

Environmental Audit Report

10th January 2024



Anjuman I Islam's
Akbar Peerbhoy College of Commerce & Economics
Maulana Shaukat Ali Road, Do Taki
Mumbai 400008
Maharashtra
(Established 1969)

Acknowledgment

Prism Environmental Research & Solutions is thankful to the authorities of *Mkhaat Vardhary* College of Commerce & Economics for providing an opportunity to conduct a Green Audit at the College.

We are thankful to Principal Prof Dr Shaukat Ali who showed confidence in entrusting this work to our team. Vice Principal Prof Hemanth kumar Jonnalla, Prof Kirti Menghani, IQAC Coordinator and Dr Smita Salunke, Green Audit in-charge played a pivotal role in the conduct of the Green Audit and we wish to express our gratitude to them for their whole hearted cooperation. We are thankful to the Green Audit team and the student volunteers for providing the necessary inputs for the Audit.

We are thankful to all others who directly or indirectly contributed to the Audit. We have tried our level best and hope that the recommendations given in this Audit Report shall be implemented to make the College Campus greener.

Certificate

This is to certify that all information provided in this Report is true and to the best of our knowledge. Errors, if any, may be purely accidental.

The Green Audit is officially being submitted to the Management of Anjuman-i-Islam's Akbar Peerbhoy College of Commerce & Economics, Mumbai today.

Dated: 10 January 2024

Submitted by:



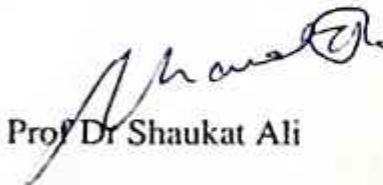
Pranav Salunke

Authorized Signatory

For Prism Environmental Research & Solutions

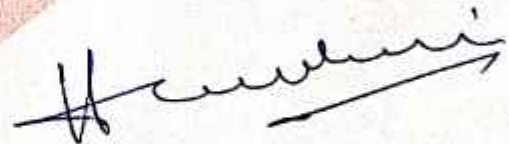
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Acknowledged by on behalf of Akbar Peerbhoy College of Commerce & Economics, Grant Road, Mumbai



Prof. Dr. Shaukat Ali

Principal




Prof. Hemanth Kumar Jonnalla

Vice Principal



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INTRODUCTION

While the world stands at crossroads of ecology and climate change; and resource exhaustion it becomes imperative to verify the processes in practice and convert them into green and clean one, wherever required. Environment audit provides a direction towards assessment and improvement in this context.

An Environmental Audit aims to analyze environmental practices within and outside the college/university campuses, which have direct impact on the stakeholders. Environment audit can be defined as systematic identification, quantification, recording, reporting and analysis of components of given environment. It is initiated with the motive of inspecting the effort within the institutions whose exercises can impact the health of inhabitants and the environment. An environment audit aims to shed light on the existing environmental consciousness of the institution and to identify areas of concern, if any and provide suitable recommendations.

1.2 NEED FOR ENVIRONMENT AUDITING

Environment auditing is the process of identifying and determining whether institutional policies and practices are environment-friendly and sustainable. Environmental Auditing becomes necessary in order to make sure that the institution is proactive and competent enough at addressing specific environmental challenges and goals; and finding out opportunities to improve environmental performance.

It becomes necessary for an institute that imparts education, to have the right approach towards conserving and preserving resources; so as to not only meet the desired level of Green consciousness but also to set an example for its students and other stakeholders towards preserving the Earth's resources and adopting a sustainable way of life.

