

Report

on

UN Sustainable Development Goal 15 (Life on Land)

Swami Vivekanand Subharti University demonstrates a clear commitment to UN Sustainable Development Goal 15: "Life on Land." through the integration of biodiversity support into its campus infrastructure, research mandate, and community outreach.

Green Campus Initiatives

The university has a long-standing commitment to enhancing its green cover, which was actively continued and measured during the reporting period. The university organized a series of tree plantation drives across its extensive campus. A total of 10,000+ saplings were planted during the academic year 2023-24. These drives were strategically conducted to increase the campus forest area and involve the university community in hands-on conservation efforts. The university campus boasts a rich green cover supported by over 50,000 trees. This data point serves as a testament to the long-term success and institutionalization of the university's afforestation policy.



Biodiversity Conservation and Habitat Management

The university manages its campus not just as an educational hub but also maintains the Botanical Herbal Garden. The gardens are home to over 350 species of plants, including medicinal herbs, ornamental plants, and trees indigenous to the region. These spaces serve as living laboratories for students and crucial reservoirs of local biodiversity.



Medicinal Garden



Medicinal Plant (Lemon Tree)



Medicinal Plant (Sarpagandha)



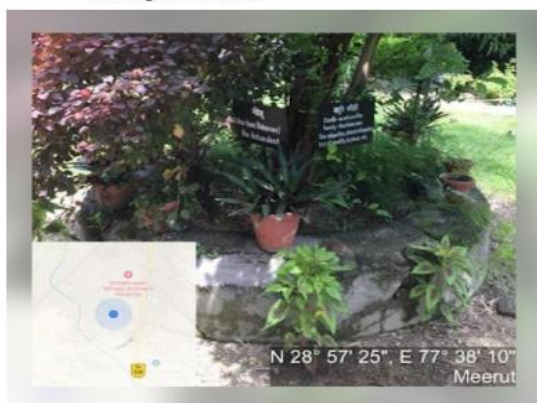
Medicinal Plant
(Ashwagandha, Datura)



Medicinal Plant (Tulsi)



Medicinal Plant (Giloy)



Medicinal Plant (Lemon Tree)



Medicinal Plant (Turmeric)

The university campus as a natural habitat for numerous bird species. The conscious effort to avoid habitat fragmentation and the presence of water bodies within the campus have created a self-sustaining ecosystem, aligning directly with SDG 15's aim to promote the integration of ecosystem and biodiversity values into planning processes.



Sustainable Waste Management and Land Conservation

University has structured some mechanism to protect surrounding environment through the significant initiatives such as:

1. **Rain Water Harvesting:** Swami Vivekanand Subharti University has constructed the Pits at various places to preserve the rain water that flown on rooftops, parks, roads, open ground surfaces, etc. The University has formed the Construction and Maintenance Department to look after the water supply and sanitation of the Colleges, Hostels and Resident Flats and take up new petty works since inception of this organization.

