

Green Audit Report

(2024-25)



VELS INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ADVANCED STUDIES (VISTAS)

Velan Nagar, P.V. Vaithiyalingam Road, Pallavaram, Chennai-600 117, Tamil Nadu, India.

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Assessment Done by:

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Index

S. No	Contents	Page No
1	Executive Summary	3
2	Introduction to VISTAS	7
3	General Information of VISTAS	14
4	Facilities	17
5	VISTAS Layout	19
6	Vision, Mission and Core Values	20
7	Management Commitment	22
8	Scope and Goals of Green Audit	23
9	Benefits of Green Audit	25
10	Target Areas of Green Audit	28
11	Methodology	30
12	Auditing Green Campus	33
13	Participation and Consultation	45
14	Best Practices	71
15	Disclaimer	77

Green Audit Report

VISTAS (Vels Institute of Science, Technology & Advanced Studies)

1. Introduction

A Green Audit is a systematic, documented, and periodic process that identifies, quantifies, records, analyzes, and reports the environmental aspects and impacts of an institution. The primary objective of a green audit is to assess environmental practices within a campus and evaluate their effectiveness in fostering an eco-friendly and sustainable environment.

For higher educational institutions, green audits serve as an essential management and planning tool. They provide critical insights into how resources such as **energy, water, materials, and land** are utilized and help identify opportunities for conservation, efficiency improvement, and environmental performance enhancement.

2. Importance of Green Audit for Educational Institutions

Green audits are particularly valuable for universities and colleges as they:

- Identify areas of **high resource consumption**, such as electricity and water usage
- Enable **data-driven decisions** for sustainable resource management
- Support the development and strengthening of **waste minimization and recycling programs**
- Encourage **environmentally responsible behavior** among students, faculty, and staff
- Contribute to long-term **cost savings** through efficient resource utilization

By conducting a green audit, institutions can assess their environmental footprint and align their operations with sustainability goals and national development priorities.

3. Role of Higher Educational Institutions in Sustainability

Institutional self-evaluation is an integral component of a quality educational institution. In the context of increasing environmental challenges and climate concerns, universities have a vital role in promoting sustainability through:

- Environmental education and awareness
- Responsible campus operations
- Demonstration of best environmental practices

As environmental sustainability becomes increasingly significant for national and global development, the contribution of higher educational institutions in nurturing environmentally conscious citizens assumes even greater importance.

4. Green Initiatives in Educational Campuses

Educational institutions are becoming progressively sensitive to environmental factors and are adopting various strategies to develop green campuses. These initiatives typically include:

- **Energy conservation and efficiency measures**
- **Water conservation**, including rainwater harvesting
- **Solid and liquid waste management**, with emphasis on recycling and reduction
- Promotion of **eco-friendly infrastructure and landscaping**

Such measures aim not only to preserve the campus environment but also to serve as a living laboratory for students to understand sustainability in practice.

5. Environmental Auditing and Institutional Responsibility

The activities carried out within a university campus can generate a variety of environmental impacts, both positive and adverse. Environmental auditing is a structured process that evaluates an organization's environmental performance against its policies, objectives, and regulatory expectations.

A **Green Audit** represents a formal assessment of a university's environmental impacts and management practices. As part of this initiative, an **internal green audit** is conducted to evaluate the actual on-ground environmental conditions, operational controls, and compliance status of the campus.

6. Objectives of the Green Audit at VISTAS

The green audit at **VISTAS** was undertaken with the following objectives:

- To assess the consumption patterns of **energy, water, and other natural resources**
- To evaluate **waste generation, segregation, and disposal practices**
- To identify opportunities for **resource conservation and environmental improvement**
- To promote a culture of **environmental awareness and responsibility**
- To support sustainable campus development and continuous improvement

7. Audit Methodology

The green audit process involved a comprehensive and participative approach, which included:

- Initial data collection and review of available records
- Detailed **site walkthroughs** across the campus in coordination with the VISTAS team
- Review of **environmental policies, procedures, documents, and records**
- **Interviews and interactions** with faculty members, staff, and students
- Observation of existing practices and assessment of visible outcomes

This systematic approach ensured an accurate understanding of the environmental performance of the institution.

8. Benefits of Green Auditing

Green auditing and the implementation of recommended mitigation measures create a **win-win situation** for the institution, its stakeholders, and the environment. Key benefits include:

- Reduction in environmental impact and resource consumption
- Improved **health, hygiene, and safety awareness**
- Enhanced environmental values and ethics among students and staff
- Financial savings through efficient use of resources
- Development of **ownership, accountability, and social responsibility** within the campus community

9. Conclusion

The Green Audit of VISTAS reflects the institution's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable development. The findings of the audit provide a strong foundation for implementing targeted improvement measures and strengthening existing green initiatives. Continuous monitoring and periodic audits will further enhance the institution's environmental performance and contribute positively to a sustainable future.

Acknowledgement

We sincerely thank the **Management of VISTAS**, faculty members, staff, and students for their active cooperation and support throughout the green audit process. Their commitment and participation were instrumental in the successful completion of this audit.

For Pragnaa Shree Venture Pvt. Ltd.

Murali Radhakrishnan

Babu Sambandam

Introduction to VISTAS

VELS Institute of Science, Technology, and Advanced Studies (VISTAS), founded in 2018. VISTAS is located on Velan Nagar, P.V. Vaithiyalingam Road, Pallavaram, Chennai-600 117, Tamil Nadu, India.

The Vels Group of Institutions is run by the Vael's Educational Trust, a charitable, non-profit organization established in 1992 by Dr. Ishari K. Ganesh. The trust was founded to commemorate the memory of his father, Shri. Isari Velan, a former Deputy Minister in the government of Dr. M.G.R. Shri. Isari Velan was also associated with the film industry.