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF ENVIRONMENT AUDIT

- To examine current practices such as of resource utilization, waste management, etc.
- To identify and analyze significant environmental issues, if any.
- Setup goal, vision, and mission for environment practices in campus.
- Establish and implement Environmental Management System in various departments.
- Continuous assessment for betterment of environment on the campus.
- Sustainable use of natural resource in the campus.
- Financial savings through a reduction in resource use
- Curriculum enrichment through practical experience
- Development of ownership, personal and social responsibility for the College campus and its environment
- Developing an environmental ethic and value system among students.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT OF APCCE

The audit is a tool to monitor environmental compliance of the Institution and find gaps, if any; and recommend suitable strategies to overcome the gaps. Several observations made during the audit at Akbar Peerbhoy College of Commerce & Economics are mentioned below:

2.1 Overall information pertaining to APCCE

The College was established on 16th June, 1969 by the Anjuman-i-Islam, Mumbai. It was originally named as Anjuman College of Commerce & Economics, but in the year 1975 it was dedicated to the memory of late Mr. Akbar Peerbhoy, a noted barrister, philanthropist, educationist and founder of the college. It is now known as Anjuman-i-Islam's Akbar Peerbhoy College of Commerce & Economics. This year the college has completed 54 years of its useful and beneficial existence.

The college is affiliated to the University of Mumbai for the teaching courses of studies upto B.Com Degree Examination (Three-year integrated B.Com Degree course). The college has also started the Degree Courses of Bachelor in Management Studies (BMS), Bachelor of Science in Information Technology B.Sc.(IT), B.Sc. (Computer Science) and Bachelor in Mass Media (BMM). In addition, the College also conducts certificate courses in Computer Programming (Software) and Diploma in Business Management. The College conducts M.Com Classes and has started M.Sc. (I.T.) from June 2007. The College has been recognized as Ph. D. Research Centre since 2014-15 by University of Mumbai.

The college is located on Maulana Shaukat Ali Road, Mumbai 400008, midway between J.J. Hospital Junction and Grant Road Railway Station. It is therefore easily accessible by bus and train.

The college aims at training students in the field of Commerce & Economics, Management, Mass Media and Information Technology and developing their overall personality, so that they become assets to the society. To achieve this end, the college has numerous co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.


From the academic year 2004-2005, the college has been made Centre of National Council for Promotion of Urdu and Arabic Languages under the scheme of Ministry of Human Resource Development Govt. of India.

The college has approximately 2000 students in Junior, Degree and Self-Financing Courses. The overall average student-teacher ratio stands at 1:90. Apart from academics, the college encourages several co-curricular activities. In an on-going programme, the college endeavours to help students in their overall development.

2.1.1 INFRASTRUCTURE / CAMPUS

- The main building of the College is a four-storeyed building spread across roughly half an acre. A canteen and a Gymkhana is present on the campus next to the main building.
- The classrooms and corridors are kept clean and they are well-lit. Classrooms are spacious and airy.
- The College Campus has an open space adjacent to the main building. At times this open space is used for events and celebrations that require Students' Gathering/Assembly, while rest of the times it is used by students to play badminton, volleyball etc.
- The campus has 25 trees and a couple of shrubs and ornamental plants. A Plant Taxonomist was specially roped in to identify the trees with their respective botanical names. Some of the existing trees are as old as 45-50 years.
- There is no gardener allocated to take care of the small garden on the campus but student volunteers along with the menial staff regularly take care of the watering of the plants and clipping off the broken branches whenever necessary.

The Tree Report given below was drafted by the Plant Taxonomist and pertains to all the trees existing on the campus.



SARFARAZ K. KHAN
M.Sc. Botany
Plant Taxonomist & Horticulturist

Dr: 14/07/2022

TREE REPORT

SUB: Anjuman-e-Islami Akbar Peerbhoy College of Commerce & Economics M.S road grant road (E) Mumbai- 400008

