

Yashoda Shikshan Prasark Mandal

Yashoda Technical Campus, Satara

An Autonomous Institute



Green Campus and Environment Policy



1. Preamble

Yashoda Technical Campus, Satara recognizes that a healthy and environmentally sustainable campus is essential for the well-being of students, faculty, staff and other stakeholders. A healthy campus environment is influenced by green cover, vegetation, air circulation, ventilation, pollution control, biodiversity and responsible management of natural resources.

The Institute has adopted the Oxygen Audit Policy as a systematic mechanism to assess and improve the environmental conditions that contribute to a healthy campus atmosphere. The audit shall focus primarily on green cover, tree plantation, vegetation, air quality, ventilation, pollution sources and related environmental practices rather than treating oxygen concentration as an isolated parameter.

The policy supports the Institute's Green, Environment & Energy Policy and its commitment towards environmental protection, sustainable development, biodiversity conservation, climate action and continual improvement. The findings of the Oxygen Audit shall be used for identifying gaps, planning corrective measures and strengthening the Institute's green campus initiatives.

2. Vision

To develop Yashoda Technical Campus as a healthy, green, environmentally responsible and sustainable campus with enhanced vegetation, improved environmental quality, effective pollution control and active participation of all stakeholders.

3. Mission

The Institute shall:

1. Assess and strengthen campus green cover and vegetation.
2. Promote systematic tree plantation and protection of existing trees.
3. Support healthy outdoor and indoor environmental conditions.
4. Reduce sources of air pollution within and around the campus.
5. Promote biodiversity and environmentally responsible campus management.
6. Create awareness among students, faculty and staff regarding environmental sustainability.
7. Use audit findings for continual improvement of campus environmental performance.

4. Purpose and Objectives

The Oxygen Audit Policy aims to establish a systematic framework for assessing environmental conditions contributing to a healthy campus atmosphere.

The major objectives are to:

1. Assess the existing green cover and vegetation of the campus.
2. Document trees, plants and other significant vegetation.
3. Identify opportunities for increasing green areas and tree canopy.
4. Assess air quality and relevant environmental parameters wherever feasible.
5. Review ventilation and air circulation in important indoor spaces.
6. Identify major sources of dust, smoke and vehicular emissions.
7. Promote native and suitable plant species.
8. Support biodiversity conservation and sustainable landscaping.
9. Recommend corrective and improvement measures.
10. Generate documented evidence for institutional sustainability and accreditation purposes.

5. Scope

The policy shall cover the entire institutional campus, including academic buildings, administrative offices, laboratories, workshops, hostels, canteen areas, sports facilities, gardens, roads, parking areas and other campus facilities.

The audit may consider:

- Green cover and plantation
- Tree and plant inventory
- Gardens and landscaped areas
- Indoor and outdoor air quality
- Ventilation and air circulation
- Dust and vehicular pollution
- Biodiversity and ecological features
- Open and green spaces
- Environmental awareness practices
- Emergency oxygen facilities, wherever maintained by the Institute

6. Audit Parameters

The Oxygen Audit shall assess relevant parameters based on availability, applicability and feasibility. The assessment may include:

Area	Indicative Parameters
Green Cover	Green area, tree canopy, plantation area
Vegetation	Number and type of trees and plants
Plantation	Annual plantation and survival rate
Air Environment	Relevant air quality parameters, wherever measured
Ventilation	Natural ventilation and air circulation
Pollution Sources	Vehicular movement, dust, smoke and other sources
Biodiversity	Plant diversity, birds, butterflies and other ecological features
Landscaping	Gardens, lawns and green zones
Awareness	Environmental programmes and stakeholder participation
Improvement	Corrective and preventive actions arising from audit

7. Green Cover and Plantation

The Institute shall progressively enhance campus green cover through systematic plantation, landscaping and protection of existing vegetation.

Preference shall be given to suitable native and appropriate species considering local environmental conditions, water availability, biodiversity, value and maintenance requirements.



Existing trees shall be protected wherever feasible. Tree cutting or removal shall be undertaken only when unavoidable for safety, infrastructure or other justified institutional requirements, with appropriate compensatory plantation wherever applicable.

8. Air Quality and Environmental Conditions

The Institute shall make reasonable efforts to maintain healthy environmental conditions by controlling dust, smoke, unnecessary emissions and other avoidable pollution sources.

Where feasible, air quality measurements may be undertaken through appropriate instruments or competent external agencies. The results shall be reviewed to identify areas requiring corrective action.

The Institute shall encourage measures such as plantation, dust control, regular maintenance, appropriate ventilation, reduced idling of vehicles and environmentally responsible transportation practices.

9. Indoor Environment and Ventilation

The Institute shall promote adequate natural or mechanical ventilation in classrooms, laboratories, offices, libraries, hostels and other occupied spaces.

Where required, ventilation systems, air circulation arrangements and indoor environmental conditions shall be reviewed as part of the audit. Corrective measures may include improvement of ventilation, maintenance of ventilation equipment, housekeeping and reduction of indoor pollution sources.

