

7.2 Best Practices

7.2.2 Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per NAAC format provided in the Manual

Best Practice II

1. Title of the Practice:

Creation and maintenance of an Eco-friendly Campus

An eco-friendly environment is developed in the SANCET campus to reduce the overall impact of the built-up environment on human health and the natural environment, through the efficient use of energy, water conservation, waste management, green initiatives and sustainable development.

2. Objective of the Practice

- The objective of the practice is to make the students and staff members to inculcate environmental values and consciousness.
- This practice ensures the protection of environment through green energy initiatives, energy conservation, renewable energy sources, ground water recharging, effective waste management measures, e-waste management and hazardous waste management.
- To raise environmental awareness among students, resulting in better environmental management, greater sustainability and an improvement in the quality of life for all the people associated with the campus.

3. The Context

Saving “Mother Earth” is an integral part of our institution education. Keeping the growing ecological concerns in mind, there is a dire need for immediate action to be carried out and promote eco-friendly practices. The environment has gone through drastic change due to factors like pollution, over usage of plastic and mismanagement of natural resources. In order to control the devastating environmental changes, awareness regarding environmental issues is served through the numerous green initiatives and practices have been taken in the campus.

SANCET has been nurturing sustainable practices to impart knowledge to create a green, clean and eco friendly campus. This practice of our institution helps students to develop an attitude of concern in eco friendly environment.

4. The Practice

Eco-Friendly Practices followed by both the faculty and the students on the campus are:

a) Energy Efficiency

A solar roof top photovoltaic system has been installed for generating 600 Watt on the roof top to promote renewable energy consumption in our Institution. This solar energy generation is completely used for street lights and pathway lights on the campus.

- The CFL fittings of higher wattage are replaced with the 65 numbers of LED fittings of lower wattage with the same luminous level for the Street Lights on the campus and corridor to promote the efficient utilization of energy.
- We use 376 numbers of LCD Monitors for consuming less power in our campus.
- A five star rating refrigerator has been installed in the Institution.
- The sign board of “SWITCH ON’ and “SWITCH OFF WHEN YOU LEAVE” are kept in most of the places towards saving energy.

b) Waste Management

- Separate bins are kept in various places on the campus to collect degradable and non-degradable waste.
- Liquid waste is directed to the gardens for watering the plants.
- E-waste such as malfunctioning, damaged circuit boards, keyboards, monitors, mouse, printers and headphones are collected in separate bins and disposed to Sri Bala Computers, Panruti, to provide e-waste management service.
- The waste papers, plastic, metal waste such as metal scrap, metal cuttings waste, bars, rods, sheets, damaged steel chairs and vehicle waste tyres are collected and properly disposed to Kavinila Waste Paper Mart, Panruti, to provide waste management service.
- The mass collection of the biodegradable organic waste is dumped into the compost pit (250 ft²) and it is used as manure to the plants on the campus.
- The inorganic waste is safely disposed into the earthen pits with safety precautions.
- Bio-medical waste is dumped into separate bins and disposed off frequently.

c) Water Conservation

- Rainwater harvesting is available at Annai Annammal block in order to make the Institution self-sufficient in water resources and used for domestic purposes. It improves the green belt, particularly the lawn and Herbal garden and Archard.
- The rooftop rain water from all other blocks are directed to reach our gardens.
- The bore well near the Library premises is used to replenish rain water. Bore well recharge technique makes sure the storage naturally filtered rainwater. The ground water level rises when the bore well is recharged.
- The bunds are used to retaining moisture/water on sloped ground, providing access to fields. It recharges the groundwater and increases soil moisture.
- The waste water from the RO plant and the water cooler in Administrative Block is used for watering the butterfly garden.

