

## **Environmental consciousness and conservation initiatives**

**Objective:** Environmental degradation is one of the soaring issues of the world at present. Diversified efforts are constantly being made to impede this problem. But it is equally true that the prevailing efforts are not sufficient to protect the environment considering the degree with which the environment is deteriorating. As our college is located on the National Highway No. 34, it is prone to be afflicted by pollution, specifically by air pollution. Hence, it becomes imperative for the college to take necessary action to counter this problem. On these lines, the Eco Club was set up in the college. The cornerstone of the Eco Club is to sustain the greenery of the college campus with active cooperation of the staff and the students. Furthermore, NSS, NCC, department of Physical Education along with other departments of the college organize multiple programmes in this direction.

**Context:** Human beings are an integral component of nature. However, it is ironical that due to human activities the nature has been adversely affected. It is crucial that humans become more sensitive and empathetic towards the environment and other creatures. Educational institutions are the point of convergence for education and learning. Consequently, cultivating social consciousness and responsible behavior among the students has been a prominent element of our college. For the sake of comprehensive development of the students, it is important that education and social behavior along with awareness towards the environment are developed in tandem. Accordingly, numerous educational, skill development, and socio-cultural programmes and plantation drives are arranged in the college. A multitude of events pertinent to the environment for instance World Water Day (22<sup>nd</sup> March), World Earth Day (22<sup>nd</sup> April), World Environment Day (5<sup>th</sup> June) etc. are also celebrated in the college. The mutual effort of college staff and students in these events assist in the dissemination of cognizance regarding the environment. To bolster the plantation of seeds along with the plantation of trees, the Seed Club was established in the college.

**Practice:** Acknowledging the importance of a unified effort in the diffusion of environmental consciousness, multiple events are organized by the Eco Club in conjunction with all the departments of the college. Following this series of events, multiple plantation drives were organized to commemorate the untimely death of some the members of our organization, birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, World Environment Day and other remarkable events. Additionally, various activities such as cleanliness drive, poster making, slogan writing, and lectures are planned for the extension of awareness with respect to environmental sustainability.

The college certainly recognizes that environmental protection efforts should not just be confined to the college campus, but extended to the circumambient communities as well. This may be achieved by engaging in a dialogue with the community. Therefore, the college enacts bidirectional measures hitherto the conservation of environment:

1. Curtailing the usage of plastic in the college premises.
2. Safeguarding the flora and fauna of the college garden.

3. Ensuring the participation of the college staff and students in each and every environment conservation program, Further to propagates this feeling among their own family and associates.

Furthering the efforts of the Eco Club, a Seed Ball Club was established in the college during the year 2021-22.

**Seed Ball Club:** The establishment of the Seed Ball Club was an ambitious act for our college. On June 16, 2022, the Seed Ball Club was inaugurated by the Eco Club, ahead of the monsoon season. Seeds of trees bearing seasonal fruits like Mango, Jamun, Neem, Curry leaves, Amaltas and Gulmohar were preserved by binding in a mixture of soil and manure in the form of a ball. The soil which emerged from cleaning the fish pond and is immensely fertile, was utilized for making these seed balls. The collection of the seeds was the combined effort of the students as well as the college staff. The creation of the seed balls by the Seed Club was started on June 28, 2022. The seed balls were made before the arrival of monsoon so that the seed balls could be disseminated to the students and the staff and particularly to the participants of the *Kanwad Yatra*.

**Rainwater Harvesting System:** There are a total of six gardens in the college and each one is brimmed with lavish vegetation. All the lawns and drainage channels are connected to the rainwater harvesting system. Therefore, the college harvests rainwater by a couple of methods. Firstly, rainwater entering the system through the gardens and lawns and secondly, through drainage passageways conveying the rainwater to the harvesting system. The water is channelized to the centrum of the earth as a consequence of rainwater harvesting.

**Composting Pit:** Biodegradable waste and dry leaves are assembled and buried into a composting pit to form compost. This compost is extremely fertile and helps in fulfilling the requirement of compost and fertilizers for the college gardens.