10. Biodiversity and Natural Environment

The Institute shall promote conservation of campus biodiversity through appropriate plantation, landscaping and protection of existing natural features.

Where feasible, the campus may develop medicinal plant areas, butterfly friendly gardens, native plant zones, green corridors and other biodiversity supporting initiatives. Such activities may also be integrated with student projects, environmental education and extension activities.

11. Roles and Responsibilities

The **Governing Council** shall provide overall policy direction and institutional support.

The **Director** shall ensure implementation of the policy and provide necessary administrative support.

The **IQAC** shall coordinate documentation, monitoring, review and integration of audit outcomes with institutional quality assurance processes.

The **Green Campus and Sustainability Committee** shall coordinate the Oxygen Audit, plantation activities, environmental monitoring and implementation of improvement measures.

Heads of Departments and administrative units shall support implementation within their respective areas.



Estate and Maintenance personnel shall maintain gardens, trees, ventilation systems and environmental facilities.

Students, faculty and staff shall participate in plantation, awareness and environmental sustainability activities.

12. Audit Frequency and Methodology

The Oxygen Audit shall normally be conducted **annually** or at such frequency as decided by the Institute.

The audit may include:

1. Review of previous audit reports.
2. Physical inspection of campus areas.
3. Assessment of green cover and plantation.
4. Tree and vegetation inventory.
5. Review of air quality data, wherever available.
6. Assessment of ventilation and environmental conditions.
7. Identification of pollution sources.
8. Interaction with concerned personnel.
9. Documentation of observations.
10. Preparation of an audit report with recommendations.

Where specialized measurements are required, the Institute may engage competent external agencies or qualified professionals.

13. Monitoring and Key Performance Indicators

The Institute shall maintain suitable indicators for evaluating progress. Indicative KPIs include:

Indicator	Measurement
Green Cover	Area or percentage of campus
Tree Population	Number of trees
Annual Plantation	Number planted per year
Plantation Survival	Percentage survival
Biodiversity Initiatives	Number of initiatives
Air Quality Monitoring	Number of monitoring exercises
Ventilation Assessment	Areas assessed
Pollution Control	Corrective measures implemented
Awareness	Programmes conducted
Audit Compliance	Recommendations implemented

Targets may be established annually based on the baseline assessment and available institutional resources.

14. Awareness and Stakeholder Participation

The Institute shall promote environmental awareness through plantation drives, World Environment Day programmes, sustainability campaigns, technical workshops, competitions, student projects, NSS activities, Eco Club activities and other appropriate initiatives.



Students shall be encouraged to participate in tree census, biodiversity documentation, environmental monitoring and green campus activities. Such activities may also be used as experiential learning opportunities.

15. Documentation and Records

The following records shall be maintained as applicable:

1. Oxygen Audit Report.
2. Previous audit reports and compliance records.
3. Tree and plant inventory.
4. Green cover assessment.
5. Plantation records.
6. Plantation survival records.
7. Air quality monitoring reports, where available.
8. Ventilation assessment records.
9. Photographic evidence.
10. Awareness and plantation programme records.
11. Corrective and preventive action records.
12. Annual sustainability performance records.

The IQAC shall maintain the master documentation for accreditation and institutional quality assurance purposes.

16. Corrective and Improvement Measures

Audit findings shall be reviewed by the Green Campus and Sustainability Committee. Wherever gaps are identified, appropriate corrective and improvement measures shall be recommended.

Such measures may include additional plantation, replacement of non surviving plants, improvement of green areas, dust control, ventilation improvement, pollution source control, biodiversity enhancement and stakeholder awareness programmes.

Responsibilities and timelines shall be assigned for significant corrective actions, and implementation shall be periodically reviewed.

17. Integration with Institutional Sustainability Framework

The Oxygen Audit shall be integrated with the Institute's **Green, Environment & Energy Policy, Green Audit, Environmental Audit, Energy Audit, Water Audit, Waste Management initiatives and sustainability programmes.**

The audit findings shall contribute to institutional environmental planning and continual improvement. The broader Green, Environment & Energy Policy already provides for environmental monitoring, green cover enhancement, air quality improvement, biodiversity conservation and periodic audits.

18. Compliance and Accreditation Support

The policy shall support the Institute's commitment to environmental sustainability and may provide documented evidence for applicable requirements of NAAC, NBA, AICTE, institutional sustainability reporting and other relevant quality assurance frameworks.



The Institute shall ensure that implementation of the policy remains consistent with applicable environmental regulations, institutional policies and approved sustainability practices.

19. Review and Continual Improvement

The Oxygen Audit Policy shall be reviewed at least once every year by the Green Campus and Sustainability Committee in coordination with IQAC.

The review shall consider:

- Audit findings
- Achievement of targets
- Plantation and green cover trends
- Environmental monitoring results
- Stakeholder feedback
- Corrective actions
- Opportunities for improvement

Recommendations shall be incorporated into the subsequent annual action plan. The policy shall follow the Plan, Do, Check, Act approach adopted by the Institute for environmental and energy management.

Approval

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Signature: _____

Recommended by

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Approved by:

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