



ENERGY POLICY



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Introduction

As per AICTE Environment Policy 2020, that sets long term goals for educational institutions to conserve natural environment, develop sustainable solutions and control energy consumption, an educational institution has to evolve programs and policies that turns the institution into a carbon-negative institution, one that strives to educate its students and employees on environmental concerns and sustainability, be responsive to the emerging challenges in the Energy sector and Sustainable development of the state and country. Therefore, it is essential for the educational community to practice sustainable energy that will provide favorable effect on the ecosystem.

The Energy Policy of an institution of higher education (HEI) is a strategic plan and a set of guidelines that outline the institution's approach towards managing and using energy resources in an environmentally responsible and efficient manner. Such policies are typically designed to reduce energy consumption, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and promote sustainability.

Rationale of the Policy

The Energy Policy of The Assam Royal Global University is drawn for the management and conservation of energy in the campus of the University. This policy outlines the practices that have been implemented and are expected to be implemented in the future as the University's infrastructure and community grow larger. The Policy will act as a guideline and a standard operating procedure to ensure energy conservation through a progressive and proactive approach to sustainable energy consumption, cost effective and responsible consumption on the University campus. This policy will be reviewed periodically as the demand of energy grows with the growth of the University.

The University sets for itself certain goals given below for the effective conservation of energy on all its campuses:

- Construct University buildings using passive architectural design, in a way to utilize natural air-cooling system.
- Have an energy consumption limit once the constructions are completed in all the campuses and thus maintain a set limit for a zero net growth in consumption.
- Conduct periodical awareness programs among the University Community on Energy Conservation.

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- Replace non-renewable energy as much as possible with renewable energy sources.
- Conduct regular energy audit.
- Use energy-efficient electrical appliances for new installations for lower energy consumption.
- Compliance with 2017 ECBC (Energy Conservation Building Code) to ensure installation of renewable energy systems and that a proportion of total electricity demand is met through renewable energy systems.

Strategies and Implementation

Based on the goals set by the University for effective conservation of energy on all the campuses, the following strategies have been adopted by the University:

- Passive Architectural Design of the Buildings:** In all its building constructions, the University is to make sure that, right from the architectural design, buildings are making use of the natural air-cooling system in every possible way to allow free flow of cool air which percolates throughout the corridors and the rooms. Accordingly, the University has constructed all the Academic Blocks, as per this policy – either by making airflow tunnels under each floor or by leaving ample gaps between the walls and the roofs.
- Roof Top Solar Panels:** The University will make sure that Rooftop Solar Panels are installed on its buildings. Accordingly, the University has installed 165 kW grid-connected solar photovoltaic power systems by using the free rooftop spaces which is estimated to reduce the energy cost incurred by the University.
- Thermostat Set Point:** The University will encourage those who use Air Conditioning system to maintain a set point of 23 degree Celsius at all times.
- LED Lights:** The University will make every effort in using only LED lighting system in all its new installations in all the campuses. The existing lighting systems are to be replaced by LED lightings in a phased manner.
- Energy Audit:** The University will conduct energy audit every year to ensure that the energy consumption in the University remains as per the expected set level and that no energy is wasted unnecessarily. The areas of energy conservation and

saving are to identified through the process of audit by following the recommendations.

- f) **Maintenance of Equipment:** The Administrative Officers of each of the campuses will be responsible for timely maintenance services of electrical equipment installed in the University, with an objective of keeping their efficiency at maximum level.

Conservation Behaviour

The University will encourage the University community in developing an energy conservation behaviour by organizing workshops, seminars, talks, competitions and awareness events on the effects of climate change, depletion of fossil fuels, and on the importance of having consciousness in energy conservation etc. at regular intervals. For achieving this purpose, each School will be responsible for organizing such events and the Directors of each School will spearhead such activities.

Expected Outcomes

By following the University's Energy Conservation Policy, the following outcomes are expected:

- a) The cost of energy consumed by the University will be reduced and maintained at a certain affordable level.
- b) It will reduce the greenhouse gas contribution of the University.
- c) It will extend the life of electrical equipment at the University.
- d) It will create a better and healthier environment for the University community to live in.
- e) Lastly, it will help in moulding the behaviour of the students towards environmental consciousness while making them aware of the importance of energy conservation.

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