



Environmental Audit Report

2nd July 2023



Oriental Education Society's
Oriental College of Education
Sanpada (West), Navi Mumbai
Maharashtra
(Estd2003)

Sneha
Dr. Sangeeta Nath
Principal
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Prism Environmental Research & Solutions is grateful to the authorities of Oriental Education Societies **Oriental College of Education** for providing an opportunity to conduct a Green Audit at the College.

We are thankful to Principal Dr Sangeeta Nath who showed confidence in entrusting this work to our team. IQAC Coordinator Asst. Prof Tejal Nikam, Green Audit in-charge played a pivotal role in the conduct of the Green Audit and we wish to express our gratitude to them for their whole-hearted cooperation. We are thankful to the Green Audit team and the student volunteers for providing the necessary inputs for the Audit.

We are appreciative of all others who directly or indirectly contributed to the Audit. We have done our level best and hope that the recommendations given in this Audit Report shall be implemented to make the College Campus greener and achieve its sustainability goals.

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Environmental Research & Solutions

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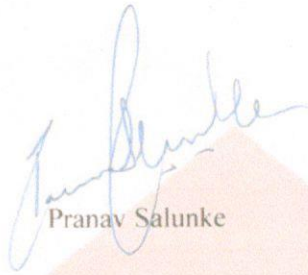
Certificate

This is to certify that all information provided in this Report is true and to the best of our knowledge. Errors, if any, may be purely accidental.

The Green Audit is officially being submitted to the Management of Oriental Education Society's Oriental College of Education, Navi Mumbai today.

Dated: 2nd July 2023

Submitted by:



Pranav Salunke

PRISM
Environmental Research & Solutions

Authorized Signatory
For Prism Environmental Research & Solutions

Acknowledged by on behalf of Oriental College of Education, Sanpada, Navi Mumbai

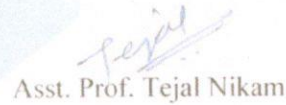


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Principal

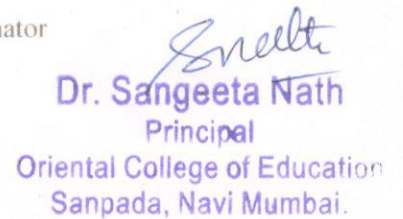
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INTRODUCTION

While the world stands at crossroads of environmentalism and climate change; and resource exploitation, it becomes crucial to verify the processes in practice and convert them into green and clean ones, wherever required. Environment Audit provides a direction towards assessment and improvement in this context.

An Environmental Audit aims to analyze environmental practices within and outside the college/university campuses, which have direct impact on the stakeholders. Environment audit can be defined as systematic identification, quantification, recording, reporting and analysis of components of the given environment of a specific domain. It is initiated with a motive of inspecting efforts within the institutions whose exercises can impact the health of inhabitants as well as the environment. An environment audit aims to shed light on the existing environmental consciousness of the institution and to identify areas of concern, if any and offer suitable recommendations.

1.1 NEED FOR ENVIRONMENT AUDITING

Environment auditing is the process of identifying and determining whether institutional policies and practices are environment friendly and sustainable. Environmental Auditing becomes necessary in order to make sure that the institution is proactive and competent enough at addressing specific environmental challenges and goals; and finding out opportunities to improve environmental performance.

It becomes necessary for an institute that imparts education, to have the right approach towards conserving and preserving resources; so as to not only meet the desired level of Green consciousness but also to set an example for its students and other stakeholders towards preserving the Earth's resources and adopting a sustainable way of life.

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

- To examine current practices such as of resource utilization, waste management, etc.
- To identify and analyze significant environmental issues, if any.
- Set up goal, vision, and mission for environment practices in campus.
- Establish and implement Environmental Management System in various departments.
- Continuous assessment for betterment of environment on the campus.
- Sustainable use of natural resource in the campus.
- Financial savings through a reduction in resource use
- Curriculum enrichment through practical experience
- Development of ownership, personal and social responsibility for the College campus and its environment
- Developing an environmental ethic and value system among students.

