

Best Practice:

**I. Title: Environmental Sustainability**

**Goal:** Sri Guru Gobind Singh College has taken the initiative to create awareness regarding the importance of environment conservation and its role in sustainable national development among students, faculty, stake holders of the college and community.

**Context:** The most important reason behind the necessity for environmental sustainability is protecting the environment from destruction or degradation being caused by extensive use of vehicles, cutting of trees, irrational use of water, paper and electricity. Further the rising temperatures, more intense storms and altered patterns of precipitation have led to alarming climatic changes globally. We, as educationists have come forward to take measures to conserve and preserve our environment by motivating and involving the young generation. A regeneration of the ecosystem by planting native species of trees and creating their seed bank is a viable solution. The inspiration for this is derived from Gurbani.

**The Practice:**

**Sri Guru Gobind Singh College** took a big stride in reducing the Carbon Footprint of the region.

- The College initiated a novel idea of creating a mini urban forest on-campus with an objective to promote sustainable environment. This habitation developed by Japanese Miyawaki technique will be a natural air-purifying dense forest with as many as 37 native species of trees. It will help in creating more oxygen than regular plantation and will be a hub of natural biodiversity. Commemorating 550<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev J, it has been aptly named Guru Nanak Sacred Forest. 550 saplings were planted as a tribute to Guru Nanak Devji's ideology to live in harmony with the environment.

Commemorating 550<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Devji

**ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਪ੍ਰਸ਼ੰਕਤ ਜੰਗਲ**  
**GURU NANAK SACRED FOREST**  
Established : April 03, 2019  
**Sri Guru Gobind Singh College**  
Sector-26, Chandigarh

Sr. No.	Common Name	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ	Botanical Name	Species Type
1	Samal	ਬੰਬੈ	<i>Bambusa ceiba</i>	Canopy
2	Baheda	ਬਹੈੜਾ	<i>Terminalia bellerica</i>	Canopy
3	Arjun	ਅਰਜੁਨ	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>	Canopy
4	Phulai	ਫੁਲਾਈ	<i>Acacia modesta</i>	Tree
5	Shaesham	ਸ਼ਾਈਸ਼ਮ	<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	Tree
6	Jhingam	ਝੰਗਮ	<i>Lannea coromandelica</i>	Tree
7	Paksh	ਪਾਕਸ਼	<i>Butea monosperma</i>	Tree
8	Babool/ Kikar	ਬਾਬੂਲ/ ਕਿਕਰ	<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	Tree
9	Sahanjana	ਸਹਾਨਜਾਨਾ	<i>Moringa concanensis</i>	Tree
10	Jand	ਜੰਡ	<i>Prosopis cineraria</i>	Tree
11	Roheda	ਰੋਹੜਾ	<i>Tecomella undulata</i>	Tree
12	Jamun	ਜਮੁਨ	<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	Tree
13	Gular	ਗੁਲਰ	<i>Ficus racemosa</i>	Tree
14	Papdi	ਪਾਪੜੀ	<i>Haloptelea integrifolia</i>	Tree
15	Dasi mango	ਦਾਸੀ ਮੈਂਗੋ	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Tree
16	Harud	ਹਰੁਦ	<i>Terminalia chebula</i>	Tree
17	Mahua	ਮਹੂਆ	<i>Madhuca longifolia</i>	Tree
18	Pikhan	ਪਿੱਕਾਨ	<i>Ficus virens</i>	Tree
19	Neem	ਨੀਮ	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	Tree
20	Peepal	ਪੀਪਲ	<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	Tree
21	Bargad/Bohar	ਬਰਗੜ/ਬੋਹਰ	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	Tree
22	Lasura	ਲਾਸੁਰਾ	<i>Cardia myxa</i>	Tree
23	Amaltas	ਅਮਲਟਾਸ	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	Sub tree
24	Khar/ Kotha	ਖਰ/ ਕੋਠਾ	<i>Acacia catechu</i>	Sub tree
25	Harshingar/ Kusam	ਹਰਸ਼ਿੰਗਰ/ ਕੁਸਮ	<i>Nycanthes arbor-tristis</i>	Sub tree
26	Losara / Goonda	ਲੋਸਰਾ/ ਗੋਂਡਾ	<i>Cardia dichotoma</i>	Sub tree
27	Chamra	ਚਮਰਾ	<i>Ehretia laevis</i>	Sub tree
28	Khara Jal/Pilu/Maswak	ਖਰਾ ਜਲ/ ਪਿਲੂ/ ਮਸਵਕ	<i>Salvadora oleoides</i>	Sub tree
29	Meetha jal	ਮੀਠਾ ਜਲ	<i>Salvadora persica</i>	Sub tree
30	Karir	ਕਰੀਰ	<i>Capparis decidua</i>	Sub tree
31	Dhank	ਧਾਂਕ	<i>Anogeissus pendula</i>	Sub tree
32	Gum arabic	ਗੁਮ ਅਰਬਿਕ	<i>Acacia senegal</i>	Sub tree
33	Karani	ਕਰਾਨੀ	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i>	Sub tree
34	Vasoka	ਵਾਸੋਕਾ	<i>Justicia adhatoda</i>	Shrub
35	Karonda	ਕਰੋਂਡਾ	<i>Carissa carandas</i>	Shrub
36	Guggul	ਗੁਗੁਲ	<i>Commiphora wightii</i>	Shrub
37	Nirgundi	ਨੀਰਗੁੰਡੀ	<i>Vitex negundo</i>	Shrub

