

MAHATMA GANDHI COLLEGE

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Waste Management Policy for Mahatma Gandhi College, Thiruvananthapuram

Objective:

The waste management policy at Mahatma Gandhi College aims to promote responsible waste disposal practices among students and staff, minimize environmental impact, and maximize resource efficiency. The policy focuses on segregating waste into different categories, recycling and reusing materials, and promoting awareness and education about waste management.

Waste Segregation:

- a. Two-color-coded bins (green and red) will be placed on every floor of the main block and Mannamblock to facilitate waste segregation.
- b. The green bins will be designated for food waste and biodegradable materials such as fruit andvegetable peels, leftover food, tea bags, and paper napkins.
- c. The red bins will be used for collecting plastic waste, including plastic bottles, wrappers, and othernon-biodegradable plastic items.
- d. Laboratories (Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology) will have separate blue bins specifically designated for the collection of glass waste, including glass beakers, test tubes, and broken glass.

E-Waste Management:

- a. The cleaning staff will be responsible for collecting electrical and electronic waste generated withinthe college premises.
- b. Non-functional and irreparable electrical and electronic equipment, such as old computers, printers, and monitors, will be stored in the designated e-waste godown.
- c. Periodically, the college will collaborate with authorized e-waste disposal agencies to ensure the safedisposal and recycling of electronic waste in compliance with local regulations

Bio Gas Plant:

- a. Biodegradable waste collected in the green bins will be transferred to the bio gas plant located nearthe chemistry lab and canteen.
- b. The bio gas plant will employ anaerobic digestion to convert the organic waste into methane gas, which can be used as a renewable energy source.
- c. The generated gas will be utilized in the chemistry lab for experiments and in the college canteen forcooking purposes, reducing the reliance on fossil fuels and promoting sustainability.
- d. Bio gas plant existing in the college near the chemistry lab and below the canteen should be repaired.

• Leaf Composting:

- a. Fallen leaves from the college premises will be regularly swept and collected.
- b. The collected leaves will be placed in iron weld mesh boxes specifically designated for composting.
- c. The composting process will be facilitated by turning and proper aeration to ensure proper decomposition.
- d. The resulting nutrient-rich compost will be utilized in the college garden for enhancing soil fertility and promoting plant growth.
- e. Excess compost can be used in maintaining the health of coconut plants within the campus.

Awareness and Education:

- a. Regular seminars, workshops, and awareness campaigns will be conducted to educate students and staff about the importance of cleanliness, waste management, and its environmental impacts.
- b. Special sessions will be organized exclusively for girls to raise awareness about menstrual hygiene, alternatives to traditional sanitary products such as menstrual cups, and proper disposal methods.
- c. To promote easy access to menstrual hygiene products, a vending machine will be installed in theladies' waiting room, offering a range of options.
- d. An incinerator will be provided in the ladies' toilet for safe disposal of sanitary waste, ensuring properhygiene practices.

Implementation:

- A. All waste bins will be clearly labeled and color-coded to facilitate easy identification and waste segregation.
- B. Training programs will be organized for the cleaning staff to ensure their understanding of waste segregation practices and proper handling of different waste types.
- C. Signage, posters, and educational materials will be prominently displayed across the college premises, reminding students and staff about the waste management policy and procedures.
- D. Regular inspections and monitoring will be conducted to ensure compliance with waste segregation guidelines and identify areas for improvement.
- E.Collaboration with local waste management authorities will be established to ensure the safe disposal of hazardous waste generated within the college.
- F. Continuous evaluation and assessment of the waste management policy will be undertaken, with regular reviews and improvements as necessary.

By adhering to and implementing this comprehensive waste management policy, Mahatma Gandhi College will actively contribute to creating a cleaner and more sustainable environment, instilling responsible waste management habits among its students and staff, and setting an example for the broader community.

Mahatma Gandhi College Thiruvananthapyram