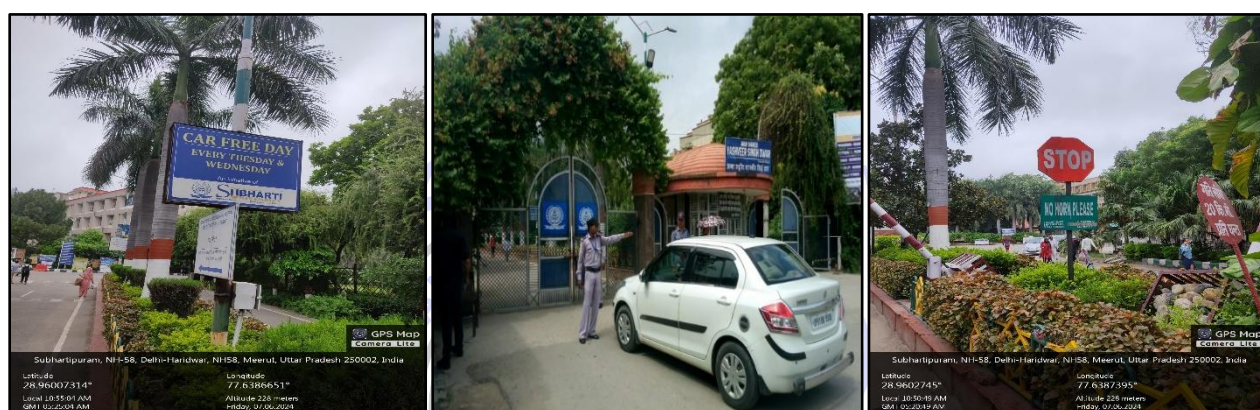


2. **Waste Water Recycling:** Swami Vivekanand Subharti University has created a **Sewage Treatment Plant (STP)** for waste water recycling. The waste water from the STP is used for watering the plants and lawns in the campus. The sludge settled in the STPs is removed 4 times in a month and composed to use as manure. As recycling saves energy it also reduces greenhouse gas emission, which helps to tackle the climate change.



Restricted Entry of Automobiles: Swami Vivekanand Subharti University has operates a fleet of buses covering every possible corner to facilitate the students and staff. The university encourages the staff and students to use the university transport instead of their own vehicles for safety, security, fuel conservation and to reduce environmental pollution. The university transport is regularly checked for pollution by the authorized agency.

The students staying in hostels are using bicycle to go from hostel to departments and vice versa. And also we are following a practice since so long for “**Car Free Day**” on every Tuesday and Wednesday in the university campus.



3. **Battery-powered Vehicles:** Swami Vivekanand Subharti University has taken an initiative towards the environment and for the betterment of the transport facilities within the campus. The University has its own **five sitters, seven sitters and eleven sitters** Battery powered vehicles which are also used for local transportation within the university campus. These types of vehicles are good for health and are also used to enhance the serenity in the atmosphere. Goods are also carried from one place to another through these kinds of vehicles.



4. **Pedestrian Friendly Pathways:** Swami Vivekanand Subharti University has sufficient space for parking vehicles of staff and students. Roads inside the campus are well maintained. The internal roads are lined with trees and solar lights and they are properly maintained by the campus maintenance committee. The University has constructed the pedestrian friendly pathways to walk safely. Entry of vehicles inside the campus is restricted. Security people are assigned duties on every

turn and crossing to the campus. People are accommodated in the university campus with pedestrian safety measures.



5. **Ban on the Use of Plastics:** Swami Vivekanand Subharti University has taken an initiative to encourage staff members and students to stop the use of plastic items such as plastic bottles, bags, spoons, straws and cups through orientation programmes and display boards in the university campus.

To restrict the use of plastics, measures have been taken to replace plastic tea cups and glasses with steel glasses and paper bags in the canteen. The staff and students are instructed to use steel or copper water bottles instead of plastic bottles because **plastic items** have become a threat to the life of animals living on earth as well as in water. Chemicals released by waste **plastic** items enter in the soil and make it infertile. **Plastic** items are having a negative impact on human health. Plastic also leads to the drainage problem.

