

St. Joseph's College of Commerce (Autonomous)

163, Brigade Road, Bangalore – 560 025

**Assessed and Re-Accredited with 'A' Grade by the
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GREEN AUDIT REPORT

2017-18

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GREEN AUDIT COMMITTEE

MEMBERS OF ECO-CLUB
Faculty in-charge-Eco-club, SJCC
Student Co-ordinators-Eco-club, SJCC

REPORT

Introduction:

Green audit is all about corporate responsibility. It uncovers the truth about statements made by governments and institutions with regard to the effects of environmental pollution. The aim of green audit is to review the measures taken by the company to combat pollution.

Green audit is defined as “an official examination of the effects a company has on the environment”. It is also widely known as Environmental Audit. Green Audit can be better understood as: Compliance of Environmental Laws, Audit of Environment Cost and Environment Impact Assessment, and Carbon Credit. At St. Joseph’s College of Commerce, the management believes that saving ‘Mother Earth’ is an integral part of education and believes that the carbon footprint left by the college is to be reduced by sustainable steps and an environment friendly model of administration.

Objectives:

The Green Audit process focussed on a few points to be closely focussed on, which are as follows:

1. To provide a healthy environment in campus
2. To enhance awareness towards environmental guidelines and responsibilities.
3. To identify cost saving methods through minimizing and effectively managing waste

Green Audit Process:

Green Audit process at St. Joseph’s College of Commerce was conducted in three phases:

- a) Pre-audit activity
- b) Audit
- c) Action Plans and Recommendations

A) PRE-AUDIT ACTIVITY

The Eco-club at St. Joseph’s College of Commerce strives to bring in quality in its initiative to connect to mother nature. In its persuasion towards its goal, the club’s core committee members conducted several brain-storming sessions, meeting various organizations involved in auditing. The club also conducted various meetings at different levels within college.

The team conducted a few briefing sessions on the importance and need of the green audit process and the ways it was carried out with Dr. Nirmala Joseph, the Vice-principal. Subsequently, Prof. Muktha, the IQAC (Internal Quality Assurance Cell) Co-ordinator conducted a few meetings with the core committee members of Green Audit, who steered the working of this Audit process.

Later, the core committee for Green Audit had several rounds of meeting with various Green Audit firms, such as TERI and Smarter Dharma. The sessions were comprised of a set of awareness programs, movie-screening and poster displays for the students.

Later, an in-house combing activity to figure out a full-time support was conducted, during which the team found an in-house support from Prof. Wilson (St. Joseph's College) who helped the team conduct the Audit Process in a smooth manner.

B) GREEN AUDIT PROCESS / OUTCOMES

In line with the guidance and support provided, the Green Audit Process was conducted by the dedicated team of Eco-Club members. The steps and outcomes of the Audit are mentioned below:

1. Water Consumption Per Day:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Consumption
1.	Over Head Tank Capacity	6000 Litres
2.	Sump Tank	Under Construction
3.	Total No. of Liters of water used per Day	24,000 Litres
4.	<i>Total No. of Liters of water used per Month</i>	<i>7,20,000 Litres</i>

2. Electricity Consumption (KWH)

Sl. No.	Name of the Appliance	No. of Units
1.	Tube Light	490
2.	Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL)	320
3.	Ceiling Fans	237
4.	Water Purifiers	4
5.	Refrigerators	5
6.	Micro-wave Ovens	3
7.	Air-conditioners	12
8.	Grinders	1
9.	Computers	250
10.	Pumping Machines	4
11.	UPS and Other Power Back-up Devices	60

12	Generators	1
Total Amount of KWH Consumed Per Month		1573

3. Solid waste Management

a) Segregation of waste: Waste segregation starts at the classroom itself. Each classroom is equipped with two dust bins - one for the biodegradable and the other for non-biodegradable substances.

b) E-waste: Every year a sum of 15 to 20 Kilograms of e-waste gets recycled in the institution. Electronic devices, that are repaired and are in a position to be re-used are given to under privileged schools.

