



Evidence(s) THE-Impact Ranking



University : Sri Sri University
Country : India
Web Address : www.srisriuniversity.edu.in

SDG14: LIFE BELOW WATER

14.5 Maintaining a local ecosystem

14.5.3. Programs towards good aquatic stewardship practices

Develop and support programmes and incentives that encourage and maintain good aquatic stewardship practices

Description

Sri Sri University demonstrates a commendable approach to water resource management, employing a range of efficient practices. These include rainwater harvesting and its reuse, wastewater, and sewage treatment, as well as controlled drainage systems.

To further promote responsible water usage, students are actively engaged through awareness campaigns, encouraging them to minimize water consumption in the hostels. The university has also taken practical steps such as upgrading taps with air filters, yielding a significant 25% reduction in water usage.

Cutting-edge technology comes into play as well, with sensor-based toilets implemented to curtail water wastage and enhance water conservation efforts.

The university has long practised drip irrigation for horticulture, contributing significantly to water conservation. As a result, the university has maintained low annual water consumption, exemplifying its commitment to sustainable water resource management.

Sri Sri University is dedicated to treating all waste before disposal, whether solid or liquid. The university has established dedicated committees, such as the Biological Waste Disposal Committee, Swacch Bharat, and Sustainability Committee, to oversee and implement effective waste management practices. Sri Sri University boasts well-maintained infrastructure, including a Bio-Sewage Treatment Plant, Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Drinking Water Treatment Plant, ensuring that all waste undergoes comprehensive



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treatment before disposal. Furthermore, Sri Sri University demonstrates a commitment to sustainability by upcycling 15-20 lakh liters of water from rainwater harvesting for sanitation, irrigation, and other uses through its water treatment plant. This proactive approach to waste management and water conservation aligns with Sri Sri University's broader environmental stewardship initiatives.

Action points:

- Sri Sri University in Cuttack, Odisha, is a sprawling 188-acre campus that utilizes laterite rock quarries to its advantage. These quarries serve as natural reservoirs, harvesting and storing rainwater. Each quarry can store up to 500,000 liters of water, and the university collectively captures between 15,000,000 and 20,000,000 liters of rainwater through these structures.
- The collected rainwater is channeled through pipes for irrigation, agriculture, and horticultural purposes. To further optimize water usage, the university employs micro irrigation systems, including drip irrigation and sprinklers, which reduce water consumption by 50% and 60%, respectively.
- Water conservation measures extend beyond irrigation to encompass wastewater management as well. Separate pipelines are in place for black, grey, and rainwater, ensuring that each type of water is treated and utilized appropriately. In washrooms, dual flush toilets with 2 knobs, one for 6 liters and the other for 9 liters, are installed, conserving up to 70% of water compared to single flush systems.
- The university's commitment to water conservation extends to the kitchen and laundry facilities. A dishwasher installed in the common kitchen area reduces water usage by 90%, while nine IoT-



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based washing machines and nine dryers fixed in hostels collectively save 45% of water. Each washing machine has a capacity of 8 kg, and slots are booked through an app.

- To prevent water wastage during tank overflow, sensor-based water level controllers are installed throughout the campus. Additionally, the STP-treated water samples are regularly monitored for quality by an accredited third-party consultant in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- Sri Sri University's water conservation efforts are guided by the 3R concept (Reduce, Recycle, and Reuse), which has significantly minimized the university's impact on water resources. Through a combination of water conservation structures, programs, and practices, Sri Sri University achieves a remarkable 65% reduction in water consumption.