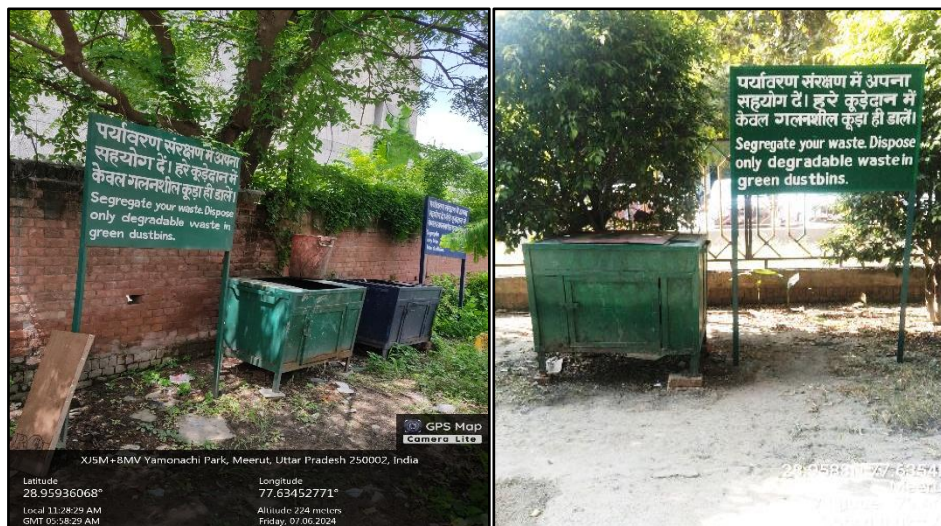


6. **Landscaping with Trees and Plants:** Swami Vivekanand Subharti University has worth seeing Landscaping and reflects aesthetic sense. The University has planted trees and plants to make the environment pollution free to provide safeguard for the health of people. Utmost care is taken to develop and maintain green landscaping by trained gardeners and supervisor.

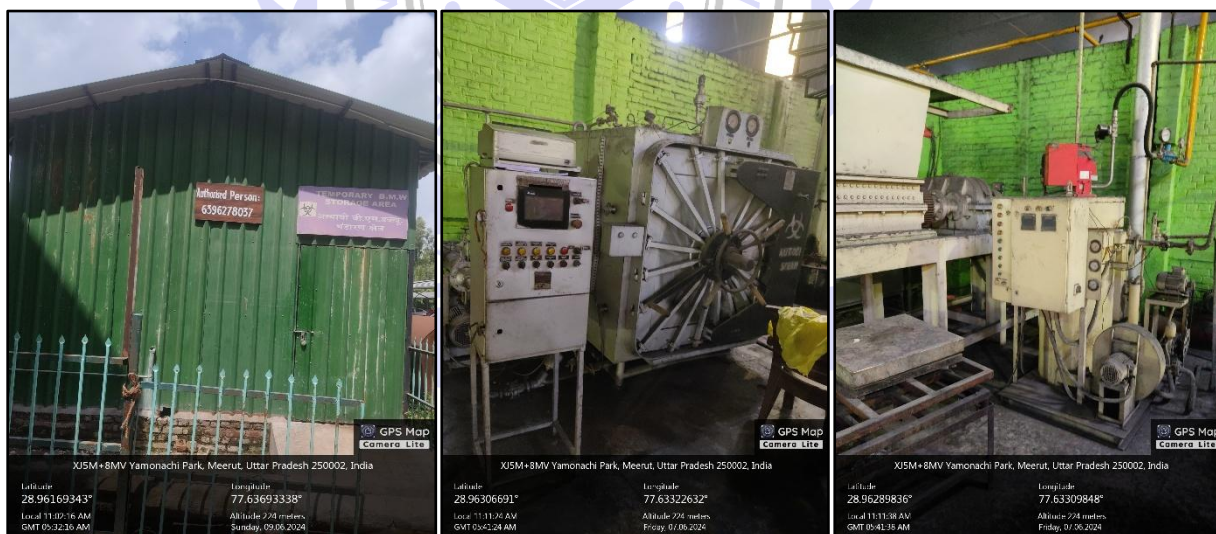


7. **Solid Waste Management:** This includes the activities and actions required to manage waste from its inception to its final disposal. Swami Vivekanand Subharti University has its own Housekeeping staff to collect solid waste material from Staff Residents/Flats, Hostels, Staff Rooms, Colleges, Hospital and Canteens/Messes in separate containers. Solid waste garbage further divided into the form of Biodegradable and Non-Biodegradable. Biodegradable waste consists of vegetables peels, fruit peels and waste food etc. Non-Biodegradable waste is plastic, metals and glass bottles etc. all these items are transported separately to the garbage segregation unit.



