Green Campus Initiatives at Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College, Urun-Islampur

Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College, Urun-Islampur, is committed to developing and maintaining a clean, green, biodiversity-rich, and environmentally sustainable campus. The institution recognizes the importance of vegetation and tree cover in maintaining ecological balance, improving the campus microclimate, supporting biodiversity, reducing environmental pollution, and creating a healthy and pleasant learning environment.

The college has undertaken several initiatives to conserve existing vegetation and enhance green cover through tree plantation, maintenance of medicinal and botanically significant plants, and the development of a large collection of potted plants.

1. Campus Area and Tree Cover

The college campus is spread over approximately **7 acres of land**. Out of the total campus area, approximately **2.7 acres are covered with trees**.

Thus, the tree-covered area constitutes approximately **38.6% of the total campus area**, demonstrating the institution's significant commitment to maintaining a green campus.

The established tree cover provides shade and shelter and contributes to improving the overall ecological quality of the campus. It also helps moderate the campus microclimate, reduce dust, support biodiversity, and enhance the aesthetic quality of the institutional environment.

2. Tree Plantation and Canopy Cover

The college campus has approximately **300 trees**. The average canopy area of an individual tree is approximately **78.4 square feet**. Since the canopies of several trees overlap, the effective canopy area cannot be calculated simply by multiplying the number of trees by the average canopy area.

The overlapping canopies create interconnected shaded and green areas across the campus. The established trees provide a range of ecological and environmental benefits, including:

- Providing shade and reducing heat exposure.
- Helping moderate the campus microclimate.
- Absorbing atmospheric carbon dioxide.
- Releasing oxygen and contributing to improved air quality.
- Reducing dust and particulate matter.
- Providing habitat and food resources for birds and insects.
- Supporting campus biodiversity.
- Contributing to soil conservation and moisture retention.
- Enhancing the aesthetic and recreational value of the campus.

The well-established tree cover is therefore an important component of the college's green campus infrastructure.

3. Shade-Net Facility and Plant Diversity

As an initiative to further enhance green coverage and conserve plant diversity, the college has established a **shade-net facility containing more than 100 medicinal and botanically significant plants**.

The shade-net facility provides suitable conditions for the maintenance and growth of plants that require protection from direct sunlight and other environmental stresses. It also serves as an important educational resource for students.

The collection of medicinal and botanically interesting plants provides opportunities for students to observe plant diversity and understand the ecological, botanical, and medicinal importance of different plant species.

4. Potted Plant Initiative

In addition to the extensive tree cover, the college maintains **more than 500 potted plants** at various locations across the campus.

The potted plants enhance the visual appeal of institutional spaces and increase vegetation in areas where ground-level plantation may be limited. They also provide opportunities to maintain a diverse range of plant species within the campus.

The maintenance of a large number of potted plants reflects the institution's continuous efforts to increase vegetation and promote an appreciation of plants among students and staff.

5. Biodiversity and Educational Significance

The green campus provides a valuable **living learning environment** for students. The combination of approximately 300 trees, medicinal plants, botanically significant plants, and more than 500 potted plants creates opportunities for experiential learning and environmental education.

Students, particularly those studying biological and environmental sciences, can observe plant diversity and ecological interactions directly on the campus. The shade-net collection of medicinal and botanically significant plants further supports practical learning related to plant identification, biodiversity, conservation, and the importance of medicinal plants.

The campus vegetation therefore serves both ecological and educational purposes.

6. Environmental Benefits of the Green Campus

The green initiatives undertaken by the college contribute to several environmental benefits. The extensive tree cover and additional plant collections help to:

- Increase and maintain campus green cover.
- Improve local air quality.
- Absorb carbon dioxide and support carbon sequestration.
- Provide shade and reduce heat accumulation.

- Moderate the campus microclimate.
- Reduce dust and particulate pollution.
- Provide habitat for birds, butterflies, insects, and other organisms.
- Support plant and biological diversity.
- Improve soil and moisture conservation.
- Enhance the aesthetic quality of the campus.
- Create a pleasant and healthy environment for teaching and learning.