550 Saplings with 37 Native Species of Native Trees  
Area: 180 Sq Metres | Density: 3.6 Saplings Per Sq Metre

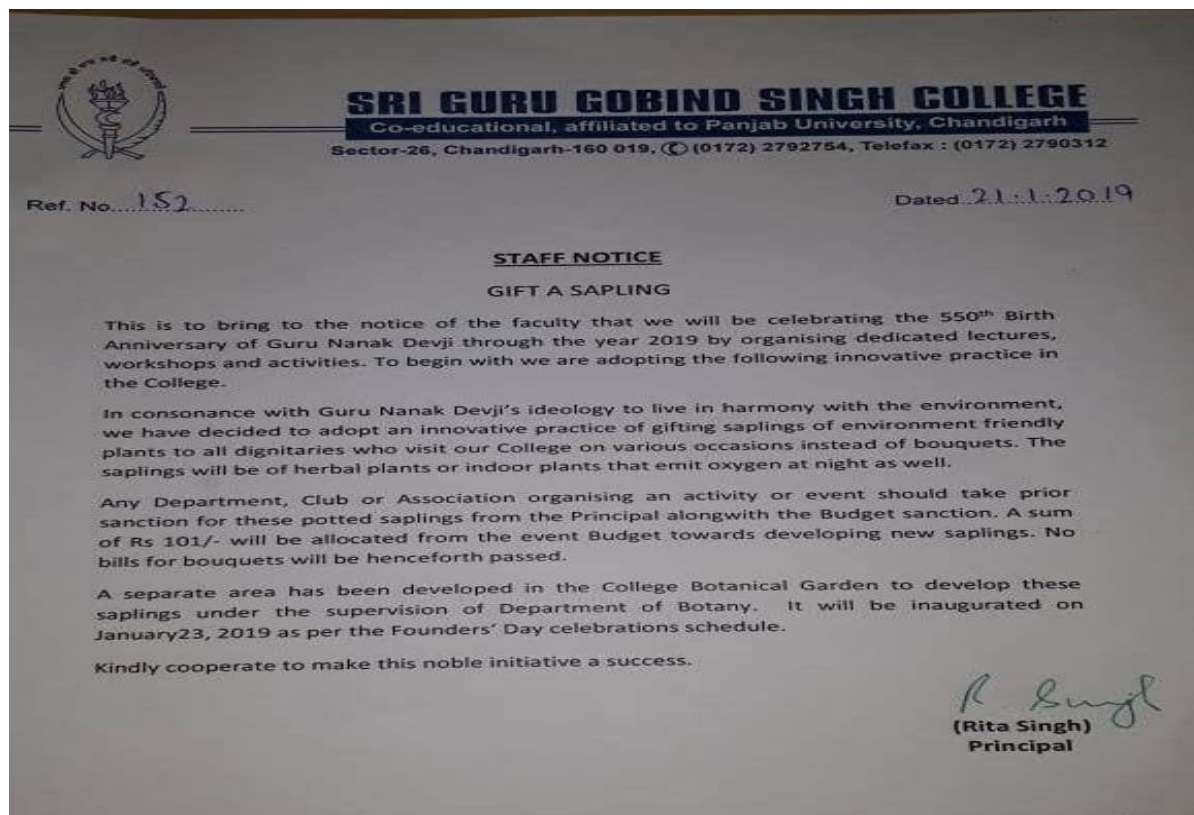
- A three-day Workshop from April 1-3, 2019 was organised to create the Forest in collaboration with EcoSikh and Afforest, International organisations, committed to promoting environmental awareness. A total of 400 students from two schools and four institutes – University/Colleges and five NGOs (two international) participated in the workshop. During the plantation, Shabadkirtan from Gurbani was revered by all.







