DHANALAKSHMI SRINIVASAN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

(An Autonomous Institution)



Environmental and Energy Usage Policy

Objectives:

The objective of this policy is to promote energy conservation and renewable energy usage, encourage proper waste management and water conservation, maintain a clean and green campus, and create environmental awareness among students and staff.

Scope:

Dhanalakshmi Srinivasan College of Engineering and Technology (Autonomous), Chennai, recognizes its responsibility towards environmental protection and energy conservation. The institution is committed to the optimum utilization of energy and natural resources and encourages sustainable practices across the campus. The Environment and Energy Committee is responsible for promoting environmental protection, monitoring energy usage and encouraging effective waste management practices.

The institution promotes renewable energy sources such as solar energy and the conversion of biodegradable hostel food waste into biogas for cooking purposes.

The following good practices are encouraged:

- Optimum utilization of electrical energy and switching off appliances when not in use.
- Maximum use of natural daylight and ventilation.
- Utilization of rooftop solar energy for electricity generation.
- Collection and conversion of hostel food waste into biogas.
- Proper segregation and disposal of waste.
- Conservation of water and prevention of wastage.
- Tree plantation and maintenance of a green campus.
- Regular monitoring and maintenance of energy and environmental facilities.

Policy Guidelines:

Energy Conservation and Efficient Utilization:

The institution shall:

1. Promote the responsible use of electricity in classrooms, laboratories, offices and common areas.
2. Encourage switching off lights, fans, air conditioners, computers and other electrical equipment when not in use.
3. Promote the use of LED lighting and energy-efficient electrical appliances.

4. Ensure periodic maintenance of electrical installations and equipment to minimize energy losses.
5. Monitor electricity consumption through available energy meters and utility bills.
6. Encourage the adoption of energy-efficient technologies and practices.
7. Conduct energy audits periodically to identify opportunities for reducing energy consumption.

Renewable Energy Utilization:

The institution shall:

1. Encourage the installation and utilization of solar energy systems wherever technically and economically feasible.
2. Promote the use of renewable energy for campus lighting and other suitable applications.
3. Explore opportunities for integrating solar-powered equipment into campus operations.
4. Create awareness among students about renewable energy technologies through academic activities, projects and demonstrations.
5. Periodically assess the contribution of renewable energy to the institution's total energy requirements.

Water Conservation and Management:

The institution shall:

1. Promote the judicious utilization of water in all campus facilities.
2. Encourage rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge wherever feasible.
3. Ensure regular inspection and maintenance of water supply pipelines, taps and storage facilities.
4. Promote the reuse of treated wastewater for gardening and other suitable non-potable purposes.
5. Encourage water conservation awareness programmes among students and staff.
6. Monitor water consumption and identify opportunities to minimize wastage.

Solid Waste Management:

The institution shall:

1. Implement segregation of waste at source into biodegradable, recyclable and non-recyclable categories.
2. Promote composting of biodegradable waste generated from canteens, hostels and campus gardens.

3. Encourage the reuse and recycling of paper, plastic, metal and other recyclable materials.
4. Ensure the safe disposal of laboratory waste, electronic waste and other special waste streams through authorized agencies, as applicable.
5. Minimize the use of single-use plastics within the campus.
6. Promote awareness programmes on the principles of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle (3R).

Green Campus and Biodiversity Development:

The institution shall:

1. Promote tree plantation and maintenance of green spaces within the campus.
2. Encourage the development of gardens and plantation areas.
3. Organize tree plantation drives and environmental awareness programmes.
4. Encourage the protection of existing trees and local biodiversity.
5. Promote landscaping practices that require minimum water consumption.
6. Encourage student participation in environmental protection activities.

Administrative Measures:

1. The Maintenance Department shall ensure the proper functioning of solar panels, electrical installations and the biogas plant.
2. The hostel administration shall ensure the collection and proper segregation of food waste for biogas production.
3. Periodic monitoring of electricity consumption and solar energy generation shall be carried out.
4. Records of food waste collection and biogas utilization shall be maintained wherever measurements are available.
5. Environmental awareness programmes shall be organized periodically.
6. The committee shall review the activities and suggest improvements whenever necessary.

Monitoring and Review:

The Environment and Energy Committee shall periodically review the implementation of the policy. Energy consumption, solar energy generation, food waste utilization and environmental activities shall be monitored. Necessary improvements shall be recommended and implemented with the approval of the competent authority.