SR NO	COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	FAMILY
1)	septaparni	<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	Apocynaceae
2)	Putranjiveya	<i>Putranjiveya Roxburghii</i>	Putranjivaceae
3)	Nari	<i>Coccoloba nucifera</i>	Arecaceae
4)	Fan palm	<i>Livistona chinensis</i>	Arecaceae
5)	Tajar	<i>Tabernaemontana divaricata</i>	Apocynaceae
6)	Umber	<i>Ficus racemosa</i>	Moraceae
7)	Khaya	<i>Khaya senegalensis</i>	Melastomaceae
8)	Fichkan	<i>Spathodea campanulata</i>	Bignoniaceae
9)	Kashid	<i>Senecio jamaicensis</i>	Fabaceae
10)	Gurmojar	<i>Delonix regia</i>	Fabaceae
11)	Areca palm	<i>Dypsis lutescens</i>	Arecaceae
12)	Ambe	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Anacardiaceae
13)	Desai badam	<i>Terminalia catappa</i>	Combretaceae
14)	Saver	<i>Cassia pentandra</i>	Melastomaceae
15)	Neem	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	Melastomaceae
16)	Asupalek	<i>Polystichum longifolium</i>	Polystichaceae
17)	papeya	<i>Carica papaya</i>	Caricaceae

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SARFARAZ K. KHAN
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18)	Golden shower tree	Cassia fistula	Fabaceae
19)	Sonchiar	Pectophorum	Fabaceae
20)	Karaiy	Pongamia pinnata	Fabaceae
21)	Mahogani	Swetenia Mahogani	Meliaceae
22)	Buddha Coconut	Pterygota alata	Malvaceae
23)	Dracaena	Dracaena	Asparagaceae
24)	Hamelia	Hamelia patens	Rubiaceae
25)	Chapha	Plumena optusa	Apocynaceae

Note: Total number of trees species: 25

Thanks & regards

Sarfaraz Khan (M.Sc Botany)

Plant Taxonomist & Horticulturist


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- Students and staff have access to clean drinking water which they obtain from the water filters existing on each floor. This leads to reduced consumption of bottled water, thus minimizing plastic waste on the campus.

2.1.2 Waste Management

With reference to Waste Management the following observations were made:

- Waste generated in college canteen is dumped in the nearest municipal bin.
- Kitchen waste is partly dumped in the compost pit existing at the south-eastern corner of the campus.

- Whereas plant litter is collected and dropped in the pipe compost pits that exist on the campus. Culturing of the pits is done regularly and the compost generated is used as manure on the campus itself. It is appreciable that a logbook is maintained for the purpose of maintaining dates of culturing.
- Classrooms are cleaned daily but within the premises students are encouraged to use the garbage bins placed on every floor.
- E-waste and paper waste generated on the campus is collected and sent to the recyclers for an eco-friendly disposal and reprocessing.
- Several programs and special lectures have been organized to sensitize students about waste management and sustainable living.
- The college has one bore well which remains covered at all times. The college stores water in an overhead tank. The source of wastewater is Domestic Waste Water i.e., Sewage water. The Sewage water mainly comes from Toilets of college and canteen.

2.1.3 Environment-Friendly Activities involving students

APCCE through its various clubs and committees Club regularly undertakes several student-related and outreach activities which are inclined towards protecting the environment. Mentioned below are some of the environment-friendly activities carried out in the College Campus:-

- Organized special lectures on the topic Health and Hygiene, in collaboration with a local NGO Ujaas.
- Collection of old discarded clothes that were recycled into cloth bags. The same cloth bags were then distributed in the nearby vegetable and fruit market to people who were shopping but weren't carrying their shopping bag. Students also carried placards during this rally and tried to create awareness among shopkeepers as well as the shoppers about restricting usage of plastic bags.
- Tree plantation drives have been carried out in the campus to increase the green cover of the campus.
- Taking into consideration E-waste Management Drive was carried out in order to sensitize students as well as the establishments in the vicinity of the campus to understand the hazardous nature of e-waste and the necessity of disposing it off in a safe manner.
- Piped compost pits have been installed in the college garden area. Students were given a demo of installing and filling in the garden waste into the pits. This activity had a double benefit – creating awareness among students as well as to enrich the

garden soil naturally. A compost pit management log book is also made and entries made of dates when an organic culture was poured into the pits so that the compost could be ready within a couple of days

