

# **KARPAGAM ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

(Deemed to be University) (Established Under Section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

Pollachi Main Road, Eachanari Post, Coimbatore - 641 021, Tamil Nadu, India. Phone: 0422 - 2980011- 14 | Fax: 0422 - 2980022 | Email : info@kahedu.edu.in

## 7.1.5. Policy Document on Green Campus Initiative and Circulars

- 1. Policy Document
- 2. Circular for Ban on use of Plastic
- 3. Circular for Restricted entry of Vehicles

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REGISTRAR Karpagam Academy of Higher Education (Deemed to be University Under Section 3 of UGC Act 1956) Pollachi Main Road, Eachanari Post, Coimbatore - 641 021.



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### Criteria 7.1.5

#### Green campus initiatives include

7.1.5.1. The institutional initiatives for greening the campus are as follows:

#### **Policy Document on the Green Campus**

#### **Green Campus Initiatives**

Globally challenging environmental problems are faced every day. The five major environmental problems are global warming, desertification, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and disposal of wastes. To address these issues, implementing green concepts and technologies in campus is very much important for sustainable environment for preserving the natural sources. As a first step of green initiative in campus, development of policy involving faculty members, non teaching staff and students of Karpagam Academy of Higher Education was done. Following are the practices/initiatives considered for the environment friendly, cleaner, safer and healthier campus to live and work.

- 1. Recycling of waste water
- 2. Rain water harvesting
- 3. Preserving greenery
- 4. Saving energy
- 5. Smoke and tobacco free campus
- 6. Creating plastic free campus
- 7. Reducing paper usage
- 8. Pedestrian friendly pathway
- 9. Restricted entry of automobiles
- 10. Encouraging environmental projects

#### Liquid waste management

Liquid wastes include wastewater, fats, oils or grease, used oil, liquids, sludges and hazardous household liquids. We follow 3R (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) principle within the premises that helps to minimize the waste generated and thus helps to keep sustainable environment. It is highly challenging to manage the wastes because of their varieties. Unlike solid wastes it is difficult to process liquid wastes.

#### Waste water Treatment Plant

To remove harmful contaminants from waste water, it is essential to treat it. Sewage water from hostel blocks is treated with KAHE waste water treatment plant which has 3.5 L recycling capacity per day. The treated water is utilized effectively for landscape irrigation. Current technology is used to treat the waste water and the analysis of treated water is being done at periodic intervals to make sure that the efficiency of processing is good.

#### Solid waste management

Types of Solid wastes as per the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, are solid or semi solid domestic waste, sanitary waste, commercial waste, institutional waste, catering and market waste and other non-residential wastes, street sweepings, silt removed or collected from surface drains, horticulture waste, agriculture and dairy waste, treated bio-medical waste excluding industrial waste, bio-medical waste and e-waste, battery waste, radio-active waste generated in the area under the local authorities. As per the rules, the local bodies are responsible for the collection, treatment and disposal of solid wastes. KAHE has made necessary arrangements to dispose the solid wastes produced within the campus.

#### **E-Waste**

Electronic and Communication Technology advancements result in increased use of electronic devices and equipment accumulate huge amount of Electronic Waste (E-waste) which is becoming one of the emerging problems throughout the world. India stands fifth place in producing e waste. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) approved Extended Producer Responsibility EPR Authorization plan in India. As per the EPR policy, the manufacturers should take responsibility in collecting and processing the products upon their end of life time.

The major e waste from KAHE are old computers, printer cartridges, used phones, wires, and fans. To avoid harmful, toxic heavy metals leaching into soil, KAHE has a separate e-waste collection and storage system. Recently KAHE signed MoU with the e-waste recyclers, Green Era Recyclers to effectively process the e-waste.

#### **Reducing Paper Usage**

Minimizing the usage of paper will save several trees that help to keep our environment healthy. In addition, there will be reduction in the production of solid waste. KAHE has made enough efforts to make paperless communication. Smart staff app has been developed and used by faculty to avail leaves and permissions. Students attendance and mark entries are automated. Online examination, online feedback, google classrooms, e moodle are beingly effectively used by our faculty and students.

#### **Creating Plastic Free Campus**

KAHE intend to keep our campus plastic free for which institute has Eco-club and through which many awareness camps have been conducted to make our students and faculty to realize the importance of avoiding usage of plastics. Replacing the plastic items by biodegradable cups and plates, in the canteens and hostel mess has been initiated. Circulars for implementation of the plastic free environment in the campus have been sent.

#### **Other practices**

#### **Restricted Entry of Automobiles**

Automobiles create air contamination which will create health issues. Green house gas emissions especially in motor vehicle carbondioxide emission will lead to global warming. Restricting the entry of Two wheelers and four wheelers to the campus minimizes the environmental issues. KAHE restricts the entry of automobiles on campus to reduce air pollution on campus.