- An eco-green project, Saugaat – Gift a Sapling Scheme, was launched on Jan 23, 2019. This innovative practice was taken up to felicitate the dignitaries visiting the campus and to promote a greener way of life. The herbal saplings are grown in the Botanical Garden of the College.



- In order to reduce the use of plastic on campus, Langar (free meals to all the visitors) prepared by students and staff of the College was served to all on eco-friendly sustainable green pattals (plates made from leaves) on College Founder's Day. The use of thermocol glasses and plates has been banned in the College Canteen.





- The College has a Botanical garden and 5 lawns, maintained by the Department of Botany, which provide adequate greenery within the campus. More than 700 seasonal flower pots were cultivated and nurtured in the college garden. The botanical garden has proven to be a holistic abode for all our winged visitors. It also caters to the research and laboratory work of students from Biotechnology and Botany. An aquatic pond with flora and fauna is a model for study of the ecosystem.





- A Compost Pit has been created to collect biodegradable solid waste from the mess and canteen including dry leaves to prepare manure. A Workshop on Waste Management and Segregation was organised to promote techniques and strategies to combat waste.



- Treated tertiary water is used on campus for watering the lawns, Botanical Garden and play Ground in order to conserve potable water.
- Solar Energy is being used to operate geysers in the Boys' Hostel. Solar Lights are also installed on the campus.



- The College has implemented e-communication to reduce the usage of paper and ink. The digitizing of record has been started as a green initiative.

### Evidence of success:

- Due to the relevance and novelty of the idea, the College received total sponsorship of Rs 1,46,100/- from eight sponsors for setting up the forest.
- The workshop saw the involvement of The Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden, Chandigarh, Senior IAS Officers, District Forest Officers of Punjab and Haryana, Govt Organizations associated with Soil and Water Conservation, Horticulture, Agriculture and Farmer Welfare and Punjab State Council of Science & Technology (PSCST). They highly appreciated the initiative taken by the Institute which is first of its kind in the region.
- 30 students from local Govt schools visited the Guru Nanak Sacred Forest on the occasion of 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi from Aug 12-15, 2019 under the aegis of Nehru Yuva Kendra, Chandigarh, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt of India.
- The innovative practice of gifting a sapling to dignitaries visiting the campus promotes a greener way of life. This Practice has been appreciated by all the Visitors and Dignitaries.
- Use of solar geysers in the Boy's hostel and LED lights has helped to conserve energy.
- In 2019, the institution has been awarded National Green Corps Best Environment Society Award (Second Prize) for conservation of energy amongst educational institutes in Chandigarh by Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration.