- Workshop on Resource Recycling was organized for the students
- Environment-friendly celebration of Bakr-Eid and other festivals is encouraged by APCCE in the vicinity of the College. APCCE has also begun a digital promotion on social media platform for eco-friendly celebration of festivals.
- A Guest Lecture was organized on the topic Sustainable Living and Climate Change in order to sensitize students about the importance of sustainable lifestyle.
- LED lights are used in the college building so that per unit consumption of electricity can be kept under control
- At the end of the day's lectures, students themselves switch off all electrical appliances and then leave their respective classrooms
- A solar-operated Mobile phone charging facility is functional since April 2022.
- It has been decided to plant more trees on the terrace of the college building so that the Institute can offset its carbon footprint as much as possible.

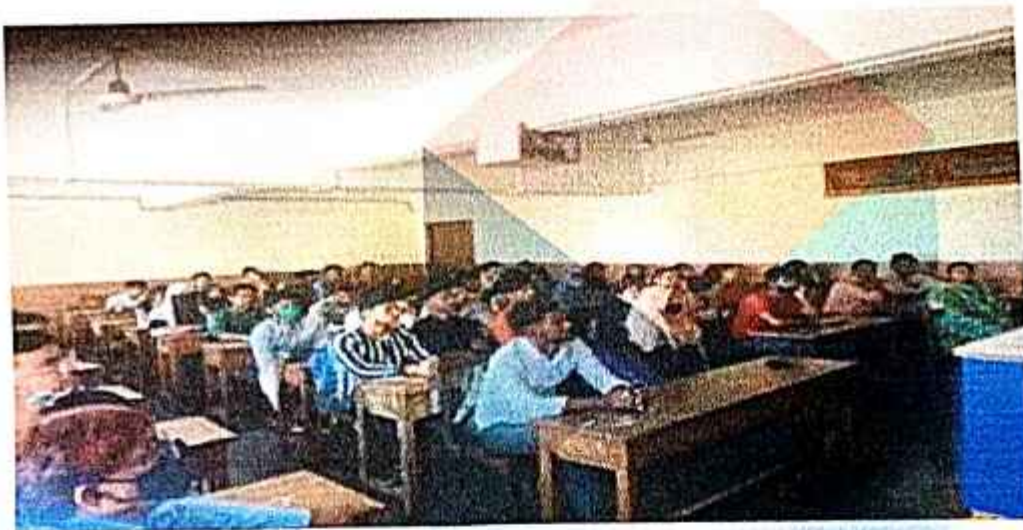
2.2. Supporting Evidence - Pictures



Pic. 1 Corridors remain clean and well-lit at all times



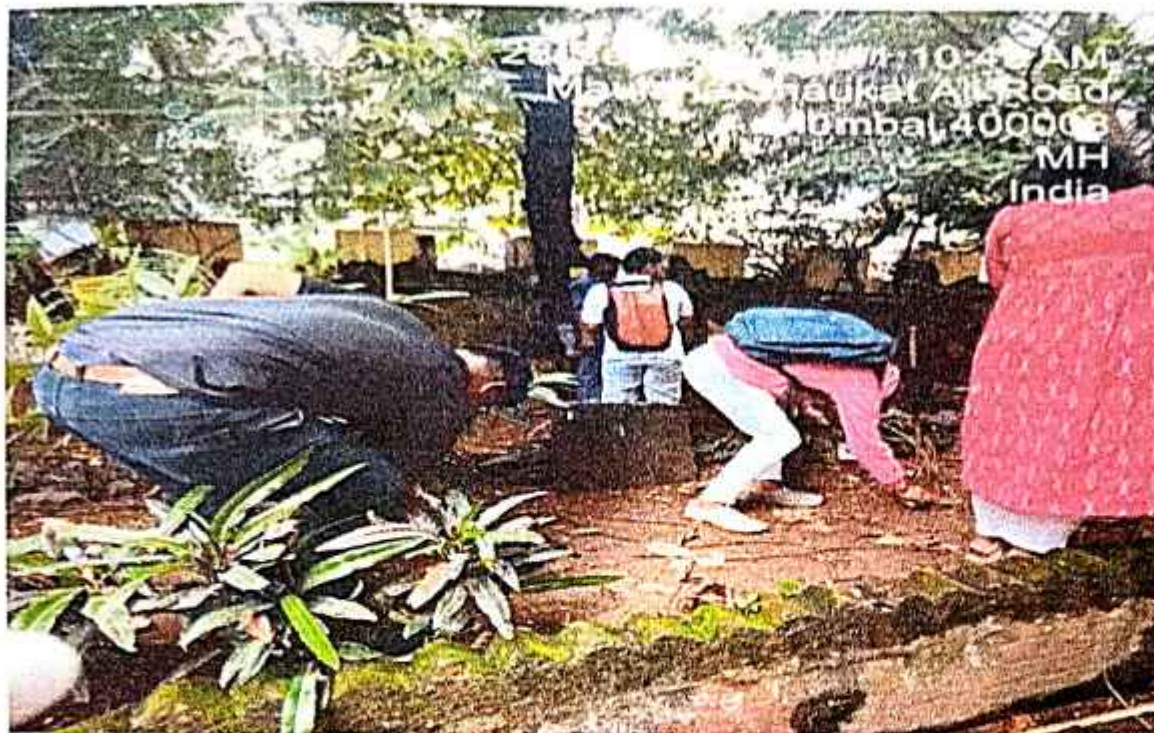
Pic. 2. Guest Lecture on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability



Pic 3: Guest lecture on Climate Change



Pic.4 Resource person giving a demo of installing a compost pit and explaining its importance