#### **Environment Friendly Sanitary Napkin Disposal**

Sanitary napkins have tremendous impact on environmental pollution which is due to the plastic material that takes around 500-800 years to decompose. All over the world around thousands of tons of disposable sanitary waste is being generated every month. In India, around 400 million sanitary napkins are generated annually. Plastic based napkins are not only create environmental issues but it affects female health as well. Indian Government's Central pollution control board

of India, recommended guidelines to dispose sanitary napkins that include use of incinerators and deep burial of materials. KAHE follows the environment friendly disposable of sanitary napkin. Girls hostels are equipped with sanitizer for the safe disposable of napkins.

#### **Smoke and Tobacco Free Campus**

To promote the health and wellbeing of students, faculty, non-teaching staff, and guests on campus, KAHE has anti-smoke, tobacco free campus policies. As per The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 or COTPA, 2003 section 6,

- a) Display of Board All Educational Institutions should have a board on their boundary wall or at the entrance of their premises. The board should state prominently that "Sale of Cigarette or any Other Tobacco Products in an area within the radius of 100 yards of the Educational Institution is strictly prohibited; the offence is punishable with a fine upto Rs. 200".
- b) Measurement of the distance: Distance of 100 yards shall be measured radially from the Outer Limit of Boundary Wall / fence or as the case may be, of the Educational Institution, for the location of a tobacco vendor or point of sale.

#### **Hazardous Management**

As per the Hazardous and Other wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement Rules, 2016), "hazardous waste" means any waste which by reason of characteristics such as physical, chemical, biological, reactive, toxic, flammable, explosive or corrosive, causes danger or is likely to cause danger to health or environment, whether alone or in contact with other wastes or substances.

For the management of hazardous and other wastes, an occupier shall follow the following steps, namely:-

- (a) prevention;
- (b) minimization;
- (c) reuse,
- (d) recycling;
- (e) recovery, utilisation including co-processing;
- (f) safe disposal.

UGC has prepared guidelines (September 2010) for universities and colleges for procurement of storage, usage, and disposal of radioactive and other hazardous materials/chemicals. We follow the set rules (as per Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, AERB) to handle, store and dispose radioisotopes and other hazardous materials used in research laboratories. Activities concerning hazardous materials/chemicals are regulated by "Hazardous Waste Management and Handling Rules 1989" of Ministry of Environment and forests.

#### **Standard Operating Procedure**

Depending on the use of radioisotopes, hazardous chemicals, SOPS should be prepared and displayed in English and vernacular language in the research laboratories

#### **Disposable of Radioactive wastes (as per the UGC guidelines)**

Since the educational institutes handle small quantities of radioisotopes, conditions and procedure for disposal of radioactive waste are provided in UGC guidelines. An authorized person may discharge radioactive waste into a sanitary sewage system, provided

- a. The waste is readily soluble or dispersible in water
- b. The gross quantity of radioactive material released into the sewage systems by the institution does not exceed 37 GBq per year.

#### Use of Bicycles as an environmental friendly transportation facility

As per IGBC Green campus rating system, for 25 campus occupants minimum 1 bicycle should be provided to commute Provide bicycles for campus occupants to commute within or outside the campus, as an environmental friendly transportation facility.

#### **Sustainable Building Policy**

For new building spaces including addition to existing building, sustainable design features are being implemented. Use of non toxic, renewable, recycled materials for construction, smart usage of water and energy are being taken care. Total energy usage for new building must meet the building standards.

#### **Evaluation of Success of the Green Initiative**

Periodic environmental audits evaluate the success of the green campus initiatives and help to identify the areas to be strengthened to achieve our goals and commitment towards sustainable environment.

#### **Rain water Harvesting**

Rainwater Harvesting system has been designed and implemented as per rainwater harvesting guidelines from the national building code (NBC) of India. Collection tanks are provided. Innovative methods like sprinkling are followed for watering that reduce water demand for irrigation.

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No: KAHE/R-Acad/E1/No Plastic/2020/ 708

## CIRCULAR

I am, by direction, to inform that, usage of all plastic items such as cups, straws, plastic bottles, plastic bags are strictly prohibited in the Institution campus with immediate effect.

REGISTRAR

11.02.2020

То

All the Deans & Heads of the Departments.

2020

(With a request to circulate among all the students of your department)

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No: KAHE/R-Acad/E1/Green Campus/2020/707

11.02.2020

#### CIRCULAR

I am, by direction, to inform that as a part of green campus, to reduce  $CO_2$  emission, automobile entry is strictly prohibited inside the Institution campus. This order comes into immediate effect.

То

All the Deans & Heads of the Departments.

(With a request to circulate among all the students of your department)



