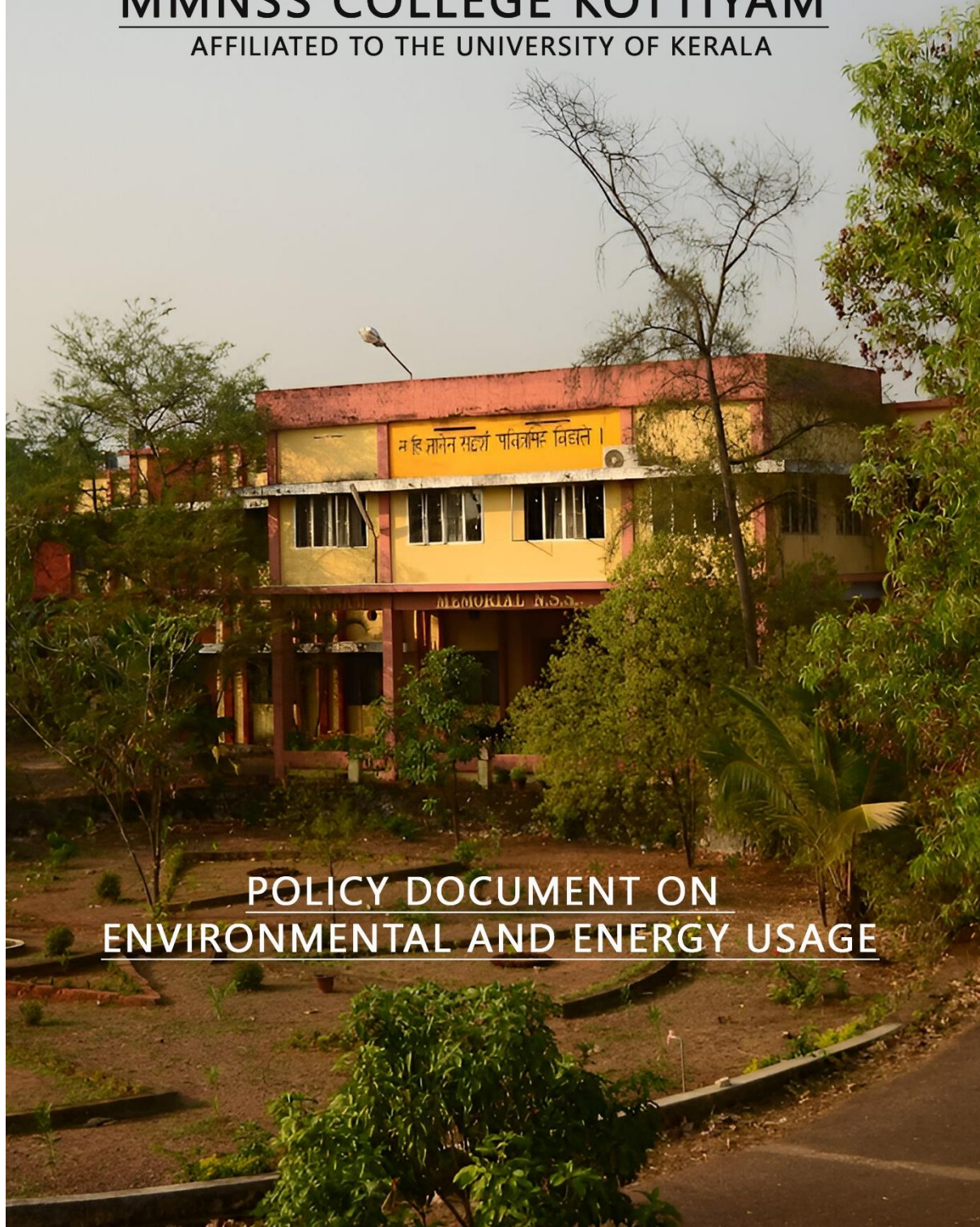




MMNSS COLLEGE KOTTIYAM

AFFILIATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF KERALA



POLICY DOCUMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY USAGE

MMNSS College Kottiyam, situated in a 26-acre plot in the heart of Kottiyam town, is deeply committed to fostering a culture of environmental responsibility and energy conservation. Recognizing the growing global need for sustainable practices, the college has taken active steps to minimize its ecological footprint by promoting eco-friendly behaviours, reducing resource consumption, and creating a greener, healthier campus environment. The college, with its extensive green cover, including a large cashew plantation and several valuable tree species like sandalwood, serves as a living testament to its dedication to environmental stewardship.

The college believes that educational institutions play a critical role in shaping responsible citizens. By integrating environmental awareness into the curriculum and promoting sustainable practices across campus, college aims to not only reduce environmental impact but also instill a sense of environmental responsibility in students, staff, and the community. Through this policy, MMNSS College is dedicated to continuously improving its environmental performance, conserving energy, and building a sustainable future.

