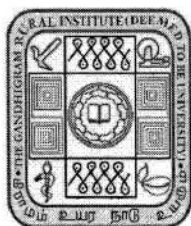


# **GRI - ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**



**THE GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE**

**[DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY]**

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**GANDHIGRAM – 624 302**

**DINDIGUL**

**TAMIL NADU**

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

<b>Name of the Institute</b>	THE GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE - DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY
<b>Year of Implementation</b>	2016
<b>Type of Policy</b>	<b>Environmental Policy</b>

### 1. Purpose

The objective of the University's environmental policy is to endorse sustainability advocacy by fostering a culture of sustainability among students, faculty, and staff.

### 2. Scope

This policy is applicable to all stakeholders of the university, including students, faculty, staff, and any contractors associated. All campus operations including academic activities, administrative operations, infrastructural services, and programs held on the university campus should abide by the policy.

### 3. Policy Making

The environmental policy is framed through the collaboration of all the stakeholders of the university. The proposed policy is reviewed by an external panel of environmental experts before approval. The initiatives under this policy necessitate a proper evaluation of all the infrastructural, academic, and administrative activities to align with national and international environmental regulations.

### 4. Main Objectives

- Maintain a clean and plastic-free campus.
- Reduce the University's carbon footprint through energy efficiency and sustainable practices.
- Promote responsible resource consumption, waste reduction, and recycling.



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- Integrate sustainable and eco-friendly practices into the curriculum, research, and extension activities.
- Foster community engagement in environmental conservation initiatives.
- Enhance biodiversity and green spaces on campus.
- Promote and create model 'Eco Villages'.


### **5. Institute Vouchsafes**

- Implementation of clean campus initiatives through the Gandhian Principle of Shramadhan (service through laboring)
- Adoption of renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind, and bioenergy) for campus operations.
- Implementation of energy audits across the campus for efficient energy usage and reduction of carbon footprint.
- Water conservation through rainwater harvesting and optimized watering schedules.
- Promotion of sustainable commutation options (e.g., cycling, carpooling, electric vehicles) through research and development.
- Extending the institute's environmental policies to the neighboring rural areas to create awareness and promote sustainable environmental practices in the region through the Village Placement Program.

### **6. Effective Measures**

#### **Energy Efficiency**

- Transition to LED lighting and energy-efficient appliances; adopt the use of capacitors and harmonic filters across all buildings to prevent energy loss.
- Regular energy audits to monitor consumption and identify areas for improvement.
- Energy efficiency is also achieved through building classrooms with cost-effective alternate building materials and natural lighting & ventilation.
- Value-added courses are introduced to educate students on energy efficiency, environmental sustainability, and green buildings.

  
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### **Clean Campus Initiatives & Waste Management**

- Promotion of a clean campus through initiatives like Swatch Bharat Abhiyan.
- Special campaigns such as Swachhata Hi Sewa are conducted to promote the importance of a clean-living environment.
- Eco club and Green Club organize awareness programs on the importance of eco-friendly practices, energy conservation, and renewable energy
- Implement campus-wide waste segregation bins.
- Food waste from the hostels is employed to generate biogas through biogas plants.
- Encourage the use of digital tools to minimize paper consumption.

### **Water Conservation**

- Set up a system for rainwater harvesting through ponds on the campus.
- Watering schedules are optimized to reduce water wastage.
- Advanced water conservation techniques and practices are integrated into the curriculum to create awareness among students.

### **Sustainable Transportation.**

- Electric vehicles are offered by the institute for the commute of students with disability within the campus
- E-vehicle design and retrofitting is carried out through research and development.

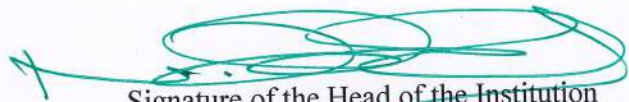
### **Green Spaces**

- Plant native trees and create more green areas to enhance biodiversity.
- Implement community gardening programs for students and staff.
- Gardening and landscaping are also carried out through Shramadhan on days of national and international importance such as World Environment Day & World Earth Day.
- Tree plantation in the nearby rural areas is carried out through the Village Placement Program.

## 7. Problem Solving

Any environmental issues or challenges encountered on campus shall be addressed promptly by the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Committee. The EIA committee is chaired by the Vice-chancellor and composed of other members such as the Registrar, Finance Officer, Director of Centre for Future Studies, Director of Centre for Rural Energy, Director of Rural Technology Centre, Coordinator – Electrical Division, and Coordinator – Water Division.

**Place:** Gandhigram



Signature of the Head of the Institution

**Vice Chancellor**  
**Gandhigram Rural Institute**  
**(Deemed to be University)**  
**Gandhigram - 624 302.**  
**Dindigul District,**  
**Tamil Nadu.**



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