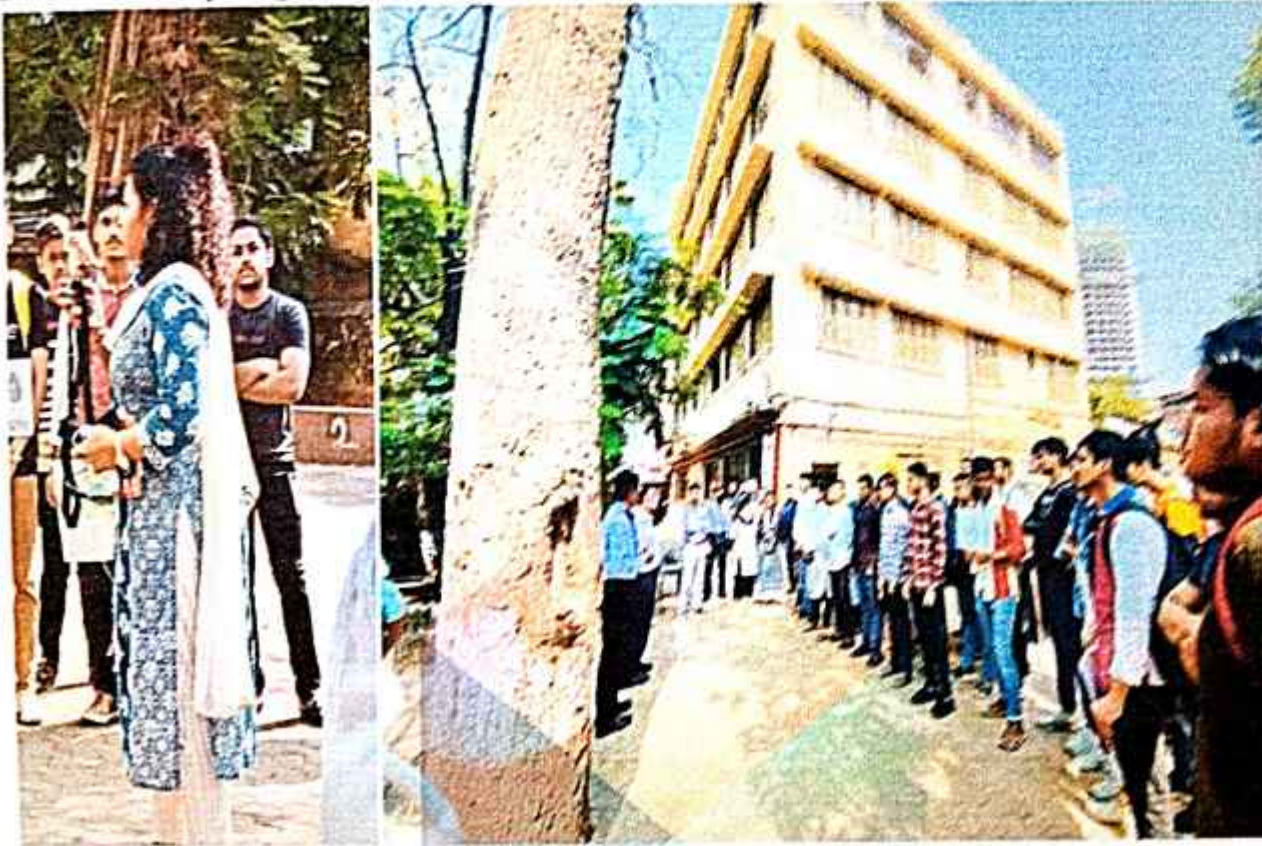


Pic 5. Students picking up plant litter and filling the piped compost pits



Pic 6: Notice of Nature Club to select the best student volunteer

Pic 6&7: Principal and other teachers addressing the students before the Rally before starting the E-waste recycling and safe disposal Awareness Rally



Pic 8: Students assembled at the college campus after the Awareness Rally



Pic. 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 : Staff and students at the Grant Road fruit and vegetable market distributing recycled cloth bags and convincing people not to use plastic carry bags



Pic 14: View of a blooming Gulmohar Tree from the classroom

3.0 SUMMARY

Akbar Peerbhoy College of Commerce & Economics located at Grant Road, Mumbai has conducted an "Environment Audit" for the academic year 2023-2024. The main objective to carry out environment audit is to check the green practices followed by APCCE and to conduct a well-defined audit report to understand whether APCCE is on the track of a sustainable approach in their day to day routine.

The Audit team observes that though several gaps remain to be filled the Institute is doing its best to maintain a sustainable approach and to conserve basic resources. The teaching and non-teaching staff is also proactively involved in creating a sustainable functioning of the day to day affairs of the College. The Institute can definitely strive to be greener by adopting and bringing into practice the recommendations given by the Audit Team

4.0 CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