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2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT OF OCE

The audit is a tool to monitor environmental compliance of the Institution and find gaps, if any; and recommend suitable strategies to overcome the gaps. Several observations made during the audit at Oriental College of Education are mentioned below:

Overall Information pertaining to OCE

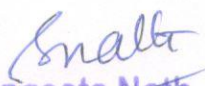
The College was established in 2003 by the Late Prof. Javed Khan, a renowned philanthropist, educationist and founder of the college. This year the college has completed 20 years of its useful and beneficial existence.

The College is affiliated to the University of Mumbai for the teaching course of the Two year B.Ed. Programme.

The College is located in Sanpada, Navi Mumbai, near Sanpada Railway Station. It is therefore easily accessible by train and bus.

The College aims at training students in the field of Education and developing their overall personality, so that they become assets to the future generation and to the society. To achieve this, the College has organized and conducted numerous co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

OCE has approximately 175 students in the B.Ed programme for the Academic Year 2023-24. The overall average student-teacher ratio stands at 1:15. Apart from academics, the college encourages several co-curricular activities. In an on-going programme, the college endeavours to help students in their overall development.


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2.1 INFRASTRUCTURE/ CAMPUS

- The main building of the College is a seven-floor building. A canteen and a Gymkhana is present in the campus main building.
- The classrooms and corridors are kept clean and they are well-lit. Classrooms are spacious and airy.
- The College Campus has an open space adjacent to the main building. At times this open space is used for events and celebrations that require Students' Gathering/Assembly, while rest of the times it is used by students to play badminton, volleyball, etc.
- The campus has 30 trees and a couple of shrubs and medicinal ornamental plants.
- There is gardener allocated to take care of the gardens in the campus, watering of the plants and clipping off the broken branches whenever necessary.
- Students and staff have access to clean drinking water which they obtain from the water filters existing on each floor. This leads to reduced consumption of bottled water, thus minimizing plastic waste on the campus.

2.1.1 Waste Management

With reference to Waste Management the following observations were made:

- Waste generated in college canteen is dumped in the nearest municipal bin.
- Kitchen waste is partly dumped in the compost pit existing at the south-western corner of the campus.
- Whereas plant litter is collected and dropped in the pipe compost pits that exist on the campus. Culturing of the pits is done regularly and the compost generated is used as manure on the campus itself.
- Classrooms are cleaned daily but within the premises students are encouraged to use the garbage bins placed on every floor.
- Several programs and special lectures have been organized to sensitize students about waste management and sustainable living.

2.2 Environment-friendly activities involving students

OCE through its various clubs and committees regularly undertakes several student-related and outreach activities which are inclined towards protecting nature. Mentioned below are some of the environment-friendly activities carried out on the College Campus: -

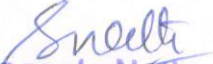
- Organized special lectures on the topic Health and Hygiene, in collaboration with a local NGR Rotary Club of Millennium City, Sanpada.

- Workshops done on making of paper bags and the same was distributed among the

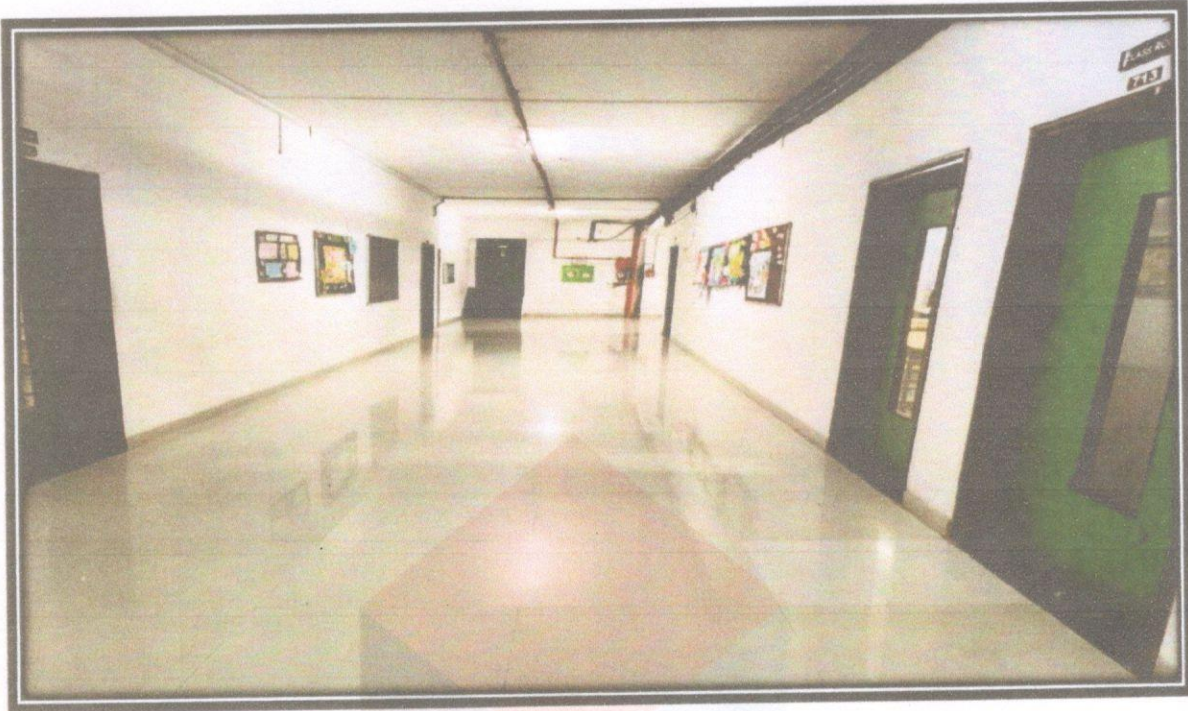
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during this rally and tried to create awareness among the neighbouring vendors as well as the shoppers about restricting usage of plastic bags.

