
- d. E-Waste Management
- e. Water Conservation and Management
- f. Beautification
- g. Electricity/Energy Conservation
- h. Paperless Operating Procedure
- i. Spreading Awareness
- j. Reduction of Plastic Usage
- k. Ban on Single-Use Plastic
- l. Installation of Vermicompost Pit and Shredders
- m. Restricted Entry of Automobiles

a. Green Environment and Clean Campus

The students/Faculty are given strict instructions to maintain the campus clean and it is reflected in their handbooks. Several posters related to the importance of clean and green environment are displayed on the campus. A gardener and full-time adequate support staff are appointed for the maintenance of litter free clean and Green Campus The Nature Committee has always aimed to create a green and clean campus.

b. Afforestation

Afforestation is important to combat global warming, soil erosion, pollution, and the maintenance of biodiversity and ecological balances The university has conducted various plantation drives to improve biological diversity and aims to plant more indigenous species. A Plantation Drive was conducted in July 2019. With the support of the general body, 60 saplings were planted. In 2019, new initiative "Pot Pets" was started, where baby saplings were handed over and students must take care of their plant. The Nature Committee successfully conducted three Seasons of this initiative. Two seasons were for the students (one each semester) and ONE was for the teachers on the occasion of Teacher's Day 2019. Another initiative taken up was "Guest Plantation". Here the Nature Committee invites the guests, who visit our college, to plant a sapling. By virtue of the Office order (initiated by NATCOM), the Nature Committee also procured 20 trucks of topsoil for our campus. The motive was to protect the roots of the trees. On the occasion of World Environment Day, 5th

June 2021, the Nature Committee organized a small ceremony of planting a sapling in the campus as a part of our 'Green Campus Initiative'. The Nature Committee collaborated with SJA and Lions International for a 'Pan-India Tree Plantation Drive – 21,000 Trees: 2021'. They asked the members of the GB to participate by planting a tree and sending us a picture of it. On Independence Day, the Nature Committee organized a small plantation ceremony on the NUJS campus as a part of the Committee's efforts to create a Green Campus. 10-15 saplings were planted on the campus.

c. Waste Management

The West Bengal National University of Juridical sciences strives to have a minimal impact on the environment and is dedicated to reducing and manage the waste generated. The Nature Committee has installed the "Reuse Racks" outside the library, where one can drop/ take any module/notes they wish to take or give. They timely arrange it in alphabetical order for everyone's convenience. They timely conducted collection drives for collecting paper waste so that it can be recycled. Vital Waste is the company the Nature Committee has a tie-up with, which recycles all the metal/electronic/paper/plastic waste on campus. The money they get from the recycling is distributed equally among the house keeping staff. The Nature Committee has also initiated the process of disposing all the broken furniture (tables, chairs, windows, doors, etc.), pipes, old e-waste (computers, fans, water coolers, etc) which is lying here and there on campus. The Nature Committee has proposed for constructing a sustainable and cost-effective Compost Pit on campus, in order to dispose-off the kitchen and leaf waste. [Work is under process]. Another initiative taken up by the Nature Committee is the "Shelf to Shelf" project. We extended the concept of Reuse here. On a Facebook page platform students can sell/lend/borrow/purchase/exchange anything they need or don't need. (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/192692624902867/>) The Nature Committee has installed blue and green dustbins for segregating dry and wet waste (respectively) all around the campus in September 2021. Two large dustbins (1100 Liters) were also installed. The Nature Committee has renewed the MoU with the Vital Waste Company for recycling hostel and other student-generated waste. The Nature Committee collaborated with Vital Waste to undertake the work of disposing of paper/plastic/e-waste/metal organic waste/academic waste from the campus.

d. E-Waste Management

The Nature Committee has conducted "E-Waste" collection drive, for the disposal of the e-waste on campus.

e. Water Conservation and Management

The Nature Committee timely contacts the Plumber to keep a check on taps/pipes which are leaking and repair them as soon as possible. Stickers/posters have been pasted above all the taps and water coolers as a part of the awareness campaign to save water. After everyone's agreement, Holi 2020 did not use sprinklers for rain dance, and around 20k Liters of water was saved. Aerators have been installed on all the sink taps in order to save water.