**Evidence of Success:** Success is the product of a collective effort and when it comes to the environment, it becomes even more essential that a universal effort is made for its conservation. This effort begins at the individual level and is gradually and steadily extended to the whole of community. Our college attempts to generate environmental consciousness and sustainability in every member. Every effort is precious and so is every tree. Environmental sustainability is an indispensable part of all the programs that are held in the college. Besides, to stop the utilization of plastic plant pots, students are encouraged to paint delightful 'Worli' paintings on terracotta pots. The guests for any event are always welcomed with plant pots as a memoir. Seed Ball Club is our aspirational project. This project was commenced in the cited year and it is being planned to disburse the seed balls before the arrival of the next monsoon to establish awareness about environment and the bifacial relationship between humans and nature can be more clearly indicated. We are obliged to media houses like *Dainik Pralayankar*, *Welcome India*, *Gaj Kesari*, *Disha Bhoomi* and others for broadcasting our efforts by prioritizing our activities in their respective news columns.

**Problem Encountered and Resources Required:** Various environmental challenges have been encountered via the events organized in the college for the protection of environment:

1. **Biodegradable Waste Management:** Dry leaves, which is a substantial constituent of biodegradable waste, are gathered and laid in the composting pit for their disposal and the resultant compost is used as a bio fertilizer for the college gardens and lawns.
2. **Water Management:** The college uses water resources very meticulously to avoid the wastage of water. Additionally, the drainage passages of the college campus are connected to the water harvesting system which helps the rainwater and all the excess water to reach the interior of the earth.
3. **Air Pollution:** On account of being situated on the National Highway, our college deals with the repercussions of air pollution. Therefore, we continuously yearn to maintain the greenery of our college campus. In the forthcoming years, we aspire to plant trees even outside the college boundaries through the seed ball project.
4. **Cleanliness:** With the intention of associating cleanliness with behavior, the college with the assistance of NCC and NSS, organizes plenty of programmes. The active participation of students in such programmes is noteworthy.
5. **Lack of environmental protection knowledge and commitment:** The dearth of knowledge and limited information about environment conservation has been a blazing issue in our college. The college therefore, ensures active participation of students in numerous posters making, slogan writing, essay writing competitions and lectures regarding environment protection and preservation. It benefits in cultivating responsible behavior and feeling of environmental sustainability among the students.

## **BEST PRACTICE**

### **Saving Nation through National cadet Corps**

**OBJECTIVE:** NCC in our college running since 1988. As the National Cadet Corps Motto 'Unity and Discipline' our college girls are trained keeping this as primary objective. The NCC cadets are groomed under the culture of Unity and Discipline. The objective of NCC is to provide a suitable environment to motivate the young girls to take up a career in the Armed Forces. NCC in the college plays a credible role in developing character, commandership, discipline, leadership, secular outlook, spirit of adventure, sportsmanship and ideals of selfless service, character of students by instilling the values of patriotism, service, discipline and hard work. Training in NCC insists qualities like nationalism, patriotism, discipline, team spirit, leadership, self-confidence and promote overall personality development among the cadets .

**CONTEXT:** The NCC of GDMG(PG) College is functioning under the 13 UP(G) BN NCC, Ghaziabad which authorized the total strength of 160 which includes 53 in BA 1<sup>st</sup> year, 53 in BA 2<sup>nd</sup> year and, 54 in BA 3<sup>rd</sup> year cadets. The unit includes the Open Quota also.

Discipline of a young mind will lead the nation towards a better society and the best upliftment. The main aim is to bring the girls coming from varying backgrounds together to make them united, secular, and disciplined citizens of the nation. It's clear that the NCC cadets are full of

discipline and have the capability of being united. Being united will assist in the group discussions and being disciplined will assist in the leadership quality of the cadets.

The training they have, the mental stability they gain, the determination of being a soldier. These factors drive them towards the world of discipline in all the perspectives of a life.

### **PRACTICE:**

NCC classes held regularly in the college premises and were taken by the staff members of 13-UP girls battalion, Ghaziabad Parades were arranged on Monday and Tuesday. A total of 45 classes were provided by Battalion. . The cadets were detailed timely to attend several types of camps conducted at the All India level, state and unit levels etc. Cadets have actively participated in social service activities like tree planting, campus cleaning, community works, AIDS awareness programmes, water cleaning programmes etc. As a part of Swachatha Pakhwada, there was a cycle Rally along with cadets . Frequently, the NCC team conducts campus cleaning programme with an idea of Green Campus, saying no to plastic.

