

# Go Green

AMC Group of Educational Institutions , Manisseri always reinforces and envisions to retain the natural habitat and to flourish the green atmosphere of the campus . The college staunchly believes that, Higher education institution has the responsibility to promote the importance of preserving Nature and to make the stakeholders aware about the necessity to sustain it without affecting its beauty. The institution has been taking immense effort to encourage students to get engaged in the environmental related activities to foster the affection and their responsibility towards nature.

## **1. Aims and Objectives**

- To foster the habit of Organic farming
- To provide a proper niche for preserving medicinal plants through a Herbal garden
- To limit and reduce the usage of plastic in the college premises
- To promote rainwater harvesting
- To make stakeholders aware about the Swatch policy

## **2. The Context**

At the outset, the college confronted various issues, as the land was barren and met with issues of water deficiency and so on. Through persistent effort and determination, a gradual but evident transformation is being bringing out to transform the campus as a lush green one with the ardent support of stakeholders. In 2017, the college fructified these efforts under a well-coordinated club, named Nature club.

### **3. The practice**

The college has organised various classes on Olericulture , to enhance the knowledge of students regarding farming. The institution has also appointed a gardener to prune the ornamental plants and maintain the garden and the karmasena members also take part in the weekly and monthly nurturing of plants and trees in the campus. Continuous effort has been put forward by the college to discourage the usage of plastic items inside the campus and instead promotes to utilize cloth materials for essential purposes. Water being the elixir of life is used with utmost care and the college has implemented certain plans to preserve water in tanks and bunds, to reduce the scarcity of water

### **4 .Evidence of success**

The college has successfully introduced Organic farming , where a variety of vegetables are being cultivated and harvested such as, Pea, Spinach, Cauliflower, Ladiesfinger, Green chillies of various kind, Tomato, Brinjal and so on. Drawing inspiration from this, the students started doing organic farming at their home and made the humble initiative of the institution meaningful .The Nature club of AMC conducted a sale of organic vegetables and promoted stakeholders to follow this ideal habit at their abode and consume the same to adopt a healthy diet pattern in their life. The NSS unit of college has also conducted a seminar on the Importance of following a healthy lifestyle with the inclusion of organic vegetables in the daily diet pattern of one's life. The college has also adopted an Alternative cultivation method, where we grow crops such as, Arrowroot, Ginger , turmeric etc. on alternative basis. This method of cultivation simultaneously helps in increasing the quality and fertility of soil. The Herbal garden maintained by the college consists of unique medicinal plants which in fact work as an agent to store underground water and thereby to retain the moisture content in the soil.in addition to this, the club has also compiled a dictionary named, 'Medi Magazine' , incorporating the medicinal values and scientific name of herbal plants in and around us. The institution has also strongly took up the policy to reduce the usage of plastic items in the college premise as a part of Go Green practice. In relation to this, the faculty themselves have set an example by discarding the usage of plastic items (plastic files, plastic bottles, plastic tiffin box) for academic and personal use. As a part of this mission, the college insists students to opt cloth materials for printing flex while conducting various activities. The same is also followed by the institution to a certain extent, using electronic means to create Prospectus, Brochures, Notice, Magazine,

Newsletter and other essential documents to reduce the over use of paper related to academics. The college has faced intense water deficiency during summer season and to tackle this issue, adequate steps have taken. The system of collecting rain water to tank , which is fixed in a convenient place ( which is further transmitted to the bore well through proper piping mechanism) helps in maintaining a good level of water in the bore well. The water is adequately filtered and is channeled to the water coolers placed inside the college, which is the major source of fresh water to the faculty and students. Besides, a pond in the garden collects water from a nearby unproductive quarry and utilizes it for irrigation purposes and it helps plants and saplings from perishing. The institution has energized student to get engaged in Swatch Policy, which is in tune with the Central Government initiative called, Swatch Bharat. The NSS volunteers and the Karmasena members of Nature club unanimously volunteer to clean the public areas and the campus, and proclaims their social responsibility towards Nature. Besides, students show much enthusiasm in conceiving, directing and performing dramas and flash mobs, theming nature conservation and the urgent necessity to protect our environment and retain its green countenance. In relation to this, the students with the ardent support of faculty employed their creativity and scripted a drama and staged it in the nearby places, proclaiming the various ways to overcome the scarcity of water and to give a general awareness on the same .

Problems encountered

Resources required

The scarcity of water during summer season	Implemented Rain water harvesting and placed sprinklers inside the garden for effective watering of plants and saplings.
Destroying vegetables in the organic garden and plants in herbal garden by wild animals	Put strong fence around the gardens to resist the attack of wild animals.
Unavailability of students to take care of vegetable and herbal garden during semester breaks	The management appointed a gardener to nurture the herbal and vegetable garden.