The overlapping tree canopies are particularly beneficial in creating continuous shaded areas and improving the overall comfort of the campus environment.

7. Green Campus Resources at a Glance

Green Campus Component	Status/Quantity
Total campus area	**7 acres**
Area covered with trees	**2.7 acres**
Approximate percentage of campus covered by trees	**38.6%**
Number of established trees	**Approximately 300**
Average canopy area per tree	**78.4 sq. ft.**
Tree canopy	**Overlapping**
Shade-net facility	**Available**
Medicinal and botanically significant plants	**More than 100**
Potted plants	**More than 500**

8. Commitment to Green Campus Development

Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College, Urun-Islampur, continuously strives to maintain and expand its green infrastructure. The presence of approximately **2.7 acres of tree-covered area within the 7-acre campus**, along with approximately **300 established trees**, demonstrates the institution's sustained commitment to maintaining substantial green cover.

The shade-net facility with more than **100 medicinal and botanically significant plants** and the collection of more than **500 potted plants** further strengthen the college's efforts towards plant conservation, biodiversity enhancement, and environmental education.

These initiatives complement the institution's other environmental sustainability measures, including renewable energy generation, waste management, and environmental awareness programmes.

Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College, Urun-Islampur, has developed a substantially green and environmentally enriching campus through systematic maintenance of trees and diverse plant collections. Approximately **2.7 acres, or 38.6% of the total 7-acre campus, is covered with trees**, supported by around **300 established trees** with overlapping canopies.

The shade-net facility containing more than **100 medicinal and botanically significant plants**, together with more than **500 potted plants**, further enhances the campus's plant diversity and green character.

Through these initiatives, the college promotes **biodiversity conservation, carbon sequestration, climate moderation, environmental education, and sustainable campus development**. The institution remains committed to conserving existing vegetation and undertaking further plantation and greening initiatives to strengthen its green campus in the future.

The green campus of Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College, Urun-Islampur, supports a diverse range of **birds, butterflies, insects, and other small organisms**. The extensive tree cover, medicinal plants, potted plants, and flowering vegetation provide food, shelter, nesting sites, and suitable habitats for various species. The presence of these organisms reflects the ecological value of the campus and contributes to maintaining a healthy and balanced campus ecosystem. Regular observation of birds, butterflies, insects, and other forms of biodiversity also provides students with valuable opportunities for **nature study, biodiversity documentation, environmental education, and experiential learning**. Thus, the college campus functions as a small but significant biodiversity-rich habitat within the surrounding landscape.

Green and Clean Campus

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कष्टकरी जनतेचे लढाऊ नेते डॉ. एन. डी. पाटील यांच्या जयंतीनिमित्त येथील महात्मा फुले शिक्षण संस्थेच्या कर्मवीर भाऊराव पाटील महाविद्यालयात विविध उपक्रम राबवण्यात आले.

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पर्यावरण संवर्धनाची जबाबदारी सर्वांची : पूजा सारोळकर

इस्लामपूर / प्रतिनिधी : पर्यावरण संरक्षण व संवर्धन ही संस्था तसेच समाजातील प्रत्येक घटकाची वैयक्तिक जबाबदारी आहे, असे मत पूजा सारोळकर यांनी व्यक्त केले. कर्मवीर भाऊराव पाटील कॉलेजमध्ये आयोजित एक दिवसीय कार्यशाळेत त्या बोलत होत्या. अध्यक्षस्थानी प्राचार्य डॉ. नितीन शिंदे होते. स्वागत डॉ. संदीप पाटील यांनी केले. पाहुण्यांचा परिचय प्रा. डॉ. महेश गोखले यांनी करुन दिला. सूत्रसंचालन प्रा. अनिल माळी यांनी केले. यावेळी कॉलेजमधील सर्व प्राध्यापक, शिक्षकेत्तर कर्मचारी उपस्थित होते.

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Plant species maintained in Shade Net

Biodiversity Components

Potted plants

Green Initiatives – Vruksha Dindi, plant species name plates, participation in green initiatives