

BEST PRACTICE-1
GREEN & CLEAN KUMBI COLLEGE

Objectives: (100 words)

The Kumbi College being located in the remote semi-urban area has the opportunity to educate the underprivileged and marginalized groups of society and draws upon the limited resources and non-commercial establishments. Raging environmental degradation is a cause of global concern. As a citizen, it is imperative that each one acts responsibly towards the environment while working for its conservation. As an educational institution, the College is aware of its duty to educate the youth on the importance of conserving the environment by encouraging the adoption of a sustainable lifestyle. The college believes in teaching through practice and therefore attempts to set an example for the students by adopting and encouraging a number of green initiatives.

Context: (100 words)

The college is at the centre of the campus and surrounded by residential area as well as land field. The infrastructure of the college has not modified adequately to deal with the increasing demands of the locality. Poor sewerage, pressure on water resources, electricity, and plastic pollution are some of the issues plaguing the area. Being over 40 years old the structure of the college is not equipped to deal with the changing lifestyle patterns. In spite of the limited resources to overhaul and maintain the old infrastructure, the college has taken steps to become an environmentally conscious space and regulate its demand of limited natural resources.

Practice: (400 words)

A holistic education is imperative to create socially responsible individuals. Higher education cannot limit itself to merely providing academic training. It is important that students made aware of their duties and responsibilities towards society and the world at large. Being sensitive and responsive to the environment, a trait that has inculcated in students and reinforced at the level of higher education. Awareness programs on different issue of the present day society in relation to the people at large and held as and when required. To set an example and inspire all stakeholders to opt for environment friendly alternatives, Kumbi College has initiated the following practices:

1. Botanical Garden: The Botany Department, Kumbi College, in collaboration with the Alumni Association of the college, has developed a botanical garden having several local bear fruit-bearing trees and useful medicinal plants. This initiative contributes to the expansion of the already green campus of the college and creates awareness of the medicinal properties of plants and trees and the value of rearing local fruit-bear trees. The practice is small but significant step involving the students to make the college clean, green, and eco-friendly and in turn, creating awareness in them about the need of conservation of environment. Common practice includes planting the saplings, awareness campaigns, rallies, and lectures. These

activities are largely carried out by volunteers of NSS, Science Club, and Youth Red Cross Society of the Kumbi College. The students of the College are encouraged to focus on environmental studies from a practical point of view. Lectures on environment, pollution and harmful effects of plastic/polyethene were organized. Students are advised to reduce the use of plastic and other disposable items, which is strictly prohibited by the college.

2. Waste Product Management: With a view to create a sense of responsibility to keep the campus clean, green and litter-free environment, the college regularly organizes cleanliness services every Saturday of every week at the campus and surrounding areas. All the faculty members, administrative staffs, and students of the college participate in the cleanliness drive under the strict supervision of the Principal. The college uses disposal boxes to collect plastic/polyethene and other waste products for the need to encounter the growing hazards of pollution in the campus. These disposal boxes are furnished at proper places for onward disposition into the large waste disposal bin or in the waste collection van, which is run by the Kumbi Municipal Council. For this disposal of waste products, a memorandum of understanding has already been signed with Kumbi Municipal Council.

Evidence of Success: (200 words)

The campus is now having a medium size botanical garden as well as developed and maintained in the centre of the main building with compost-pit and rainwater harvesting system. Each size initiative undertaken by the college is a small step to contribute to the greater good of humanity. Infact these initiatives take time to bring about significant changes, however the efforts are bearing fruit, and gradual changes are becoming visible.

Furthermore, Solid waste generation and management is a burning issue. Unscientific handling of solid waste can create threats to everyone. The college focused on volume, type, and current management practice of solid waste generated in the campus. Waste generation from tree droppings and lawn management is a major solid waste generated in the campus. The waste is segregated at source by providing separate dustbins for Biodegradable and Plastic waste. The waste generated by newspapers, magazine, and wastepaper by the departments and office generate less plastic waste but it is neither categorized at point source nor sent for recycling. The solid waste is collected by the Municipal corporation and disposed by their methods.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required: (150 words)

The college campus remains almost open to all sides, save the gate due to inadequate pucca fencing depending upon lack of fund for the campus development. It is a big problem being faced by the college, as stray animals trespass the campus for grazing frequently. Moreover, anti-socials may encroach/transit the campus and do harmful activities inside it. The College is attempting to raise funds for this purpose through a number of channels viz. Kumbi College Governing Body, College Alumni Association, Local Donors etc. Educating the local community about green initiatives is a must so that they too adopt measures to uplift the venture, which remains a challenge.