It may be concluded that APCCE is involved in diverse range of practices which are not just environment friendly per se but the Institute also engages its students in understanding the importance of environmental protection and sustainable lifestyle. Several eco-friendly activities undertaken by the Institute are a reflection of the proactive approach of the Staff as well as College Administration in channelizing time, energy and resources towards green practices.

Despite the green endeavours of the Institute, there are certain areas where the college could still work upon so that it can be identified as a totally Green Campus.

Following are some of the key recommendations for improving campus environment: -

- Regular checks on the canteen can be considered by the Authorities to ensure utmost cleanliness and hygiene
- The open pit at the eastern most corner of the campus can be utilized either for composting of the food waste generated in the college canteen.
- The smaller pits adjacent to it may be used to develop a lotus pond with fish in it that consume mosquito larvae. This will not just be helpful in maintaining the health and hygiene of the place but will also add to the aesthetic value of the campus.
- Terrace gardens can be maintained. Apart from that creeper plants could be allowed to grow on at least any one side of the building wall. This will enhance the look of the building and will also help in minimizing the carbon footprint.
- Setting up of Roof-top rainwater harvesting system can be considered so that dependence on the BMC water supply is reduced thus promoting a culture of water conservation
- Given the fact that the college is located alongside a busy street bustling with passing by vehicles and construction activity in the vicinity, APCCE may also look into providing sound-proof classrooms on the Campus.