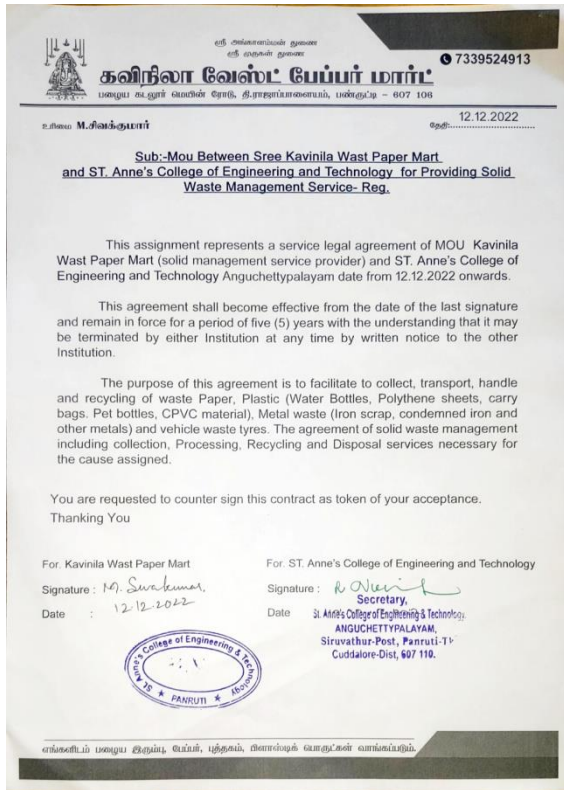
d) Green Campus Initiatives

- Security personnel at the main gate restrict public vehicle entry into the campus. Only staff members, students and guest vehicles are allowed inside the campus.
- All roads on the campus are pedestrian-friendly as vehicle movement is limited on the campus.
- The campus is made plastic-free. Awareness on the reduction of plastic usages has been created to both students and staff members through the sign boards in various places.
- The Eco club has organized quizzes, poster making, painting competitions and making paper bags to discourage use of plastic bags that focus on the environment.
- All the buildings on the College campus are surrounded by 88 varieties of trees, flowering and non-flowering plants. Plants are grown on both the sides of the roads to make the entire campus an environment-friendly place.
- Plantation is a continuous process and dead plants are replaced by new plants. A chief guest invited for any event/function planted saplings in our campus.