The college Provide regular practice of drill in morning to all cadets preparing them for the exams under the supervision of CTO.

The cadets have been given timely details of the camps conducted by 13-UP girls battalion, Ghaziabad giving them sufficient time plan for participation.

Cadets performed parade in the college wearing full NCC uniform on Nationally important days such as Republic Day, Independence Day with great honor.

Firing range is available in the college premises for cadets to practice.

Cadets have actively participated in various social service activities.

NCC cadets had a special Yoga training in college's seminar hall.

All the cadets attended the 10 days CATC camps to get qualified for the 'B' and 'C' certificate exams. The cadets attempted these certificate exams in the month of February.

A firing range is constructed in our college premises for the firing purposes for the cadets, In Modinagar city the firing range is available only in our college, So the cadets from other Battalion take the advantage of firing range.

Cadets enrolled were given institutional training and can participate in adventurous activities, community development programmes, various camps at national level and annual training camps; youth exchange programmes, sports and cultural activities.

### **EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS:**

#### **Activities and camps attended by NCC in the year 2021-22**

**From 14/09/2021 to 18/09/2021 :** 5 days overnight camp held at GDMG(P.G.)College, total 300 students participated from different schools and colleges. Total 28 girls from our college were selected to participate in the camp.

**From 23/09/2021 to 20/10/2021:** 11 days camp held at Shardha University, Noida. 13 girls from our college attended the camp.

**From 21/10/2021 to 31/10/2021:** 11 days camp held at Shardha University, Noida. 13 girls from our college attended the camp.

**From 18/11/2021 to 27/11/2021:** 10 days CATC-133 (Combined Annual Training Camp) held at Panchsheel Balak Inter College, Noida. 12 girls from our college attended the camp.

**FROM 8/12/2021 to 17/12/2021:** 10 days CATC-135 (Combined Annual Training Camp) held at Panchsheel Balak Inter College, Noida. 12 girls from our college attended the camp.

**FROM 29/12/2021 to 04/01/2022:** 07 days CATC-136 (Combined Annual Training Camp) held at DPS, Meerut Road, Ghaziabad .11 cadets from our college attended the camp.

**Two cadets from our college were selected for RDC, which was the proudest moment for entire college in year 2021-22. Details are given below:**

**From 8/11/2021 to 17/11/2021:** IGC (Inter Group Competition) between 11 group of U.P. directorate, 10 days camp for further RDC selection held at Gautam Budh University, Greater Noida. Attended by 3 cadets of our college:

- 1-SUO Tanu Sharma
- 2-CPL Avni Choudhary
- 3-UO Shivangi

**FROM 18/11/2021 to 27/11/2021: (Pre RDC-1st )**10 days CATC-135 (Combined Annual Training Camp) held at Panchsheel Balak Inter College, Noida. 2 cadets of our college attended the camp:

- 1. SUO Tanu Sharma
- 2. CPL Avni Choudhary

**FROM 28/11/2021 to 06/12/2021: (Pre RDC-2nd )**10 days CATC-135 (Combined Annual Training Camp) held at Panchsheel Balak Inter College, Noida. 2 cadets of our college attended the camp:

- 1. SUO Tanu Sharma
- 2. CPL Avni Choudhary

**FROM 8/12/2021 to 17/12/2021: (Pre RDC-3rd )**10 days CATC-135 (Combined Annual Training Camp) held at Panchsheel Balak Inter College, Noida. 2 cadets of our college attended the camp:

1. SUO Tanu Sharma
2. CPL Avni Choudhary

The firing range provided to other battalions as it is the only one in nearby Modinagar area and this facility is provided them without any charges.

**PROBLEM ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED:**

- Firing range is available in open area, during rainy weather or in summer the place from where they target that area covered with thick tent without skip of classes.
- Parents of rural area are not in favour of night stay at campus for their wards.
- Semester system and credit based choice system adopted by the universities could not allow cadets to incline towards camp centric activities.
- Marriage of girls student during NCC prevent them to participate in NCC and in forcibly they have to quit this programme