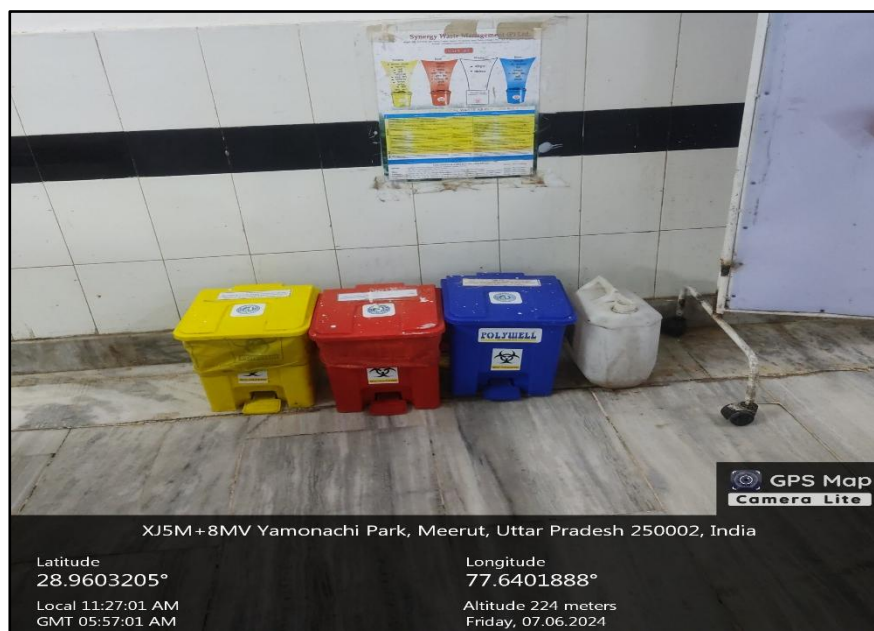


8. **Bio-medical Waste Management:** Subharti Biomedical Waste Management involves a comprehensive system including waste segregation using color-coded bags (yellow, blue, red), storage of waste for no more than 48 hours in a restricted-access room, daily transportation by Synergy Waste Management (P) Ltd., and final disposal through their authorized facility, in compliance with the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules. The system aims to protect public health and the environment by safely handling infectious and other bio-medical waste generated at Chhatrapati Shivaji Subharti Hospital and its associated facilities.



[The audit report for Academic Year: 2023-24](#)

9. **Hazardous Chemical Waste Management:** Subharti University implements a comprehensive Hazardous Chemical Waste Management plan involving the use of designated colored bins for waste collection, daily pick-up by a contractor's van, and transportation to an on-campus storage/treatment site. Waste is managed in partnership with a certified agency, Synergy Waste Management Company, which utilizes facilities like an incinerator and deep burial for safe disposal, and the university also trains students on safe handling of hazardous materials. [SOP - Hazardous Chemical Waste Management](#)



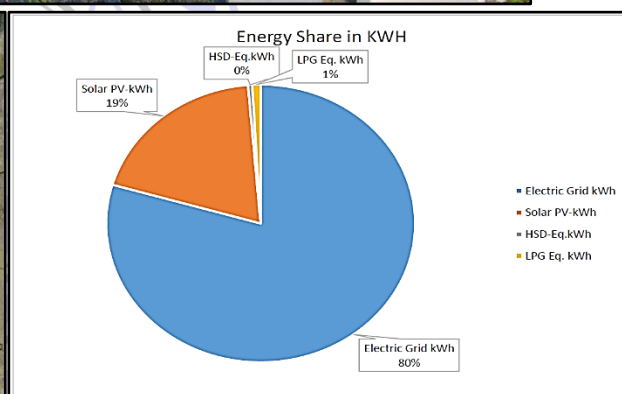
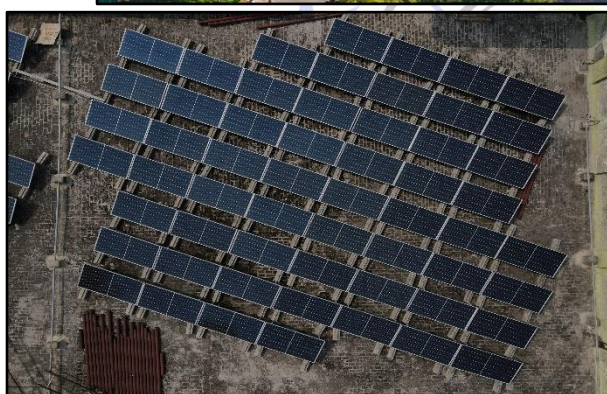
10. Liquid Waste Management: Subharti University in Meerut manages liquid waste through a combination of wastewater recycling for gardening, the establishment of a Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), and the proper handling of hazardous chemical waste from laboratories.