Vael's Educational Trust has always strived to take education to first-generation learners and underprivileged communities. Their vision is to instill self-reliance and discipline in the youth and to improve the quality of higher education.

The multifaceted Vels Group of Institutions under Vael's Educational Trust highlights the organization's commitment and dedication to the noble cause of higher education. By lighting the lamp of education for countless students across India, Vael's holds high the torch of quality education.

This institution of higher learning and excellence stands as a leviathan in the ever-expanding ocean of education. Dr. Ishari K. Ganesh, the founder, Chairman, and Managing Trustee, is the driving force behind Vels' success story.

A firm believer in the philosophy of hard work, Dr. Ganesh is a visionary and inspiring academician. He has instilled in generations of students a love for quality education, one that is tempered by discipline and enlivened by dedication.

Vels Institute of Science, Technology and Advanced Studies (VISTAS) began its journey with Vels College of Pharmacy in 1992. Vels College of Physiotherapy (1993) and Vels College of Science (1993) were established soon thereafter. In recognition of its

achievements, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India, conferred the esteemed Deemed University status upon these institutions collectively under the registered name VISTAS on June 4, 2008. The UGC (University Grants Commission) granted the Deemed University status considering the institute's rich experience and commitment to quality in higher education.

The VISTAS head office is located in Pallavaram, Chennai, about 2 kilometers south of Pallavaram Railway Station and nearly 4 kilometers from Chennai Airport.

VISTAS has flourished into a multi-disciplinary institute offering over 100 undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) programs, in addition to doctoral programs. These programs are delivered through 16 schools and 45 departments. All programs have the approval of relevant statutory regulatory agencies such as UGC, AICTE, PCI, BCI, NCTE, DGS, etc. VISTAS boasts a student body of nearly 14,500 and a faculty of nearly 709, with 348 holding doctoral degrees.

VISTAS has further distinguished itself by being recognized as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO) by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India. The institute boasts improved infrastructure, modernized laboratories, expanded hostel facilities, and enhanced sports facilities.

Since becoming a deemed university, VISTAS has undertaken a periodic review and revamp of syllabi across all disciplines. This has resulted in a significant increase in student enrollment, particularly among women students. The university is well-equipped with cutting-edge ICT facilities, including smart classrooms, video conferencing capabilities, online courses, and the Vels Knowledge Resource Centre

VISTAS 's VISION

To make the Institute an epitome of excellence in higher education by providing high-quality education and rigorous training in multiple streams of choice with ample scope for all-round development for the betterment of society.

VISTAS 's MISSION

- Effectively **imparting knowledge and** inculcating innovative **thinking**
- Facilitating **skill enhancement** through add-on courses and **hands-on training**.
- Doing original, socially relevant, **high-quality research**.
- Facilitating appropriate co-curricular, extracurricular and extension activities
- Instilling the spirit of **integrity, equity, professional ethics** and social **harmony**.

The governance structure at VISTAS promotes autonomy, transparency, and accountability through the active participation of various stakeholders. It ensures the differentiation and integration of diverse activities within the institution. The organizational structure is designed in accordance with UGC regulations.

The regulatory bodies at VISTAS include the Board of Management, Academic Council, Planning and Monitoring Board, Board of Studies, and Finance Committee. These bodies operate as per the guidelines of the UGC and the Memorandum of Association, holding meetings periodically.

Key stakeholders at VISTAS, such as faculty, students, parents, industry experts, academic peers, and alumni, are actively involved in decision-making at all levels. To ensure smooth functioning, several sub-committees, comprising faculty and student representatives, have been established.

To decentralize the administrative and academic functions, authority has been delegated by appointing Deans for various domains, such as Schools, Admissions, Academics, Research, Student Affairs, Faculty Development, and IQAC, among others.

For transparency, processes related to admissions, academics, administration, accounts, and examinations have been automated using ERP systems.

An enriched teaching, learning, and evaluation process is carried out at VISTAS, catering to the diverse needs of students and faculty. Students at VISTAS benefit from a multivariate learning experience. Bridge courses are conducted to prepare students for their respective academic environments.

The entire teaching-learning process is student-centric, with a focus on LMS, KMS, and e-learning resources. Interactive and instructional lectures, focused discussions, classroom deliberations, practical sessions, hands-on training, projects, presentations, workshops, and guest lectures help students enhance their technical skills. Comprehensive lesson plans are regularly prepared by faculty to ensure effective teaching.

Independent, interactive, collaborative, and participatory learning is encouraged, with facilities such as SMART classrooms, a Wi-Fi-enabled campus, industrial interactions, projects, and field visits provided to support students.

To further enhance learning, video lectures are recorded using EduTech, NPTEL, EDX, and other MOOCs. Virtual learning platforms like AVIEW and Moodle, developed by IIT, are also available.

VISTAS implements an effective mentor-mentee system to offer regular guidance and counseling to students. Class committee meetings are conducted regularly to address the needs of all types of learners. Remedial and tutorial classes are organized for slow learners to improve their understanding, while fast learners are engaged in NPTEL courses, industrial problems, and projects.

All programs offered by VISTAS have clearly defined Program Outcomes (POs), Program Specific Outcomes (PSOs), and Course Outcomes (COs), which are assessed through direct and indirect methods. VISTAS employs a continuous assessment system that ensures both formative and summative evaluations to measure the attainment of course outcomes.

The core values of VISTAS are aligned with its vision and mission, reflecting the curricular and professional growth of the VISTAS community. With equity as its foremost value and the Women's Forum as its voice, VISTAS promotes gender sensitivity among all stakeholders. Special counseling is provided to girls to help them overcome challenges such as depression and abnormal behavior.

VISTAS has a well-defined environmental policy. The campus is green, serene, and pleasant. Initiatives have been taken to conserve energy and reduce the carbon footprint, including the installation of three windmills and solar-powered street lamps.

