

# Ramakrishna Mission Brahmananda College of Education

Rahara, Kolkata-700118, West Bengal, India

## ENERGY POLICY OF THE COLLEGE:

### Introduction:

Our college preaches and teaches the mantra of conserving energy for a sustainable future. It also emphasises in providing its students and staff a carbon-free and environment friendly campus. The college follows a well-organised energy policy for monetary, environmental and social benefits.

### Major Objectives:

1. Conservation of Energy
2. Use of Alternative Sources of Energy
3. Conservation of Water

### 1. Conservation of Energy-

The conservation of energy is essential from an environmental perspective as it can help mitigate climate change, reduce pollution, preserve natural resources, protect ecosystems, and encourage sustainability.

### Institutional Policy of energy conservation:

- a) **Energy-efficient lighting:** In our college and its hostel, traditional incandescent bulbs are generally replaced with low electricity consuming LED lights which have more longevity and provide better illumination.
- b) **Energy-aware behaviour:** To raise awareness among students, faculty, and staff about the importance of energy conservation, the college regularly discusses and encourages turning off lights, computers, and other electronic devices when not in use and reminds everyone to conserve energy in their daily activities. The trainees are oriented and instructed to switch off the lights and fans at the time of leaving the classrooms in the College and their rooms in the Hostel. The last person to leave the room switch off the lights and fans is the everyday practice. All staff members are encouraged to keep their computers in automatic sleep mode when they are not in use. The computers should be turned off when not in use for prolonged periods.
- c) **Energy-tapping maintenance:** Regular inspections of electric appliances and timely repair works are done to avoid energy wastage. New items are purchased based on their energy efficiency.
- d) **Efficient Heating & AC System:** To reduce energy consumption and to ensure efficient functioning, all the heating and Air Conditioning systems are regularly maintained at the college. Cleaning of air filters, adjustment of thermostat settings etc. are frequently done to reduce energy consumption. Air leaks in air-conditioning machine ducts and rooms are checked and rectified periodically by the maintenance department.
- e) **Green transportation:** At our college, the use of sustainable transportation options are encouraged among students, faculty, and staff by the administrators through exemplification of their own lifestyle. Bicycling or the use of public transportation are promoted to reduce the carbon dioxide associated with commuting.

### 2. Use of Alternative sources of energy:

- a) **Renewable Energy Sources:** To supplement the energy needs of the college and reduce dependence on conventional energy sources, solar panels have been installed on the roof of the college. This enables us to meet about a good amount of our monthly energy consumption.

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b) **Bicycles and e-Bikes:** For local transportation, internship supervision etc. college staff use bicycles and e-Bike/e-scooty which are cost effective and environment friendly as well.

### 3. Conservation of Water:

Implementing water conservation strategies at our college helps reduce water consumption, lower utility costs, and simultaneously contribute to energy and environmental conservation also.

- a) **Fixing leaks:** The cleaning and maintenance staff regularly inspect and repair leaks in plumbing fixtures, pipes, and irrigation systems, knowing that even small leaks can lead to significant water wastage over time.
- b) **Water-waste preventing practice:** To raise awareness about the importance of water conservation and encourage responsible water usage among students, faculty, and staff, the college organises seminars, lectures etc.
- c) **Water-efficient fixtures:** The college tries to install water-efficient fixtures such as low-flow toilets, faucets, and showers. These fixtures use less water without compromising on performance.
- d) **Dual-flush toilets:** For new set-up or replacement of the old ones, dual-flush toilets are installed.
- e) **Rainwater harvesting:** Having a vast green lawn and varieties of plants and herbs, the college requires a thorough source of water supply throughout the year. To meet this requirement, two Ground Rainwater Harvesting Tank have been constructed, the bigger one in front of the hostel and the smaller one in the main college campus. The stored rainwater in these tanks are used both for gardening and drainage cleaning as well.
- f) **Water usage monitoring:** Pipeline water at the college and the hostel is supplied from its rooftop tanks. Water is stored in the tanks through pumps which cost a lot. Therefore, regular monitoring of water usage by all stakeholders can help identify areas where conservation efforts are needed.

By adopting these water conservation strategies, the college has been significantly reducing its water consumption, contributing to sustainable water management, and setting an example for students and the community.

*Swami Nirishananda*

(Swami Nirishananda) 16.08.2021

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