Key Aspects of the Institution's Environmental and Energy Usage Policy

1. Encouragement of Sustainable Transportation:

- The college must encourage students, staff, and faculty to use public transport in order to reduce reliance on private vehicles and minimize carbon emissions.
- The college must encourage carpooling among staff members who commute by car to further cut down fuel consumption and emissions.

2. Pedestrian and Cyclist-Friendly Campus:

- The campus roads must be well-maintained to prioritize clean environment and pedestrian safety.
- The college must restrict automobile entry to encourage walking and cycling, promoting healthier lifestyles and reducing vehicular emissions.
- The college must encourage bicycles and battery-powered vehicles to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

3. Waste Management:

- **Solid Waste Management:** Solid waste must be carefully segregated into biodegradable and non-biodegradable categories. Biodegradable waste should be composted on-site and used as manure for campus trees and organic farming, while non-biodegradable waste should be collected and sent for processing with the help of the Haritha Karma Sena (Green Volunteers), an initiative of the Govt. of Kerala.
- **E-Waste Management:** Non-functional electronics should be responsibly collected and handed over to certified recyclers, ensuring proper disposal and minimizing hazardous environmental impacts.

- **Biomedical and Hazardous Waste Management:** The college must ensure the safe disposal of biomedical waste and hazardous chemicals from laboratories, following strict safety protocols to prevent contamination and environmental harm.

4. Water Conservation:

- MMNSS College must be committed to efficient water use and conservation. Rainwater harvesting systems should be well maintained to collect and store rainwater, reducing dependence on external water sources.
- Groundwater recharge techniques, such as borewell and open well recharging must be used to maintain sustainable water levels.
- The maintenance of water bodies on campus, along with an efficient water distribution system, should ensure minimal water wastage and support the college's sustainability goals.

5. Promotion of Organic Farming:

- Organic farming must be actively encouraged to ensure that student volunteers regularly engage in sustainable agricultural practices on campus. Natural pesticides and organic manure must be provided to support ideal pathways for farming.
- The college should host an annual harvest festival, to motivate students engaged in organic farming and to reinforce the importance of sustainable food practices.

6. Plastic-Free Campus:

- The College must enforce a strict ban on single-use plastics. Students should be encouraged to use reusable water bottles and cloth bags instead of plastic alternatives.
- Anti-plastic awareness campaigns must be regularly conducted to educate the campus community on the environmental hazards of plastic use and promote sustainable alternatives.
- Collaboration with local self-governing body, the Mayyanad Grama Panchayath, should be utilized to ensure that the plastic waste collected on campus are responsibly taken over for effective processing and recycling.

7. Energy Conservation:

- Energy-saving practices like the replacement of traditional forms of energy usage with more sustainable forms must be implemented across campus to reduce energy consumption.
- The college must conduct regular energy audits to monitor and enhance the efficiency of energy usage.

- The college must conduct programmes like awareness classes, seminars and social outreach campaigns to promote responsible energy use among students, staff and public.

8. Environmental Awareness and Community Engagement:

- The College must ensure that its Nature Club, Bhoomitrasena and NSS are actively involved in raising environmental awareness through workshops, campaigns and community service projects.
- Competitions and awareness programs focusing on environmental protection and sustainability must be regularly held to foster a culture of environmental consciousness.
- The college should align itself with national initiatives like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Puneet Sagar Abhiyan etc to conduct cleaning drives both on and off-campus, and to encourage student involvement in community service.

9. Periodic Green and Environmental Audits:

- The college must conduct regular green and environmental audits to assess its ecological footprint and identify areas for improvement. The reports of these audits must be taken into consideration for effective implementation of sustainable practices and highlight new opportunities for reducing the college's environmental impact.

10. Environmental Stewardship and Student Involvement:

- The College must hold on to its commitment to foster environmental stewardship through student participation. Clubs like Nature Club and Bhoomitrasena should be persistently motivated to lead various initiatives, from campus cleaning drives to public awareness campaigns, to ensure that the student community actively contribute to creating a sustainable environment and life practices.

MMNSS College Kottiyam remains steadfast in its commitment to creating an environmentally conscious campus through its extensive green initiatives, sustainable practices, and energy conservation efforts. The college strives to serve as a model for other educational institutions by integrating eco-friendly principles into daily operations, engaging the campus community in meaningful environmental actions, and continuously seeking new ways to reduce its ecological footprint. By fostering a culture of sustainability, the college not only ensures the well-being of its campus environment but also prepares its students to be environmentally responsible citizens. Through proactive measures in waste management, water conservation, plastic reduction, and energy usage, the college has made significant strides toward a more sustainable future. MMNSS College Kottiyam stands as a beacon of environmental stewardship, encouraging others to follow in its footsteps for a greener tomorrow.