The institution adheres to best practices such as maintaining a herbal garden, ensuring a tobacco-free and green campus, implementing a biogas plant, practicing rainwater harvesting, and promoting renewable energy and carbon neutrality. E-waste is responsibly managed by selling it back to contractors for proper disposal. Additionally, a modern waste processing machine has been installed on campus to convert biodegradable waste into manure.

Being located in the heart of the city, VISTAS provides direct and indirect employment opportunities for local unemployed youth. Its strategic location offers excellent connectivity and proximity to industries, which are significant advantages.

The core values and developments mentioned above are displayed on the institute's website. In promoting a cosmopolitan culture, VISTAS also observes national festivals and commemorates the birth and death anniversaries of great Indian personalities.

VISTAS adopts best practices such as Outcome-Based Education, student mentoring, external academic and administrative audits, the implementation of ERP in all activities, the NSS Unit's participation in Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, collecting students' feedback about teachers, MHRD digital initiatives, fostering a research culture, institution-industry interaction, the use of renewable energy, student internships, and the inclusion of a Parent Corner on the website.

The institution maintains a strong industry-institution relationship. Industries actively develop products at the Incubation Centre. Additionally, certain academic programs, such as B.Tech and MBA, are conducted in collaboration with M/s IBM. Experienced professors are involved in solving industrial problems through consultancy projects.

Our vision is to provide quality education. To ensure this, an external academic and administrative audit is conducted in all departments annually.

A center named “Centre for Advanced Research and Development (CARD)” has been established to promote research activities. In addition to 12 advanced, dedicated research labs across various schools, a Central Instrumentation Lab has been set up, equipped with state-of-the-art instruments such as the BET Surface Area Analyzer, Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope, High-Performance Thin-Layer Chromatography, X-Ray Diffractometer, Particle Size and Zeta Potential Analyzer, Raman Spectrometer, and more. Research scholars from nearby universities also utilize the VISTAS lab for their research work.

Due to a strong industry-institution tie-up, senior faculty members actively work on solving industrial problems through consultancy projects. Ten industries are currently engaged at the Incubation Centre, developing products beneficial to society.

Staff members are provided with incentives to publish research papers and attend seminars. Over the past three years, 1,374 research papers have been published in UGC-listed journals. Turnitin software is available to ensure originality and eliminate plagiarism in research work.

Under the **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan** program, VISTAS has taken significant steps to promote institutional social responsibility through various activities in neighboring rural communities. Generic medicines are made available to society through the **Pradhan Mantri Jan-Aushadhi Yojana Scheme**.

The road map of VISTAS is well-defined. Our vision is to transform VISTAS into an international institute where students from across the globe can gather to enrich themselves with knowledge. We aim to provide world-class physical and academic infrastructure, including advanced laboratory facilities, to create a “reverse flow” of students seeking higher education in India.

By 2030, we aspire to secure research projects worth at least ₹100 crores. There are numerous paths to explore and countless opportunities to embrace. Many achievements await to be added as feathers in the VISTAS cap of success.

Our endeavours are guided by determination: **"to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."** The institute is committed to achieving excellence in every activity, with intelligent planning and focused execution to ensure impactful outcomes.

We have achieved a lot, yet we feel there is much more to accomplish. Our journey in higher education continues, and we are steadfast in our pursuit of excellence.

Student Information

S. No	Description (2024-25)	Male	Female	Transgender
1	Students	11656	5628	5
2	Teaching Staff	271	428	-
3	Non-Teaching Staff	189	136	-
4	Total	12116	6192	5

S. No	Description (2024-25)	Male	Female	Transgender	Total
1	Total UG Students	9226	3528	-	12754
2	Total PG Students	1744	963	-	2707
3	Total Ph.D Students	686	1132	5	1823
4	Total	11656	5628	5	17289

Number of Students - School wise

S. No	Name of the School	Male	Female	Transgender	Total
1	School of Basic Sciences	72	48	-	120
2	School of Life Sciences	284	339	-	623
3	School of Computing Sciences	2417	766	-	3183
4	School of Management Studies	1079	430	-	1509
5	School of Commerce and Economics	1558	480	-	2038
6	School of Engineering	2425	572	-	2997
7	School of Pharmaceutical Sciences	397	262	-	659
8	School of Mass Communication	386	69	-	455
9	School of Hotel & Catering Management	121	26	-	147
10	School of Law	1442	745	-	2187
11	School of Languages	45	71	-	116
12	School of Education	13	169	-	182
13	School of Ancient Indian Studies & Fine Arts	57	72	-	129
14	School of Agriculture	38	32	-	70
15	School of Aviation	240	137	-	377
16	School of Allied Health Sciences	26	69	-	95
17	Centre for Distance and Online Education	370	209	-	579
	Total	10970	4496	-	15466
18	Ph.D	686	1132	5	1823
	Grand Total	11656	5628	5	17289

Teaching Staff

S. No	Description	Male	Female	Total
1	Teaching Staff	271	428	699

Teaching Staff – School Wise

S. No	Name of the School	Male	Female	Total
1	School of Basic Sciences	9	17	26
2	School of Life Sciences	11	19	30
3	School of Computing Sciences	38	92	130
4	School of Management Studies	27	39	66
5	School of Commerce and Economics	17	62	79
6	School of Engineering	59	67	126
7	School of Pharmaceutical Sciences	20	29	49
8	School of Mass Communication	15	4	19
9	School of Hotel & Catering Management	8	3	22
10	School of Law	24	51	86
11	School of Languages	11	13	35
12	School of Education	3	13	16
13	School of Ancient Indian Studies & Fine Arts	6	4	20
14	School of Agriculture	5	2	8
15	School of Aviation	15	2	28
16	School of Allied Health Sciences	0	2	3
17	Centre for Distance and Online Education	3	9	23
	Total	271	428	699