- Tree plantation drives have been carried out in the campus to increase the green cover of the campus.
- Taking into consideration E-waste Management Drive was carried out in order to sensitize students as well as the establishments in the vicinity of the campus to understand the hazardous nature of e-waste and the necessity of disposing it off in a safe manner.
- Compost pits have been installed in the college garden area. Students were given a demo of installing and filling in the garden waste into the pits. This activity had a double benefit— creating awareness among students as well as to enrich the garden soil naturally.
- OCE celebrated World Environment Day by making paper bags and other festivals are encouraged by OCE in the vicinity of the College. OCE has also begun a digital promotion on social media platform for eco-friendly celebration of festivals.
- A Nature Club formed and they organized various programme showing the importance of sustainable lifestyle.
- LED lights are used in the college building so that per unit consumption of electricity can be kept under control
- At the end of the day's lectures, students themselves switch off all electrical appliances and then leave their respective classrooms
- Solar-operated bulbs are placed in college premises.
- It has been decided to plant more trees in the college campus buildings of the Institute can offset its carbon footprint as much as possible.


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2.4. Supporting Evidence - Pictures



Pic.1 Corridors remain clean and well-lit at all times

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Pic.2.Guest Lecture on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability



Pic3: Guest lecture on Climate Change

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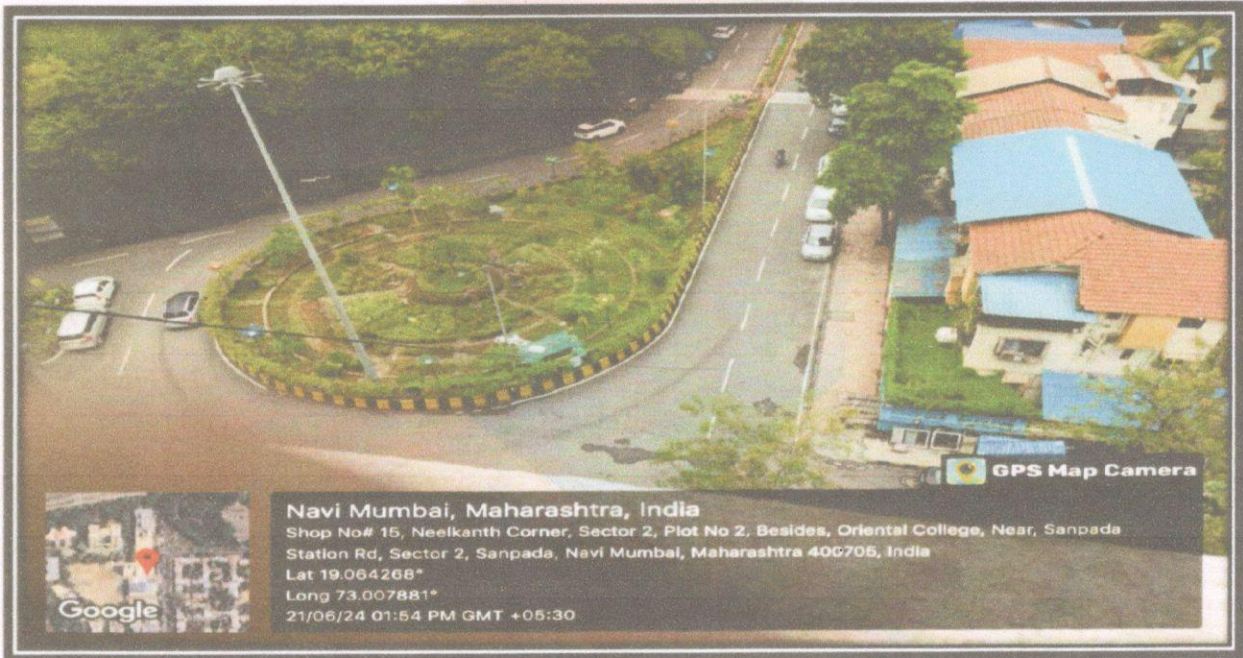
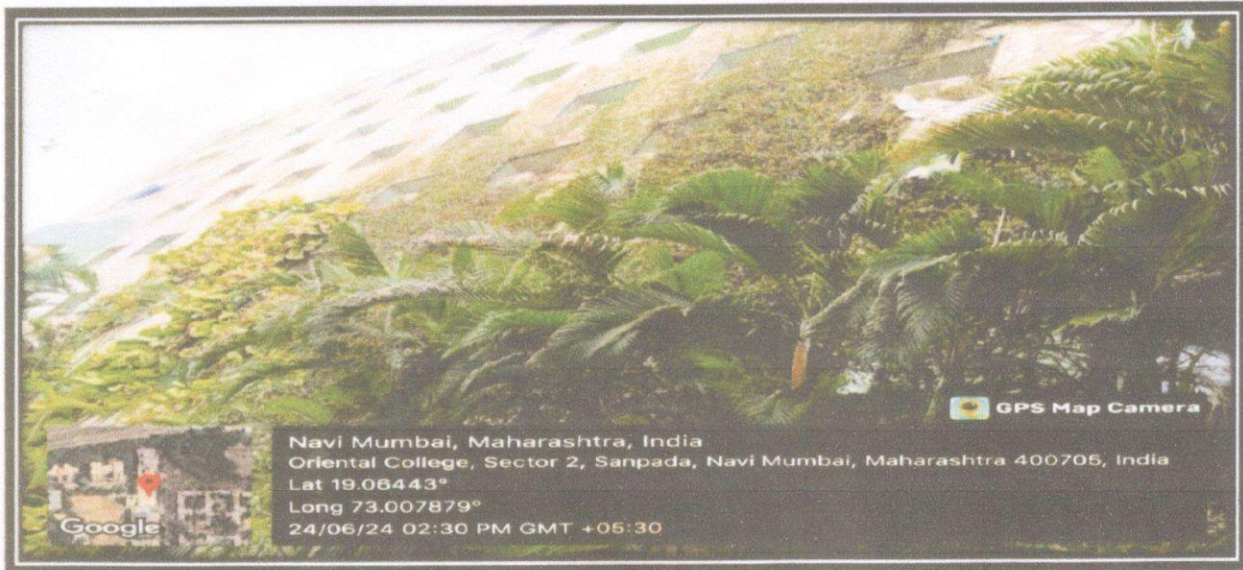


