



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



BARKATULLAH UNIVERSITY, BHOPAL



**"THE KEY TO A GREENER PLANET
IS IN OUR HANDS"**





PREFACE



Environmental pollution is one of the greatest challenges that the world is facing today. Once released into the environment, many pollutants may persist for long time. Over the last several decades, there has been increasing global concern on its potential health impacts. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that nearly a quarter of human-involved diseases today are attributable to prolonged exposure to environmental pollution.

These environment-related diseases are mostly latent, and not easily identified. Chemical pollution originated from human activities has been suspected as the major culprit to be blamed for. There have been a number of notable environment pollution incidents, such as Bhopal disaster in India, Minamata disease in Japan, the Great Smog in London, etc. resulting in severe detrimental effects on human health.

Due to the complexities of environmental problems the negative health outcomes of EDs may be transmitted to further generations and can cause declination in biodiversity. The adverse effects, associated with the reproductive and health system are consequently the key concerns about environmental pollution.

Environmental policy of Barkatullah University, Bhopal will result in helping the students to develop their skills to learn planning and implementing effective policies that underlie environmental issues.





INTRODUCTION

The problems of environmental protection and practicing sustainable developmental methods, at present, are common preoccupation worldwide. The sustainable development has to be taken into consideration in establishing the line of action at the level of the whole environmental as well as communitarian process. The concept of sustainable development has made society conscientious and, in the same time, recognize, the role and importance of environmental factors as well as of the functions and drag our attention to services that environment provides.

The environmental issues that people faced earlier are still issues today, including air and water pollution, waste management, ecosystem management, biodiversity protection, the protection of natural resources, wildlife, and endangered species, lack of fossil fuel, sustainable energy solution, ozone depletion, resource depletion and world famous climate change. These issues affect life of everyone and cannot be ignored. It is our utmost priority to give suggestions for their remedial and design plans and strategies to overcome those environmental issues.

The anthropogenic activity has affected environment in many ways. Due to current state of environment not only policy makers but every individual needs to work for protection of environment. With increasing concern on environmental issues and emphasis for sustainable development in today's society we at Barkatullah University are trying to play our role in making environment free from pollution by making and implementing an Environmental Policy for our campus.

SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

One of the goals of UNDP's Strategic Plan (2018-2021) is “addressing climate change”. In synchronization with UNDP, Barkatullah University also finds its way towards green campus and trying to give its little contribution in combating environmental problems. The aggravated pollution, overexploitation of natural resources and environmental degradation contributes to climate change and severe, pervasive and irreversible changes for people, assets, economies and ecosystems.

The environment and human activities have close relation with each other. To find the remedial measures and solutions to the environmental problems, environmental planning is must. These environment strategies should be such that they can be easily adopted and implemented. The strategies should be university friendly and intended to have a greener campus and an example for the visitors.





Environmental policy of Barkatullah University, Bhopal will result in helping the students to learn planning and implementing effective policies that underlie environmental issues. They will also learn to develop ability of decision-making processes that are scientifically credible, involve a diverse set of interests. This process will lead to the development of organizations that can move society in more sustainable course. In addition, faculty, research scholars and students will come altogether that will boost the social environment of the campus. The tools for environmental policy will include environmental awareness, legal aspects, economic factors and necessary actions.

Environmental policy can defined as “any action deliberately taken to manage human activities with a view to prevent, reduce, or mitigate harmful effects on nature and natural resources, and ensuring that man-made changes to the environment do not have harmful effects on humans or the environment (McCormick, 2001).

The environmental policy of Barkatullah University is a comprehensive planning covering every environmental aspect including air, water, noise, soil, chemicals, land, waste, climate, biodiversity. The environmental policy areas will include multidisciplinary fields including life sciences, ecology, earth sciences, physical sciences, economics, geography, sociology, psychology and many more. The policy mainly focuses on environment-society interaction, environment-economy relation, healthy competitiveness, innovation, employment, GDP and healthy and quality human life.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The major environmental issues will include air pollution, water pollution, and soil pollution, sewage treatment, solid waste treatment, declining natural resources, depletion of potable water, global climatic changes, risks to biodiversity, ecosystem and human health. However, it will exclude the issues that do not relate to a situation in the physical environment, but affects the quality of life. For example, changes in the social environment that affect the way people relate to each other will not be qualify as environmental issues.