Non-Teaching Staff

S. No	Description	Male	Female	Total
1	Non-Teaching Staff	189	136	325

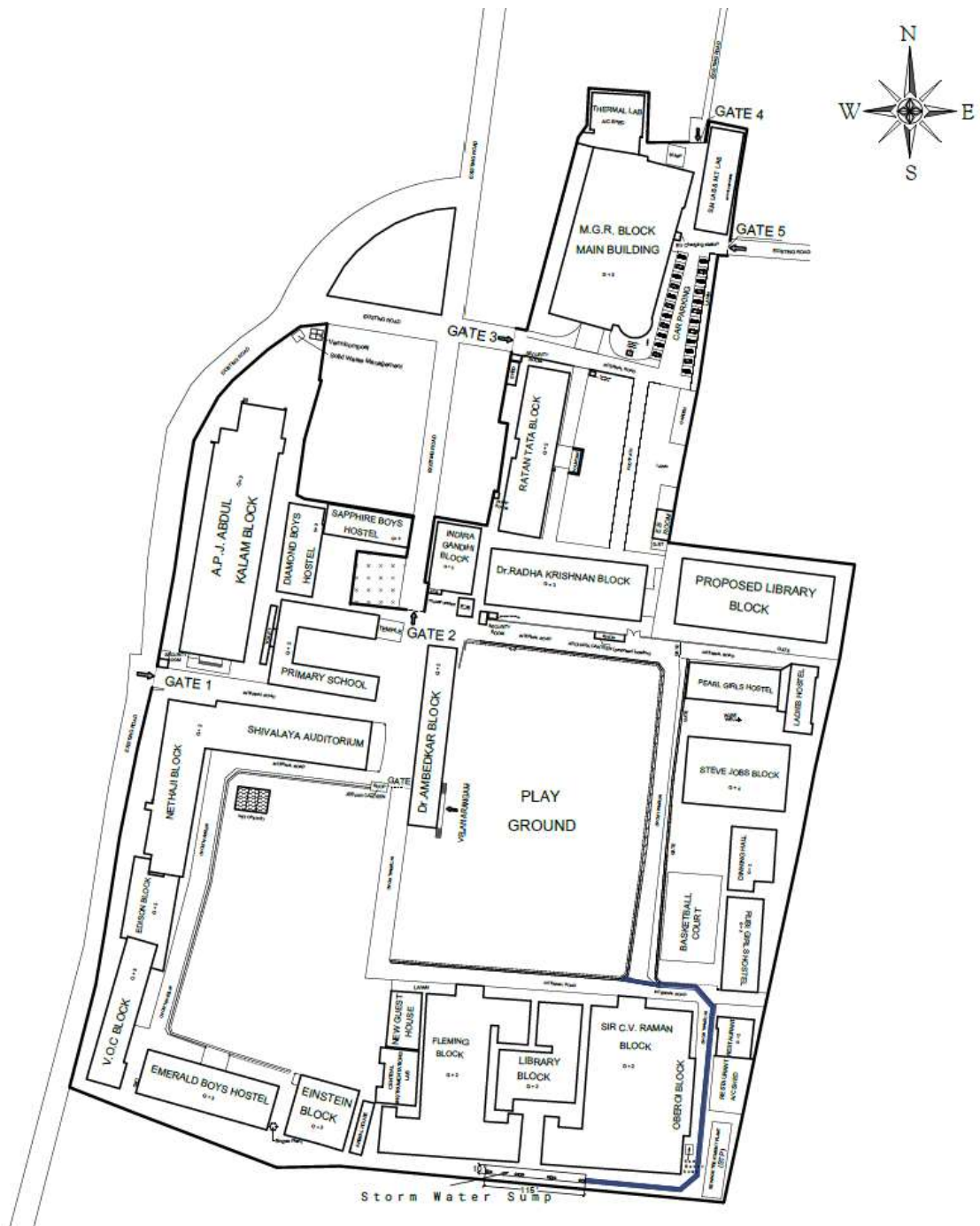
Facilities available at Campus

- Canteens
- Waste Management
- Transport facilities
- Three Wind Mills
- Three air-conditioned seminar halls with a seating capacity of 150
- Three air-conditioned auditoria with a capacity of 1200, 250 & 120
- Staff Quarters
- Solar Plant
- RO Plant
- Pharmacy
- Nine Diesel Generators
- Main Canteen is available which can cater to 200 persons at a time and Three
- Insurance for all students and staff members
- Girls Hostels
- Boys Hostels
- Bank with ATM
- Throwball Court
- Tennikoit Court
- Taekwondo
- Cricket Practice Pitch (nets)
- Kabaddi Court
- Swimming Pool (25mtsX14 mts)
- Football Field
- Volleyball Court
- Basketball Court
- Ball Badminton Court
- Badminton Courts (Outdoor)
- 200 Mtrs Track
- Fitness Centre (gymnasium)

Facilities available at Campus

- Indoor hall to play Table Tennis, Carrom and Chess
- All the Fire Safety Equipment are provided on the premises
- Having necessary Wheel Chairs and Ramps in all the buildings on the campus.
- All members of staff (Teaching, Non-teaching & Students) are covered through accident cum hospitalization insurance.
- Two separate Health Clinics are available - One for Boys and One for Girls.
- One Male Medical Officer and One lady Medical Officer are available.
- Tie-up with nearby hospitals namely Kamatchi Hospital, and Parvathy Hospital.
- The institution is having adequate toilet facilities for physically challenged persons.
- Lift facilities are available
- Apollo Shine Clinic is located within the campus.
- 24 Hrs Ambulance facility
- Nursing Assistants

Campus Plan



Vision, Mission and Core Values

Vision

- To make the Institute an epitome of excellence in higher education by providing high-quality education and rigorous training in multiple streams of choice with ample scope for all-round development for the betterment of society.