**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT  
CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION**


**NATIONAL GREEN CORPS**

**Environment Society Award 2019  
(Second Prize)**

**(Category-College)**

to  
SGGS College Environmental Society  
Sri Guru Gobind Singh College  
Sector 26, Chandigarh  
Principal : Ms. Rita Singh  
Incharge : Dr. Inderpal Pasricha

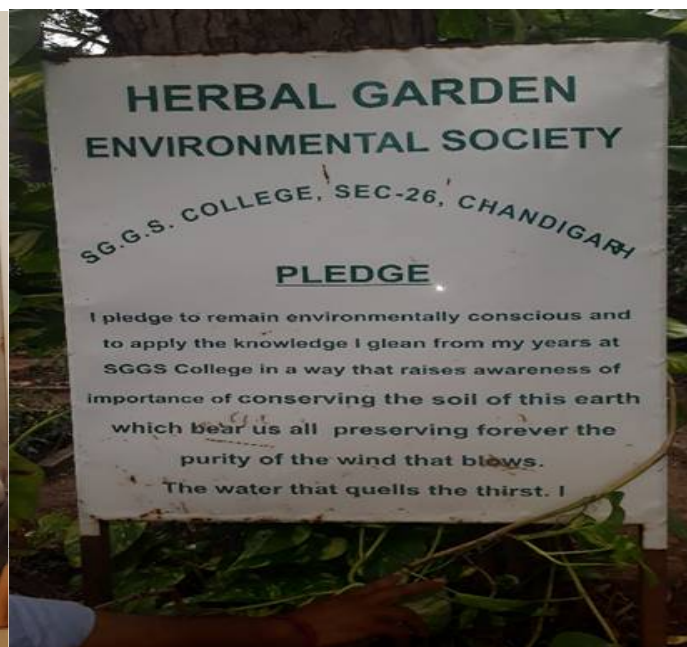
for carrying out outstanding  
environmental awareness activities  
*during the year 2018-2019*

  
Director Environment  
Chandigarh Administration









#### Problems Encountered and Resources required:

- Financial assistance is required to install solar panels to meet the growing demand of energy.
- With the success of Saugaat – Gift a Sapling Scheme, the demand for the same has exceeded the supply. So sufficient space is required in the College Botanical Garden to grow these saplings.
- For the complete success of digitization of records, extra efforts are required to sensitize the faculty and students.

## **II. Title: Cultural and Heritage Preservation:**

### **Goal:**

To preserve and maintain the inherited culture and heritage for the benefit of future generations and to live in harmony with the nature. The idea is to bring the modern-day youth closer to their roots and connecting them to their culture and heritage.

### **Context:**

In today's fast paced world where our youth is being influenced by western values and material culture, it has become the need of the hour to reorient young people and make them aware of our rich cultural heritage. Many social problems like the breakup of families, drug addiction and crime have increased because we have lost touch with our traditional culture, heritage and value systems. Thus, it becomes very important to preserve our culture and heritage through generations in order to have a healthy, value based, developing society which inculcates good values in its future generations.

### **The Practice:**

As an educational institute, it becomes imperative that we involve students in activities which will reconnect them to their own culture and encourage them to appreciate it, learn good value systems from the wisdom of the generations in order to become good human beings and responsible citizens. In order to achieve this goal, the college conducted various extensive cultural activities.

The session 2018 -19 marked the 550th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the Founder Sikh Guru. All activities and events in the session were dedicated to his ideals and his philosophical vision

#### **➤ Preservation of culture and heritage through education:**

- The Sikh Education Society confers Panth Rattan Jathedar Gurcharan Singh Tohra Memorial Award to eminent Sikh scholars for their contribution in the field of Sikh/Punjabi religion, culture and heritage. The Award carries Rs 1 lac cash, scroll and a robe of honour.
- Free Gurmat Sangeet Classes for students during the current session by the Centre of Sikh Religious and Cultural Studies.
- Students of all SES institutions are learning the art of classical vocal and instrumental music including Harmonium, Tabla and Rabab.





- The library has a large collection of religious writings and reference material related to the Centre for Sikh Religious and Cultural Studies.
- The teachings and lofty ideals of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, after whom the College has been named, forms the vision of this College — *Gurprasadividya vicharai, par parpavai man*(By the grace of the Guru, one should read, contemplate and study spiritual knowledge to earn honour and respect), lines from Sri Guru Granth Sahib,
- To commemorate the 550<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Sri Guru Nanak DevJi, Faculty of Languages and

Department of History organised a Capacity Building Workshop on Cultural Transformation and Rejuvenation on Feb 12, 2019 under the aegis of RUSA.