11. Solar Energy Conservation: Subharti University demonstrates a strong commitment to energy conservation through a combination of infrastructure upgrades, renewable energy adoption, behavioral interventions, and awareness programs. With nearly one-fifth of its energy needs met by solar power and substantial replacement of conventional lighting with LEDs, the institution has made significant strides toward sustainability. Continued focus on reducing standby power usage, expanding solar energy share, and integrating advanced energy management systems can further enhance its energy efficiency and environmental impact. The university has implemented a wide range of energy-saving initiatives, such as:

- Replacement of conventional bulbs with LED lighting (approx. 90% coverage).
- Installation of Solar PV systems on rooftops.
- Use of sensor-based lighting systems and maximization of natural daylight.

- Adoption of pressure cookers in canteens to minimize LPG consumption.
- Regular cleaning and maintenance of filters in large appliances.
- Conducting “switch-off drills” to encourage energy-saving habits.
- Awareness programs for students and staff on responsible energy use.
- Ensuring computers and air conditioners operate on power-saving modes.



Celebrations and Events on Environment Day: The World Environment Day was celebrated with enthusiasm and commitment to raising awareness about environmental conservation in the green campus of Swami Vivekanand Subharti University on 5th June 2024. The event was organised by the university environment committee. The chairman university environment welcomed the eminent guests and brief about different activities were designed to engage and educate participants on the importance of protecting our natural surroundings. The event started with the Birds Uncaging ceremony done by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Respected CEO Ma'am, University Environment committee members, student council members of university, all deans and faculty members of different colleges. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and Respected CEO Ma'am expressed their views on the need for conservation of forest resources and environmental friendly practices and praised this symbolic act that represented freedom and the importance of wildlife conservation that is present around all of us. Birds were released into their natural habitat, emphasizing the message of living in harmony with nature. After that, a tree plantation drive was organized where different dignitaries planted variety of saplings around the campus. This activity aimed to promote afforestation and contribute to increasing green cover. Each tree planted was tagged with the name of the participant to encourage ongoing care and responsibility. Dr. Vinay Sethi, an esteemed environmentalist,

delivered an inspiring lecture on “The Role of Individuals Birds Conservation” specially for “Gauryya bird”.

Details of the activities conducted by the Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut during the academic year:

1. **World Environment Day**: The World Environment Day was celebrated with enthusiasm and commitment to raising awareness about environmental conservation in the green campus of Swami Vivekanand Subharti University on 5th June 2024. The event was organised by the university environment committee. Dr. Mukesh Ruhela, chairman university environment welcomed the eminent guests and brief about different activities were designed to engage and educate participants on the importance of protecting our natural surroundings. The event started with the Birds Uncaging ceremony done by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Major General Dr. G.K. Thapliyal, Respected Hon'ble CEO Ma'am Dr. Shalya Raj, University Environment committee members, student council members of the university, all deans and faculty members of different colleges.



2. **Plantation Drives**: Plants planted under Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign The University Environment Committee of Swami Vivekananda Subharti University organized Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam program with the aim of environmental conservation. He told that through this program the university wants to increase awareness towards environmental conservation.