Mission

- Effectively **imparting knowledge** and inculcating **innovative thinking**.
- Facilitating **skill enhancement** through add on courses and **hands-on training**.
- Doing original, socially relevant, **high-quality research**.
- Facilitating appropriate **co-curricular, extracurricular and extension activities**.
- Instilling the **spirit of integrity, equity, professional ethics and social harmony**.

Core Values

VISTAS believe that:

- VISTAS students and scholars should be well-founded on the pursuit of knowledge through, teaching and learning research, with fellowships required based on intellectual merit, ability and the potential for excellence.
- Perspectives, arising from diverse knowledge backgrounds, that redefine our identities, deepen scholarly inquiry and enrich path-breaking newer knowledge horizons.
- Cherish the key values of academic freedom, creative and innovative thought, ethical standards and integrity, accountability and social justice, and nurturing an open mind and open society.
- Foster inquiry-led and evidence-based approach to creative knowledge; facilitate a vibrant academic ambience to nurture the intellectual climate.

Management Commitment

The Management of **Vels Institute of Science, Technology & Advanced Studies (VISTAS)** has demonstrated a clear and proactive commitment toward environmental sustainability and green governance during the Green Audit interaction. Senior leadership actively participated in the audit discussions and expressed strong support for institutionalizing environmentally responsible practices across academic, administrative, and infrastructural functions of the University.

The Management affirmed its readiness to provide strategic direction, policy-level support, and necessary resources to promote and strengthen eco-friendly initiatives on campus. Based on the outcomes of the Green Audit, the University has resolved to further enhance sustainability-focused activities, including the organization of environmental awareness and sensitization programs, promotion of campus-based farming and gardening initiatives, and expansion of green cover through systematic tree plantation drives.

Furthermore, the Management has shown a positive intent to review, update, and formulate institutional environmental policies in line with the observations, findings, and recommendations of the Green Audit report. This includes integrating sustainability considerations into planning, operations, and decision-making processes, thereby ensuring continual improvement in environmental performance.

The commitment demonstrated by the Management reflects alignment with the principles of environmental stewardship, regulatory compliance, and continual improvement.

Scope and Goals of Green Audit

A clean, safe, and healthy environment is fundamental to effective teaching–learning processes and the overall well-being of academic communities. Globally, higher educational institutions are increasingly recognizing their responsibility in addressing environmental challenges through structured environmental education and sustainable campus management practices. In this context, a **Green Audit** serves as a systematic and strategic tool for evaluating and improving environmental performance.

Green auditing is a professional and ethical responsibility that integrates **environmental, economic, financial, and social considerations** into institutional decision-making. It enables universities to assess their current environmental practices, identify areas of concern, and adopt sustainable measures that minimize ecological footprints while optimizing resource efficiency.

Scope of the Green Audit

The scope of the Green Audit encompasses a comprehensive assessment of the university campus, including but not limited to:

- **Energy management** (electricity consumption, renewable energy initiatives, efficiency measures)
- **Water management** (sources, consumption patterns, conservation and harvesting practices)
- **Waste management** (solid, liquid, hazardous, and e-waste handling)
- **Green cover and biodiversity** (tree cover, landscaping, native species conservation)
- **Air, noise, and soil quality** within campus premises
- **Sustainable practices** in laboratories, hostels, canteens, offices, and common facilities
- **Environmental awareness and participation** among students, faculty, and staff
- **Compliance** with applicable environmental regulations and statutory requirements

The audit also evaluates institutional policies, operational controls, and documentation related to environmental management.

Goals and Objectives of the Green Audit

The primary goals of conducting a Green Audit at the university level are to:

1. Assess Environmental Performance

To systematically evaluate the institution's environmental practices and resource utilization across academic and administrative operations.

2. Identify Gaps and Risks

To identify areas of environmental risk, inefficiencies, non-compliance, and opportunities for improvement.

3. Promote Sustainable Resource Management

To encourage optimal use of energy, water, and materials, thereby reducing waste generation and environmental impact.

4. Enhance Environmental Awareness

To sensitize students, faculty, and staff about environmental issues and promote eco-friendly behavior and responsible citizenship.

5. Support Regulatory and Accreditation Requirements

To align institutional practices with **NAAC quality indicators, ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems, and Sustainability Guidelines.**

6. Encourage Continuous Improvement

To establish a baseline for future monitoring and enable continuous improvement through measurable targets and action plans.

7. Foster a Culture of Environmental Responsibility

To instill environmental ethics among students, empowering them to contribute positively to national and global sustainability goals.

Benefits of Green Audit

A Green Audit is a structured and systematic mechanism that enables higher education institutions to evaluate, manage, and enhance their environmental performance. The key benefits of conducting a Green Audit are outlined below:

1. Efficient Resource Management

Facilitates optimal utilization of natural resources such as energy, water, and Greenery by identifying inefficiencies and promoting conservation practices across the campus.

2. Foundation for Enhanced Sustainability

Provides a robust baseline for planning, implementing, and monitoring sustainability initiatives, thereby supporting long-term environmental stewardship and institutional resilience.

3. Development of a Green Campus

Supports the transformation of the campus into an environmentally responsible and eco-friendly space through green infrastructure, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable landscaping.

4. Improved Waste Management Systems

Enables effective waste management by promoting reduction at source, segregation, recycling of solid waste, composting of organic waste, and reuse of treated wastewater.

5. Promotion of Plastic-Free and Health-Conscious Campus

Encourages elimination of single-use plastics and fosters health-conscious behaviors among students, staff, and other stakeholders through awareness and policy interventions.

6. Identification of Cost-Saving Opportunities

Recognizes potential financial savings through waste minimization, energy efficiency improvements, water conservation, and optimized procurement practices.

7. Identification of Environmental Risks and Challenges

Helps identify existing and emerging environmental issues, risks, and impacts, enabling proactive mitigation and adaptation strategies.