The workshop included

- Interactive session titled *Pawan Guru Paani Pita, Mata DhartMahat* by Ecosikh, an international organisation committed to the cause of promoting environmental awareness in consonance with Guru Nanak Dev Ji's ideology to live in harmony with the environment.
- An inspirational session titled *SaachiBaaniMeethiAmritDhaar* on rejuvenating the young minds through Gurbaani.
- A mesmerising spiritual experience, titled *Raagratanpariyaparwaar. Tisuvichiupjaiamritusaar*, through *RaagRatan* rendered by BhaiBaldeep Singh, a direct descendant of Guru Nanak's disciple, BhaiSadharan.
- The special features of the Workshop included a 'Plant a Sapling Initiative'- *Kabiraaisabeejoibaarahmaasphlant, seetalchhaayageharphalpankhikelkarant* with the aim of sensitising the youth towards the importance of ecology as exemplified in Sri Guru Granth Sahib.
- Display of traditional musical instruments like *Rabaab, Rabaab —Basat Khan, Saranda, Suranda* all handcrafted by BhaiBaldeep Singh.





- In a bid to revive the rural and cultural heritage of Punjab, Panjab University, Chandigarh organizes Youth Cultural and Heritage Festival every year to acquaint the youth with our heritage, cultural values, rituals, and folklore. SGGGS College is encouraging healthy participation by the students during the Youth festival held every year. By doing so our College is also contributing in reviving the otherwise fading heritage of Punjab. Special training is imparted to the students in learning the folk and heritage items. Experts are invited to train the students for participation in Cultural and Heritage Youth Fest.











➤ **Cultural rights and freedom:**

- Gurmat Vichaar Sabha functions in the College as a medium to amalgamate modern and contemporary life with the long cherished traditional values. The volunteers of Gurmat Vichaar Sabha recite Kirtan on every *Sangrand* (*First Day of each month of the Indian Solar Calendar*). In keeping with the tradition, this academic session too began with Path of Sri Sukhmani Sahib followed by Kirtan on Aug 17, 2018.



- Gurmat Vichaar Sabha celebrated the Parkash Purab of Guru Gobind Singh Ji and Founder's Day of the College from Jan 23-25, 2019. Students of the College, including our old students performed the *Gatka* on the first day and *Vaar* and *Kavishri* on the second day. Giani Jaswant Singh Ji Taan performed the *Dhadi Kala* with Puratan Maryada. The final day witnessed Kirtan by the College students. *Guru Ka Langar* (free meal to all the visitors) prepared by the students and staff of the College was served to the gathering on Green Pattals (plates made from leaves).
- Gurmat Vichaar Sabha organised Inter College Gurmat competitions on events like Turban Tying, Gurbani Recitation and Quiz Competition on Nov 29, 2018



➤ **Preserving our heritage and improving our environment:**

- Sri Guru Gobind Singh College took an initiative to create Guru Nanak Sacred Forest on-campus with an objective to promote sustainable environment. It is a major step in reducing the Carbon Footprint of the region.
- Gurmat Vichaar Sabha in association with Environment Society celebrated Sikh Environment Day to Commemorate *Gurugaddi Diwas* of Sri Guru Har Rai Ji, and organised a Tree Plantation Drive and Gurbani Kirtan on Mar 14, 2019.





**Evidence of Success:**

- The students of the college are being introduced to their cultural heritage through various activities conducted by The Centre for Sikh Religious and Cultural Studies and The Gurmat Vichar Sabha. All activities conducted by them saw enthusiastic and spirited participation by the students.





- Students are learning Gurmat Sangeet and classical vocal and instrumental music.
- The students make use of the reference material and various religious writings available in the library which adds to their knowledge of their culture and heritage.
- The Capacity Building Workshop on Cultural Transformation and Rejuvenation helped to create environment consciousness amongst the students. A deep spiritual experience and interaction with Bhai Baldeep Singh ji gave the students an opportunity to see the depth and the wide scope of their religious and cultural heritage.
- Our students won 35 prizes in PU Youth and Cultural Heritage Fest, 2018





**Problems Encountered and Resources Required:**

The challenge is to present our own culture and heritage to the youth not only through lectures but through fun filled activities. So consistent and focussed efforts are required to motivate the youngsters.