Pic.4 Tree plantation in the college campus by students



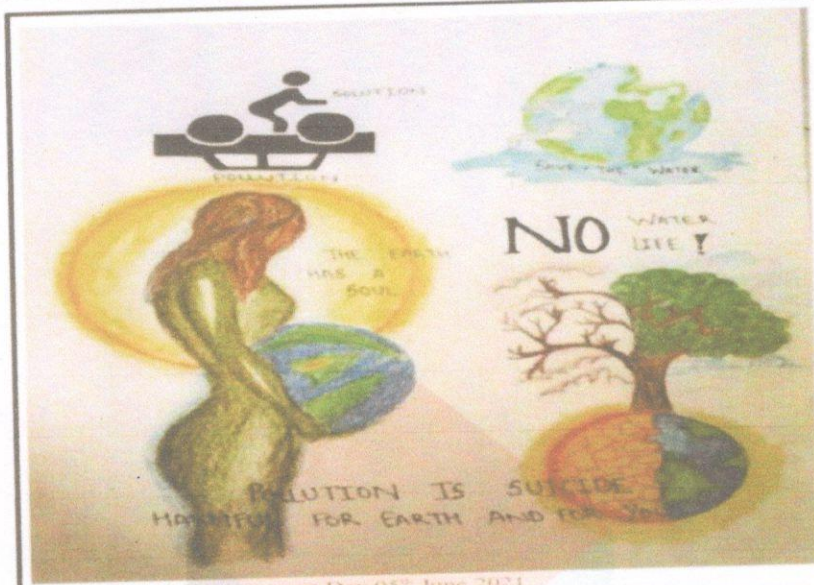
Pic5. Students cleaning up plant litter

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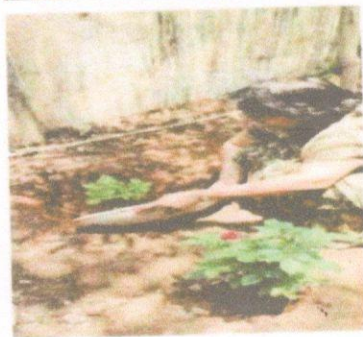
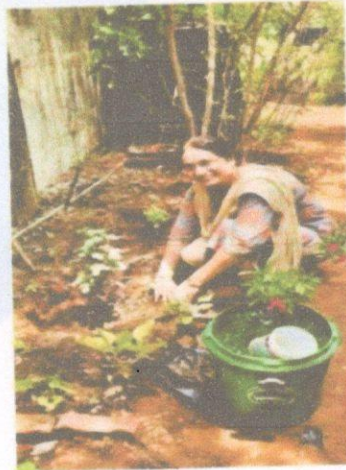
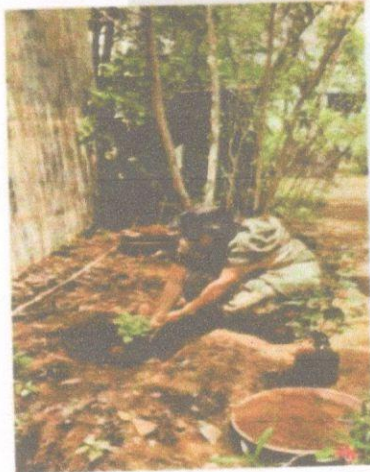


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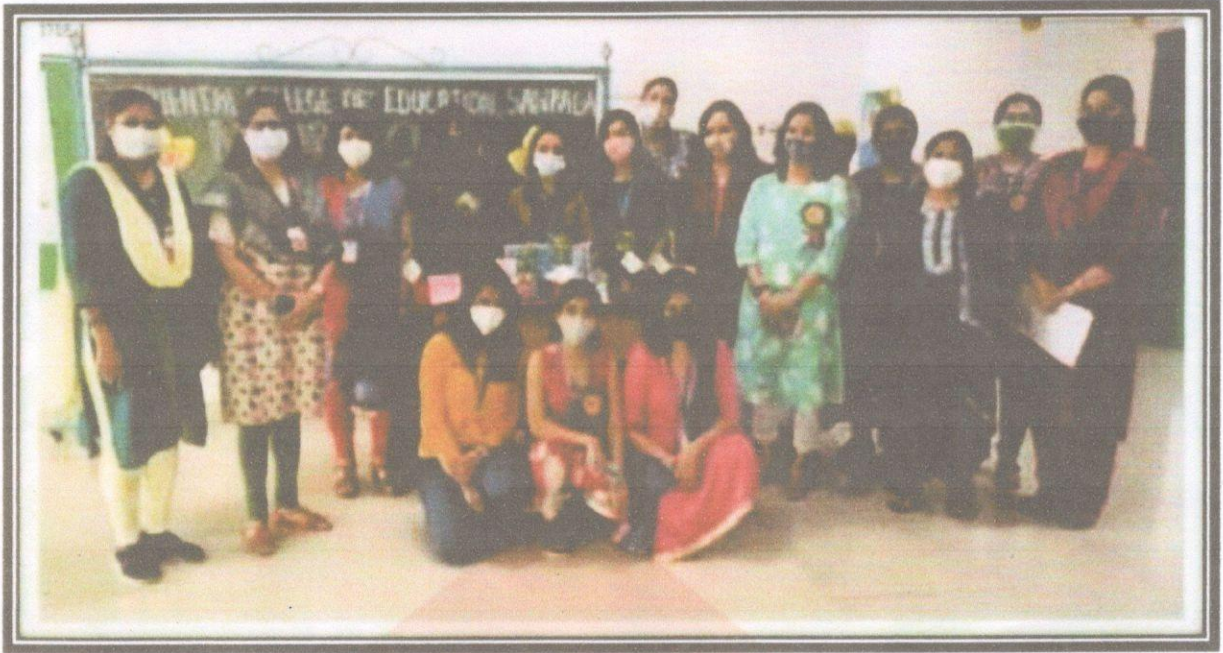
World Environment Day 5th June 2021