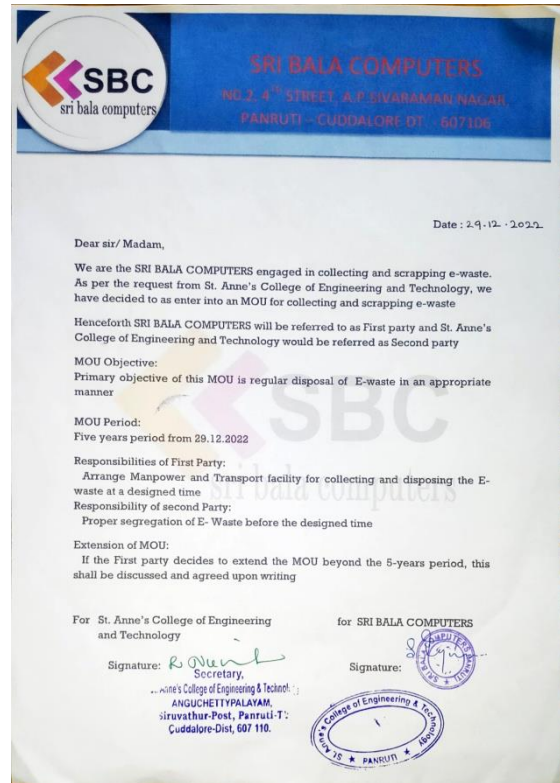
5. Evidence of Success

- The Institution has signed an MOU with Kavinila Waste Paper Mart, Panruti and Sri Bala Computers, Panruti to provide paper waste & metal waste management service and e-waste management service respectively.
- The campus has a green cover of about 65-70% (Green Audit Report, 2022). Great care is taken for the systematic maintenance and robust growth of trees and plants.
- Green Audit and Energy Audit was done and honoured with Best Green Campus Award by Nature Science Foundation, Coimbatore on 21.12.2022.
- Through periodical tree plantations, flora, avian fauna and chordates on the campus have been enriched, resulting in the transformation of the campus into an eco-friendly one.
- Concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere is found to be low which did not exceed the critical limit of CO₂. All the locations in the campus are having pure air with good air exchange which are free from pollutants and CO₂ level is within permissible limits (CO₂ level: 425 to 503 ppm, Refer Energy Audit Report 2022)
- The campus has a maximum number of more oxygen releasing and carbon dioxide assimilating plants such as Areca Palm, Banana tree, Money plant, Neem tree, Tamarind tree, Arali, Pongam trees including some of the shrub and herbal plants.
- There is a proper waste management system for all types of waste produced in the campus. Disposal of non-degradable and degradable wastes into separate dust bins facilitated the waste management more effortlessly.
- Green power generation by using solar panel compact the use of conventional electricity ingestion.

- The concept of green initiatives and environmental friendly practices in the campus resulted in growing a clean and green campus.



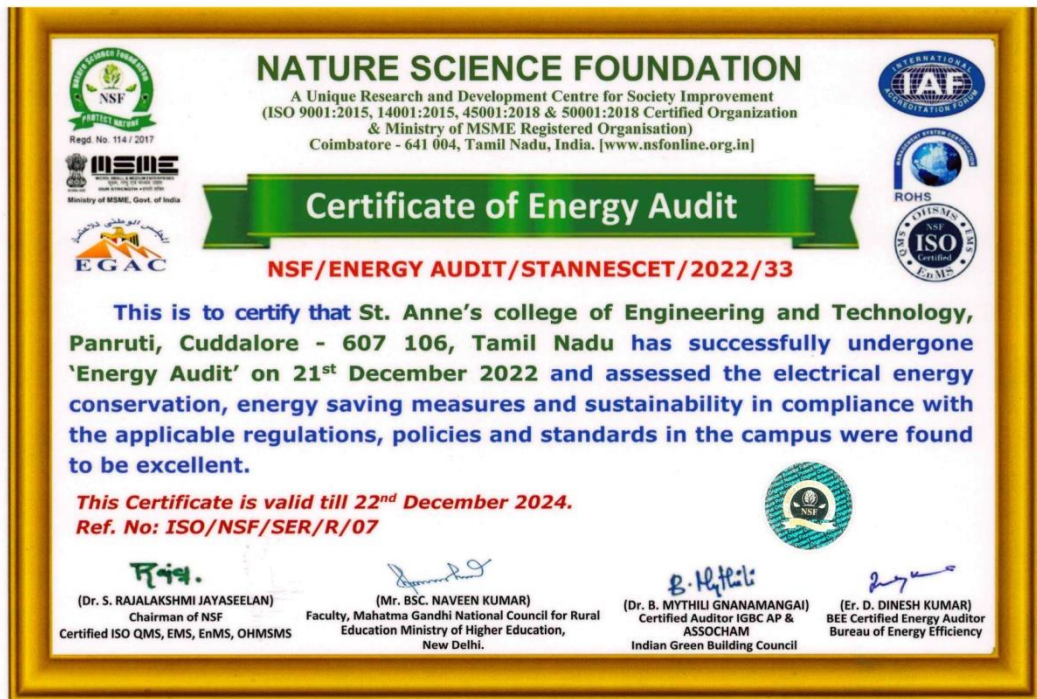
MoU with Kavinila Waste Paper Mart



MoU with Sri Bala Computers



Certificate of Green Campus Audit



Certificate of Energy Audit



Best Green Campus Award



Tree Planting Programme on the 17.08.2023



Students Planting Trees on 08.08.2023



Pedestrian Pathways



Solar Panel and Street Lights

6. Problems and Resources

- Sufficient manpower and money is needed to maintain green practices.
- To strengthen the Eco Club to create awareness to implement more programmes about nature conservation and environmental protection among the students.

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