3. **Ozone Day Celebration:** The University Environmental Committee organized a vibrant celebration of **World Ozone Day**. The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of protecting the ozone layer and promoting sustainable environmental practices. The day was marked by an array of activities, with a special emphasis on creative competitions that engaged students in spreading environmental consciousness.



4. **Pragati Se Prakriti Tak:** Environmental Committee of Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut and Department of Journalism & Mass Communication had organized an event for the Welcome of Padma Shri and Padam Vibhushan Dr. Anil Parkash Joshi ji during his Cycle Yatra “Pragati Se Prakriti Tak” from Mumbai to Dehradun in the green ground of Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law.



5. **Plantation Drive by the University Environment Committee:** The University Environmental Committee, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut, organised a plantation drive to promote environmental sustainability by increasing green cover, improving air quality, and conserving biodiversity. It aims to combat climate change, prevent soil erosion, and enhance the natural habitat, fostering a healthier ecosystem and a greener future for communities. The drive was organized under the guidance of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Maj. Gen. (Dr.) G.K. Thapliyal, and Prof. (Dr.) Shalya Raj, Chief Executive Officer of the University.



6. **Participation in National Paryavaran Competition (NSPC):** The National Paryavaran Competition (NSPC) is an online event organized by **Paryavaran Sanrakshan Gatividhi (PSG)** in collaboration with Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Subject Expert Group-Environment and Sustainable Resource Management and promoted by the **University Grants Commission (UGC)** to foster environmental awareness among students. Under the guidance of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Subharti University, all colleges have been directed to encourage student participation in this competition.



7. **Seminar on Culture Heritage, Environment & Water Conservation:** The resource person spoken about the Namami Gange Projects and the guidelines and steps of Namami Gange projects. He created awareness among youth on the impact of global warming, deforestation, and industrial waste and its effects on the Ganga River. He motivated the youth to take the initiative to plant trees, no use of plastics, and also told about modern technology for water conservation, industrial waste management, rainwater harvest water conservation as well as clean the Ganga water which will conserve aquatic life and turn infertile land into fertile land. The Ganga is the biggest River in India 40% of the population depends on this River and preserves the ecosystems, biodiversity, and human livelihoods.



8. **Workshop on use of “Natural Herbs for Healthy Living”**: The topic was discussed about the health benefits of commonly available Natural Herbs which will keep the body and mind healthy with certain rules that will help which provide health. A healthy lifestyle has many benefits not only for the body but for the mind too. Also, if anyone follow a healthy lifestyle then one can reduce the risk of having cancer, heart disease, diabetes, obesity, and osteoporosis.



9. **NSS environment & food-planet-health awareness activities**: Swami Vivekanand Subharti University’s National Service Scheme (NSS) Cell has been awarded the Certificate of Appreciation by the international organization Vegan Outreach. The NSS Cell was given this Certificate of Appreciation for conducting awareness activities on the topic “How our food choices affect our environment and animals” under “Food-Planet-Health”. It is known that Vegan Outreach is a global international non-profit organization, which through its various activities creates awareness among the student community towards animals and environment and encourages vegetarianism.



10. **Swachata Abhiyan under ‘Swachhata Hi Sewa Abhiyan’**: During this, these volunteers also gave the message of clean India, healthy India to the people coming and going. The volunteers made the public aware about cleanliness and health. On this occasion, NSS program coordinator and Prof. (Dr.) Subhash Chandra Thaledi, while congratulating the students, talked about cleanliness and health and said that cleanliness is important for us. Dr. Thaledi said that if we want to make India a world leader, then it is important for us to stay healthy and clean because clean thoughts come from a healthy body and mind.



11. **Student's Visit to Sewage Treatment Plant and Waste Management Site**: The visit to the Sewage Treatment Plant provided students with an in-depth understanding of how wastewater generated by the university is treated and processed. Students were told by concerned faculty who explained the various stages of sewage treatment, including screening, sedimentation, and biological treatment processes. Emphasis was placed on the plant's role in maintaining water quality, reducing environmental pollution, and promoting sustainable water usage within the campus.