OBJECTIVES OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Barkatullah University is bestowed with natural beauty and greenery. It owns lush green lawns, trees, some rare and endangered flora and fauna species and, small and big gardens. The administration of university along with faculty members and students deserve all appreciation for plantation and caring for them. The primary objective of the environmental policy is to maintain and enhance clean and green environment in the Barkatullah University campus, however major focal areas of environmental policy or it also includes:

1. Solid waste management

Solid waste is the one of the major environmental pollution. It leads to tainted smell, unhygienic conditions, health hazard and also degrades the aesthetic value of the campus. Barkatullah University is planning to achieve 'best from waste'.

2. Organic waste

Biological waste *viz.*, vegetable waste, dried leaves, will be used for production of organic manure, organic fertilizer and biogas. Initially the installation of these biogas plants is proposed in hostels, canteens and guest house as model units which can be later promoted in campus residence and to general public. At present, Barkatullah University is producing manure by vermicomposting.

3. Concept of bio-toilets

There is enough scope for introducing concept of bio-toilets in the university campus. We are trying to adopt such eco-friendly methods. A number of bio-toilets have been installed across the country including in passenger trains. The bio-toilets will be installed in various university residence buildings *viz.*, departments, hostels and guest house one by one.

4. Water conservation

The university will make more efforts for waste water treatment and ground water recharge by using conventional techniques like roof water harvesting system. At present some departments of university are already using roof water harvesting system in their buildings. Primarily, priority of university lies on judicious use and conservation of water by checking overflow and leakage of water.

5. Energy conservation

Barkatullah University is replacing old conventional bulbs and tube lights with LEDs and CFLs. Solar panel are also being installed in the campus which is used as alternate source of energy. The use of solar energy for water heating, lightening and other such need is in practice. As a gesture of good





practice rules are displayed to reduce the consumption of electricity and are strictly followed. Apart from solar energy, no attempts have been made so far for use of wind energy in the jurisdiction of Barkatullah University, Bhopal. In future attempts will be made to promote it. The scheme like car pool and shared vehicle to the employee efforts will also be made to reduce the consumption of petrol and diesel.

6. Conservation of threatened and endangered species of plants and animals

The loss of biodiversity is a serious issue. The Barkatullah University campus is bestowed with rich flora and fauna diversity. Some rare, threatened and endangered species of plants and animals are found in university which is taken under special care. We have documented plant and animal biodiversity and for protection and conservation of endangered species efforts are made regularly.

7. Promotion of green technologies

The university will promote the concept of green building and green computing in the campus.

8. Collaboration with NGOs, municipal corporations and other agencies

We intend to join hands with NGOs, municipal corporation and other agencies. It may include imparting training to our students, conducting research together and to come with solutions to socio-environmental problems on mutual interest basis. At present Barkatullah University has signed MoUs with many institutions and agencies.

9. Environmental awareness

Being an educational institution, we are abide to disseminate knowledge to the each and every individual of the society. We, in the form of organizing awareness campus, seminars and workshops, man-to-man interaction, are spreading awareness among the literates and illiterates.

STRATEGIES TO BE TAKEN

The concern of Barkatullah University towards environment will be ensured by adopting following strategies

1. Proper treatment of waste generated from departmental labs.
2. Promotion of plantation for purified air.
3. Plantation of medicinal plants in the campus.
4. Prohibition of burning of organic/inorganic waste within the university premise.
5. Practicing vermicomposting.
6. Installation of food waste based mini bio-gas plants in hostels and faculty houses.
7. Purification of sewage waste water by aquatic plants and grasses.
8. Recycling of shredded waste paper.
9. Establishment of bio-toilets.



10. Promoting water harvesting and ground water recharging systems.
11. Installation of solar panel.
12. Dependency on solar panel for electricity.
13. Installation of wind energy systems.
14. Prohibition of polythene in the university campus.
15. Prohibition of plastic and thermacol made disposal items in the campus.
16. Promotion of eco-friendly consumer goods.
17. Adopting eco-friendly habits.
18. Collaboration with agencies viz., biodegradable plastic manufacturer, manure manufacturer.
19. Installation of proper hoardings displaying eco-friendly slogans.
20. Preparation of Environmental calendar for Barkatullah University depicting important days and activities to be organized on those events.
21. Recommendation of practicing above measures to the affiliated colleges.

TASK MEMBERS

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