Tap aerators have been installed in the hostels (on taps in the dishwashing area) to conserve water.

f. Beautification

Two plants have been placed outside every classroom. "Fun Painting Sunday" was successfully conducted. With this, the lane behind the boy's hostel is beautified. With the installation of the two large dustbins, the problem of garbage dumping behind the hostels has also been sorted. After which we will plant trees in that area to make it hygienic. "Name Plates" have been installed for almost every species of trees on campus. "Bird Feeder" has been installed (made from old plastic water bottles) in the girls' hostel.

g. Electricity/Energy Conservation

The Nature Committee initiated the process of installing the "Main Power Switch" outside each classroom in order to conserve electricity. When one sees that there is no one in the classroom, he/she can switch off this "Single Power Switch" which will cut the electricity supply of that classroom. All the switches have been labeled with the classroom number for convenience. In the Office Order, the Nature Committee requested VC Sir to repair/reinstall the solar panel, in order to increase the use of renewable energy. [The same is under process].

h. Paperless Operating Procedure

On the request of the Nature Committee, the Moot Court Society has abolished the hard copy submissions during moot internals. There was no paper strike during the Investiture Ceremony, which saved a lot of paper. After the office order came into force, maximum teachers did away with the hard copy submissions.

i. Spreading Awareness

The university aims to create awareness on environmental issues to combat the ill-effects of pollution, global warming, etc. The Nature Committee has collaborated with Better Bets Foundation (NGO based in Kolkata) and Vital Waste Company and organized a small awareness and training session on the 'Importance of Waste Management'. A session was conducted with Mr. Virendra Rawat, the founder of Green Mentors on the importance of a sustainable campus.

j. Reduction of Plastic Usage

The NUJS Canteen has replaced polythene bags, plastic spoons/forks, plastic plates/tissues, thermocol bowls and cold drink plastic bottles with biodegradable bags, wooden/steel spoons and forks, paper plates and tissues plus reusable cutlery, paper leaf bowls, tetra pack/tin cans of cold drinks respectively. Additionally, they have also stopped the sale of Rs. 10 water bottles which amounts to a lot of plastic waste. NUJS Mess also stopped using/giving plastic plates, glasses, spoons, etc. The Nature Committee conducted "Say NO to Plastic Campaign" on campus where they distributed Cloth bags in exchange of plastic materials. Students also took a pledge to reduce the usage of plastic as much as they can. The Nature Committee has encouraged the teachers and the staff members to reduce the usage of plastic.

k. Ban on Single-Use Plastic on Campus

Single-use Plastic has been banned on campus (by virtue of the office order).

l. Installation of Vermicompost and Shredders

Vermicomposting is a process that relies on earthworms and microorganisms to help stabilize active organic materials and convert them to a valuable soil amendment and source of plant nutrients. Earthworms will consume most organic materials, including food preparation residuals and leftovers, scrap paper, animal manure, agricultural crop residues, organic byproducts from industries, and yard trimmings. The university has installed vermicompost in the back of the girl's hostel due to its several benefits. Shredders have also been installed on the campus.

m. Restricted Entry of Automobiles of Students

Patterns of parking and driving around campus have significant effects on campus life and the environment at large. The parking of student's vehicles has been restricted. This will create less vehicular emissions and will encourage students to use public transportation.

n.k. Chakrabarti
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Signature of Vice Chancellor,

Prof (Dr) Nirmal Kanti Chakrabarti,

The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences.

Prof. (Dr.) Nirmal Kanti Chakrabarti
Vice-Chancellor
The WB National University of Juridical Sciences
"Dr. Ambedkar Bhavan", 12, LB Block, Sec-III
Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700 106
E-Mail- vc@nujs.edu