4. Biodiversity on Campus

Physical Count of Flora in Campus

Sl. No.	Particulars	Units
1.	Trees	61
2.	Plants	91
3.	Vertical Garden	1

4. Other Healthy Practices

a) Recycling answer Scripts: 3867 Kg of answer scripts are being recycled per year. Books made out of these recycled materials are distributed to more than 2000 children studying in government schools.

b) Recycling of tetra packs and pet bottles

c) Banning use of tetra packs and pet bottles

d) No driving day: During 'DHWANI' (An inter-collegiate cultural fest) and SPIEL (An inter-collegiate sports meet) at St. Joseph's College of Commerce, students are not allowed to drive or ride into the campus, encouraging them to share and pool transport resources. The initiative is designed to encourage the practice of using Public Transportation.

e) Promotion of Cycling: The College recognizes that the Earth is in danger due to human actions such as 'Driving'. In a move to promote cycling the college organized a 'CYCLOTHON - moving towards a better living' organized in 2017. The event witnessed a huge turn-out and in-turn spread awareness amongst students about the same.

f) Printing on used one sided paper: In order to minimize paper waste, reduce the carbon footprint and the cutting of trees to produce paper, the college uses used one sided paper for all their printing needs.

g) Rain water Harvesting: The college saves a substantial amount of water through *Rain Water Harvesting* and the water saved is used to water the flora in the campus.

h) Vertical Gardening helps in overcoming space constraints and carbon footprints. AICUF in collaboration with B. Com (Travel and Tourism) Department took an initiative to take sustainable steps towards conserving the environment. The event witnessed a gardening competition; the vertical garden was set up to spread the following message- "*The earth loves you, love it back*".



i) Outreach Programs: In order to create awareness on cleanliness, pollution minimization and recycling - the college has tied up with many private and semi-private organizations to conduct awareness drives and outreach programs. These activities in turn sensitize the students to problems affecting the society and planet as a whole.



j) Outreach program through PPP Model: An outreach program was conducted with an organization called '*Beautiful Bangalore*'. The purpose of the drive was to spread awareness about the harmful effects of plastic.



h) Responsible management of hazardous waste: Any hazardous waste materials that are produced in the campus are disposed of, in a safe and responsible manner. The cleaning staffs are kept well-informed about the disposal process. Steps taken in this regard helps the institution respond to the environmental needs effectively.

C) ACTION PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Encourage student participation:** It was found that student body, which is a solid in-house source, should be tapped for collecting the data and efficiently evaluating them, which will in turn provide a platform for them to come closer to the environment.
2. **Analysis by experts:** It was also found that having a professional touch for this activity would mean a lot in terms of providing a strong routing, evaluation and analysis of the data collected, owing to tested methodologies being put to rightful use, making the process an effective one.
3. **External experts to be contacted for continuous monitoring:** In light, of the several meeting and multiple informal collaborations with various organizations, one of the outcomes was to have a formal collaboration with an external agency which is actively involved in Green Audit Processes. This collaboration would be effective in acquiring better ideas, directions, and support for conducting, evaluating and continuously monitoring the process.

GREEN AUDIT Action Taken Report

Introduction

The institution conducted the Green Audit in 2017-18 with the following objectives:

- To provide a healthy environment in campus
- To enhance awareness towards environmental guidelines and responsibilities.
- To recognize the cost saving methods through minimizing waste through effective waste management.

Following actions were taken based on the suggestions given.

Sl. No.	Recommendations	Action Taken
1.	Encourage student participation	Sensitisation of eco-friendly practices planned and promoted amongst student community through in-house and outreach programs.
2.	Analysis by experts	Reports of various activities and programmes initiated are sent to experts for analysis
3.	External experts to be contacted for continuous monitoring:	Experts are invited to the campus at regular intervals for sharing expertise and to evaluate the existing green practices for greater effectiveness.
4.	Enhance use of alternative energy and energy saving devices in the Institution.	Recommendations have been forwarded to management for approval to enhance the use of alternative energy and energy saving devices in the Institution.

Conclusion

Thus, suitable actions were taken for the suggestions given, to promote healthy environment and sustainability.

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