8. Regulatory and Legal Compliance

Ensures adherence to applicable environmental laws, regulations, and statutory requirements, thereby reducing the risk of non-compliance and associated penalties.

9. Enhanced Environmental Performance

Empowers the institution to continually improve its environmental performance through measurable targets, performance indicators, and corrective actions.

10. Increased Awareness and Accountability

Enhances awareness among stakeholders regarding environmental responsibilities, guidelines, and best practices, fostering a culture of shared accountability.

11. Strengthening Environmental Education

Promotes environmental education and research through a systematic environmental management approach, contributing to improved academic and operational environmental standards.

12. Benchmarking of Environmental Initiatives

Enables benchmarking of environmental protection and sustainability initiatives against best practices, peer institutions, and national/international standards.

13. Financial Savings through Resource Efficiency

Achieves long-term financial benefits by reducing consumption of energy, water, and materials, thereby lowering operational costs.

14. Institutional Ownership and Social Responsibility

Develops a strong sense of ownership, civic responsibility, and environmental citizenship among students, faculty, and staff.

15. Enhanced Institutional Image and Reputation

Strengthens the university's public image and credibility as an environmentally responsible institution, supporting rankings, accreditations, and stakeholder trust.

16. Cultivation of Environmental Ethics and Values

Instills environmental ethics, values, and sustainable lifestyles among students, contributing to responsible future leaders and professionals.

17. Effective Monitoring of Sustainability Programs

Serves as a valuable management tool for continuous monitoring, review, and improvement of environmental and sustainable development programs across the university.

Target Areas of Green Auditing

Green auditing is a critical and systematic component of the overall resource management and sustainability governance framework of an educational institution. While individual green initiatives and assessments provide limited insights, the **true value of a green audit lies in its periodic and structured execution**, enabling institutions to monitor performance trends, identify gaps, and demonstrate continual environmental improvement over time.

The concept of an **eco-campus** is rooted in the principles of sustainable development and responsible resource utilization. It emphasizes the **efficient use of natural resources**, reduction of environmental footprints, and integration of environmental responsibility into institutional planning and operations. Green auditing serves as a comprehensive evaluation mechanism to assess these objectives in a measurable and verifiable manner.

Through green auditing, educational institutions systematically assess key environmental indicators, including:

- Energy efficiency and conservation practices
- Water usage, conservation, and management systems
- Waste generation, segregation, recycling, and disposal practices
- Pollution prevention and control measures
- Campus biodiversity and environmental stewardship initiatives.

An eco-campus strives to:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and overall environmental impact
- Ensure a reliable, cost-effective, and sustainable energy supply
- Promote energy and water conservation through technology and behavioral change
- Minimize waste generation and reduce waste sent to landfills
- Encourage individual and collective environmental responsibility among students, staff, and stakeholders
- Integrate environmental considerations into procurement, contracts, services, and infrastructure development that may have significant environmental impacts

Green auditing evaluates the effectiveness of these initiatives by examining policies, operational controls, infrastructure, awareness programs, and compliance with applicable environmental regulations and best practices.

Core Target Areas of Green Auditing

The primary target areas assessed under a comprehensive green audit framework include:

1. Water Management

Assessment of water sourcing, consumption patterns, conservation measures, rainwater harvesting, wastewater treatment, and reuse practices.

2. Energy Management

Evaluation of energy consumption, renewable energy integration, energy-efficient equipment, lighting systems, and energy conservation initiatives.

3. Waste Management

Analysis of solid, liquid, hazardous, and e-waste handling, segregation practices, recycling mechanisms, and waste minimization strategies.

4. Environmental and Ecosystem Management

Review of green cover, biodiversity conservation, pollution control measures, campus landscaping, and initiatives promoting environmental awareness and sustainability.

Through systematic evaluation of these target areas, green auditing supports institutions in achieving regulatory compliance, improving environmental performance, enhancing resource efficiency, and demonstrating commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility.

Methodology of Green Auditing

The Green Audit was conducted with the objective of evaluating whether the environmental practices and operational controls implemented on the university campus are aligned with the institution's approved Green Policy and sustainability commitments. The audit framework, criteria, tools, and recommendations were developed based on identified environmental aspects, associated risks, and opportunities for improvement.

The audit methodology adopted a **systematic, evidence-based approach**, combining qualitative and quantitative techniques. It involved the preparation and administration of structured questionnaires, physical inspection of the campus, review of relevant documents and records, interactions with responsible stakeholders, and analysis of collected data. Measurements, observations, and verifications were carried out to ensure the accuracy and reliability of findings. Based on the assessment outcomes, practical and implementable recommendations were proposed.

The Green Audit was executed through a **three-step process**, as detailed below:

1. Data Collection

The preliminary phase focused on the comprehensive collection of environmental data using multiple sources and methods to ensure adequate coverage and representation of campus activities.

The following approaches were adopted for data collection:

- Physical site visits to various functional areas of the campus
- Direct observation of facilities, infrastructure, and operational practices
- Collection of general information through structured interviews with faculty members, administrative staff, maintenance personnel, and other responsible individuals
- Circulation of questionnaires among students to capture awareness levels and participation in sustainability practices
- Review of utility records, operational logs, and maintenance documents

- Recording of power consumption data for selected appliances and systems by considering average operating values where direct measurements were not feasible

This phase ensured the collection of primary and secondary data related to energy use, water consumption, waste generation, and environmental management practices.

2. Data Analysis

The data collected during the assessment phase was systematically analyzed to evaluate the environmental performance of the campus. The analysis included:

- Calculation and interpretation of total and area-wise energy consumption
- Review and verification of recent electricity bills to assess consumption trends
- Assessment of water usage patterns and conservation practices
- Evaluation of solid and liquid waste generation, segregation, handling, and disposal mechanisms
- Review of greenery, landscaping practices, and biodiversity initiatives

The analysis enabled identification of gaps, inefficiencies, and potential areas for resource optimization and environmental impact reduction.

