POLICY STATEMENT

Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Govt.College for Women, Gandhinagar is committed to promote sustainable waste management practices to protect the environment, conserve resources, and ensure the health and well-being of our stakeholders. We recognize that effective waste management is essential for achieving our environmental goals and maintaining our social responsibility.

We strive to minimize waste generation throughout our operations by implementing measures to reduce, reuse, and recycle materials. This includes promoting the efficient use of resources, encouraging employees to adopt responsible consumption habits, and implementing waste reduction programs.

We aim to establish comprehensive recycling programs within our facilities and encourage the use of recycled materials in our production processes. We collaborate with relevant stakeholders to support the development of recycling infrastructure and create awareness among employees and the community about the importance of recycling.

We adheres to responsible waste collection and disposal practices through proper waste segregation, appropriate packaging and labeling of waste, and utilizing licensed waste management service providers to ensure compliance with environmental regulations.

We are committed to improve our waste management practices by monitoring and evaluating our waste management performance, setting targets for waste reduction and recycling, and regularly reviewing our policies and procedures to ensure their effectiveness and alignment with evolving best practices.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- **Environmental Protection:**
  The primary objectives of waste management is to minimize the amount of waste generated by implementing waste reduction strategies, promoting the principles of "reduce, reuse, and recycle," and encouraging sustainable consumption patterns.

- **Resource Recovery:**
  Resource recovery includes the extraction of energy from waste through technologies like waste-to-energy or anaerobic digestion.This includes recycling materials such as paper, plastics, metals, and glass to conserve natural resources, reduce energy consumption, and decrease the reliance on raw materials.

- **Safe and Proper Waste Disposal:**
  Waste management aims to ensure the safe and proper disposal of waste that cannot be recycled or recovered which includes the responsible operation of landfill facilities, adherence to waste acceptance criteria, and the implementation of appropriate treatment methods to minimize environmental contamination and health risks.

- **Compliance with Regulations:**
  Waste management aims to comply with relevant laws, regulations, and standards set by local, regional, and national authorities. It involves maintaining permits, licenses, and certifications necessary for waste management operations, as well as ensuring proper reporting and documentation of waste-related activities.

- **Cost Efficiency and Economic Benefits:**
  Waste management aims to optimize the economic benefits associated with waste management which includes the cost-effective waste collection and treatment methods.

SCOPE

The scope of waste management encompasses various aspects related to the handling, treatment, and disposal of waste materials. It includes a range of activities aimed at minimizing waste generation, promoting recycling and resource recovery, and ensuring the safe and environmentally sound management of waste. The scope of waste management typically includes the following elements:

Waste Generation:

Waste management covers the entire lifecycle of waste, starting from its generation at various sites in the college campus to its disposal in the bins at respective places.

Waste Segregation and Collection:

Waste management involves the segregation of different types of waste to facilitate proper handling and disposal.

Waste Treatment:

Waste management encompasses various treatment methods to reduce the environmental impact of waste. The processes such as recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion, incineration, and landfilling aims to recover resources, produce energy, reduce volume, and mitigate potential environmental and health hazards.

Waste Policy and Regulations:

Waste management incorporates the development and implementation of waste policies, regulations, and standards. These policies guide waste management practices, set targets, and promote sustainable waste management approaches.

ACTION PLAN

The objectives should be realistic, time-bound, and relevant to the organization's environmental priorities. An action plan for waste management outlines specific steps and initiatives to be taken to achieve waste management goals.

- **Assess Current Situation:**
  The committee will conduct a comprehensive assessment of the current waste management practices, including waste generation, collection, treatment, and disposal methods. Identify areas of improvement and determine the baseline for measuring progress.

- **Set Goals and Objectives:**
  Clear and measurable goals and objectives for waste management will be defined. This includes waste reduction targets, recycling rates, hazardous waste handling improvements, division of college campus into waste management zones to be monitored by faculty and students.

- **Develop Strategies and Initiatives:**
  *Implementation of programs and measures to reduce waste generation by promoting reusable alternatives, encouraging responsible consumption, and minimizing packaging waste.
  *Explore opportunities for resource recovery, such as composting organic waste or extracting energy from waste.
  *The safe handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste will be monitored. Providing training to employees and ensure compliance with applicable regulations.
- **Continuous Improvement:**
  To foster a culture of continuous improvement in waste management practices. Will encourage feedback, conduct periodic reviews, and incorporate lessons learned into future initiatives.

• The college will collaborate with the agencies / NGOs to manage the recyclable waste generated in college at larger scale.

• The dustbins will be installed at different locations to manage solid waste which will be further separated into biodegradable and non-biodegradable categories at broader level.

• The college will follow the proper guidelines for treatment and disposal of biological and chemical wastes generated.

• The college will strictly adhere to plastic usage guidelines and has already prohibited the use of single-use plastic in the campus like carry-bags, glasses, spoons, plates, etc.

• The college will develop a reporting mechanism to provide updates on the progress of the action plan to relevant stakeholders, including management, employees and students. Transparent communication helps to build trust and engagement.

SIGNIFICANCE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT

A well designed waste management plan contributes in mitigating climate change. Proper waste treatment, such as composting or anaerobic digestion, helps reduce methane emissions from decomposing organic waste in landfills.

Waste management is integral to sustainable development. It aligns with the principles of the circular economy, where waste is seen as a valuable resource. By adopting sustainable waste management practices, societies can promote economic growth, create job opportunities, and reduce the environmental burden associated with waste generation.

Additionally, waste-to-energy technologies can generate renewable energy, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

PRINCIPAL