World Environment Day 05th June 2021



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Pic7: Teachers addressing the students about Blooming Botany

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Pic8: Paper Bags made by the students on World Environment Day



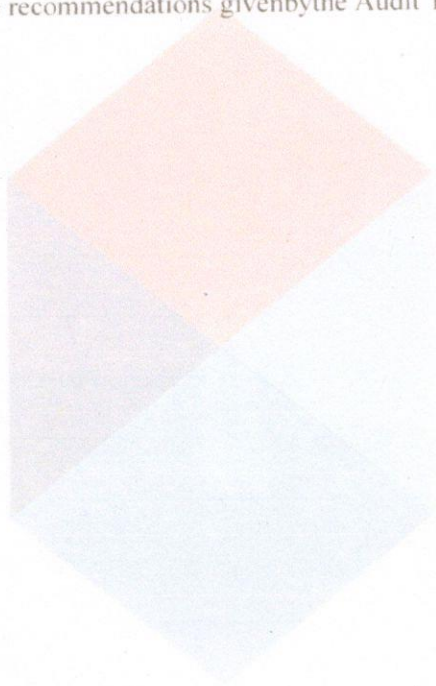
Pic9: View of a blooming Bougainville Tree from the classroom

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3.0 SUMMARY

Oriental Education Society's Oriental College of Education located at Sanpada, Navi Mumbai has conducted an Environment Audit for the Academic Year 2023-2024. The main objective to carry out environment audit is to check the green practices followed by OCE and to conduct a well-defined audit report to understand whether OCE is on the track of a sustainable approach in their day to day routine.

The Audit team observes that though several gaps remain to be filled the Institute is doing its best to maintain a sustainable approach and to conserve basic resources. The teaching and non-teaching staff is also proactively involved in creating a sustainable functioning of the day to day affairs of the College. The Institute can definitely strive to be greener by adopting and bringing into practice the recommendations given by the Audit Team



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4.0 CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

It may be concluded that OCE is involved in diverse range of practices which are not just environment-friendly per se but the Institute also engages its students in understanding the importance of environmental protection and sustainable living. Several eco-friendly activities undertaken by the Institute are a reflection of the proactive approach of the Staff as well as College Administration in channelizing time, energy and resources towards greener practices.

Despite the green endeavors of the Institute, there are certain areas where the college could still work upon so that it can be identified as a totally Green Campus.

Following are some of the key recommendations for improving campus environment:-

- Regular checks on the canteen can be considered by the Authorities to ensure utmost cleanliness and hygiene
- There is scope for more tree plantation on the campus and that needs to be considered in the near future.
- Guest lectures and workshops on topics related to environmental issues and awareness will go a long way in educating the students about the crucial issues.
- Student outreach programmes may be organized so that students understand the importance of learning that sustainable lifestyle and at the same time sharing the knowledge with the community
- The College is at a walking distance from the railway station therefore walking to college instead of hitching autos, etc can reduce the carbon footprint
- The Institution can come up with an SOP for its stakeholders so that sustainable development goals are achieved
- Setting up of Roof-top rainwater harvesting system can be considered so that dependence on the municipal water supply is reduced thus promoting a culture of water conservation


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