3. Recommendations

Based on the outcomes of data analysis, physical observations, and stakeholder interactions, targeted recommendations were proposed. These recommendations focus on:

- Reducing energy consumption through efficiency improvement and responsible usage practices
- Optimizing water consumption and strengthening conservation measures
- Enhancing waste segregation, treatment, recycling, and disposal practices
- Minimizing the use of fossil fuels and promoting cleaner and sustainable alternatives to protect environmental quality and community health

The recommendations are designed to be practical, scalable, and aligned with institutional objectives for environmental sustainability and continual improvement.

Target Areas Covered

For effective evaluation, target areas specific to the university were assessed using structured questionnaires and on-site verification. The following key focus areas were covered during the Green Audit:

- 1. Environment & Waste Management**
- 2. Energy Management**
- 3. Water Management**
- 4. Greenery Management**

Auditing for Green Campus Management – Biodiversity and Tree Cover

Biodiversity across the globe is under significant threat due to habitat degradation, environmental pollution, excessive consumption of natural resources, and the spread of invasive species. The rapid decline in species diversity disrupts ecological balance and weakens essential ecosystem functions, ultimately affecting environmental stability and human well-being. The preservation and enhancement of biodiversity within institutional campuses therefore play a critical role in promoting ecological resilience and sustainable development.

Green campus initiatives emphasize the protection, enhancement, and sustainable management of natural resources. Trees and green cover constitute a vital component of campus biodiversity, contributing directly to climate regulation, air quality improvement, carbon sequestration, and ecosystem health. Both newly planted and existing trees actively reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide levels and release oxygen, thereby mitigating the effects of climate change.

Scientific studies indicate that a single mature tree can absorb approximately 48 pounds of carbon dioxide annually and release oxygen sufficient to meet the daily requirement of one individual. Through this natural process, trees significantly improve ambient air quality, particularly in urban and semi-urban institutional settings. As students, faculty, and staff engage in academic and professional activities, the campus green cover continuously supports a healthier and cleaner environment.

Beyond environmental benefits, campus trees and green spaces contribute positively to mental health and psychological well-being. Research has consistently demonstrated that exposure to green environments reduces stress, anxiety, and mental fatigue. This benefit is especially relevant in academic institutions, where students often experience academic pressure and stress. The presence of trees and landscaped areas supports a calm and conducive learning atmosphere.

As part of its commitment to environmental sustainability and biodiversity conservation, the campus has undertaken systematic plantation and greening initiatives. Along with a diverse range of **medicinal plants**, have been planted and are maintained across the campus. These initiatives demonstrate institutional responsibility toward ecological conservation, carbon footprint reduction, and the creation of a sustainable and health-oriented campus environment.

S. No	Types of Trees with Numbers	S. No	Types of Trees with Numbers
1.	செம்மயில் கொன்றை (15) Gulmohar <i>Delonix regia</i>	10.	பூவரசு மரம் (10) Indian tulip tree <i>Thespesia populnea</i>
2.	மரமல்லி (2) Indian Cork-Tree <i>Millingtonia hortensis</i>	11.	செம்மரம் (5) Indian rosewood <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>
3.	பெருங்கொன்றை (46) Copper Shield tree <i>Peltophorum pterocarpum</i>	12.	மகிழ் மரம் (19) Spanish cherry <i>Mimusops elengi</i>
4.	ஏழிலைபாலை (10) Umbrella tree <i>Schefflera arboricola</i>	13.	கிறிஸ்துமஸ் மரம் (5) Christmas Tree <i>Araucaria columnaris</i>
5.	புன்னை மரம் (2) Alexandrian laurel <i>Calophyllum inophyllum</i>	14.	ஈச்ச மரம் (12) Silver Date Palm <i>Phoenix sylvestris</i>
6.	சரக்கொன்றை (1) Golden Shower <i>Cassia fistula</i>	15.	தேன் பழம் (1) Singapore Cherry <i>Muntingia calabura</i>
7.	பாதாம் (வாதுமை) (27) Indian almond <i>Terminalia catappa</i>	16.	விசிறி வாழை (4) Traveller's palm <i>Ravenala madagascariensis</i>
8.	வேப்ப மரம் (55) Neem <i>Azadirachta indica</i>	17.	வன்னி மரம் (1) Khejri Tree <i>Acacia cineraria</i>
9.	எலுமிச்சை (1) Citrus <i>Citrus limon</i>	18.	அச்சிநறுவிலி (10) Scarlet Cordia <i>Cordia sebestena</i>

S. No	Types of Trees with Numbers	S. No	Types of Trees with Numbers
19.	புங்கம் (17) Pungam <i>Pongamia pinnata</i>	30.	வெள்ளால் (13) Weeping fig <i>Ficus benjamina</i>
20.	மாமரம் (5) Mango <i>Mangifera indica</i>	31.	கொடுக்காப்புளி (2) Manila tamarind <i>Pithecellobium dulce</i>
21.	சப்போட்டா மரம் (1) Sapota <i>Achras sapota</i>	32.	தூங்கு மூஞ்சி மரம் (4) Rain tree <i>Samanea saman</i>
22.	கூந்தற்பனை (14) Fishtail Palm <i>Caryota urens</i>	33.	நெட்டிலிங்கம் (19) Mast-Tree <i>Polyalthia longifolia</i>
23.	சீத்தாப்பழம் (1) Custard Apple <i>Annona squamosa</i>	34.	தென்னை மரம் (5) Coconut <i>Cocos nucifera</i>
24.	நெல்லிமரம் (1) Indian gooseberry <i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	35.	புளிய மரம் (1) Tamarind <i>Tamarindus indica</i>
25.	நாவல் மரம் (2) Jamun <i>Syzygium cumini</i>	36.	வில்வம் (1) Bael <i>Aegle marmelos</i>
26.	பெருங்கள்ளி (14) Plumeria <i>Plumeria rubra</i>	37.	மாதுளை (3) Pomegranate <i>Punica granatum</i>
27.	கொய்யா மரம் (12) Guava <i>Psidium guajava</i>	38.	மலை வேம்பு (1) Malabar Neemwood <i>Melia dubia</i>
28.	சவுண்டல் (6) Subabul <i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>	39.	தேக்கு (11) Teak <i>Tectona grandis</i>
29.	இலுப்பை மரம் (1) Mahua Tree <i>Madhuca longifolia</i>	40.	செம்மரம் (4) Red Sandalwood <i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i>

List of Medicinal Plants

S. No	Common Name	Botanical Name	Tamil Name
1	Holy Basil	<i>Ocimum tenuiflorum</i>	Tulasi
2	Betal	<i>Piper bettle</i>	Vettrilai
3	Mature Tea Tree	<i>Senna auricalata</i>	Aavaram Poo
4	Kariyat	<i>Andrographispaniulate</i>	Siriya Nangai
5	Indian Tulip Tree	<i>Thespesia populnea</i>	Puvarasan
6	Horseshoe Vitex	<i>Vitex negundo</i>	Chinduvaram
7	Golden Penda	<i>Xanthostemon chrysanthus</i>	
8	Vinca	<i>Catharanthus rosecus</i>	Nithya Kalyani
9	Aloe	<i>Aloe vera</i>	Katrarai
10	Pongam	<i>Milletia pinnate</i>	Pungai
11	Millets	<i>Pennisiumglacum</i>	Thaaniyangal
12	Touch Me Not	<i>Mimosa pudica</i>	Thotasilungi
13	Calotropis	<i>Calotropis gigantea</i>	Erukku
14	Sweet Flag	<i>Acoruscalamus</i>	Vasambu
15	Brahmi	<i>Bacop amonnier</i>	Neer Brahmi
16	Lemon Balm	<i>Melissa officinalis</i>	Parcikal Cankori
17	Lemon	<i>Citrus lemon</i>	Elumiccai
18	Curry Tree	<i>Murrayekoenigri</i>	Karuveppilai
19	Climbing Brinjal	<i>Solanamtrilobatum</i>	Thoodhuvalai
20	Ballon Plant	<i>Cardiospermumhalicacabum</i>	Mudakatham
21	Lavangani Pattai	<i>Cinnamomum zeylcamicum</i>	
22	Indian Borage	<i>Coleus ambonicus</i>	Karpuravalli
23	Indian Lilac	<i>Melia azadirachta</i>	Malaivambu

S. No	Common Name	Botanical Name	Tamil Name
24	Thorn Apple	<i>Daturastrominum</i>	Umattai
25	Neem Tree	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	Veppam
26	Seed Under Leaf	<i>Phyllanthusnirusi</i>	Keezha Nelli
27	Devils Back Bone	<i>Cissusquadranguleris</i>	Perandi
28	Hog Weed	<i>Boerhaviadiffusa</i>	Mukaratikeral
29	False Diary	<i>Eclitta alba</i>	Karisilanganni
30	Devils Weed	<i>Tribulustenestris</i>	Nerunjil
31	Indian Mallow	<i>Abutilon indicum</i>	Thuthi
32	Indian Copper Leaf	<i>Acaluphaindica</i>	Kuppaimaeni
33	Indian Borage	<i>Plectranthusamboinicus</i>	Karupuravalli
34	Sweet Basic	<i>Ocimumbasilicum</i>	Thiruneetrupachani
35	Agathi	<i>Serbaniagrandifera</i>	Semai Agathi
36	Asoka	<i>Saracaeasica</i>	Asoka
37	Arugambul	<i>Cynodondactylon</i>	Arugambul
38	Elumichan Tulasi	<i>Ocimumgratissimum</i>	Elumichan Tulasi
39	Karuppura Valli	<i>Anisochiluscarnosus</i>	Karuppura Valli
40	Laiyana Murungai	<i>Erythrinavaricgata</i>	Kalyana Murungai
41	Pudhina	<i>Menthes arvensis</i>	Pudhina
42	Puliyarai	<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Puliyarai
43	Gauva	<i>Psidiumguajava</i>	Goiyaa
44	Saamandhipoo	<i>Chrysanthemum indicum</i>	Saamandhipoo
45	Cinthil	<i>Tinosaporacordifolia</i>	Cinthil
46	Pea Egg Plant	<i>Solanumforvumswarts</i>	Sundai
47	Sambaruthi	<i>Gossypiumarbroum</i>	Sambaruthi

S. No	Common Name	Botanical Name	Tamil Name
48	Thumbai	<i>Leucasaspera</i>	Thumbai
49	Crape Jasmine	<i>Taberneemontanadivaricata</i>	Nandhiyavathai
50	Pilkunari	<i>Premnawilldtomentosa</i>	Pilkunari
51	Frog Fruit	<i>Lippie nodiflora</i>	Podhuthalai
52	Jasmine	<i>Jasminumsambac</i>	Malli
53	Capsicum	<i>Capsicum annum</i>	Milagai
54	Drumstick	<i>Moringaoleifera</i>	Murungai
55	Centalla Asiatic	<i>Centellaasiatic</i>	Vallarai
56	White Gulmohar	<i>Delonixelata</i>	Vadhanarayanan
57	Punarnava	<i>Boerhaaviadiffusa</i>	Muthirathai
58	Vatpalai	<i>Wrightia-tinctoria</i>	Vatpalai
59	Punnai	<i>Calophyllum Linn.</i>	Punnai
60	Indian Tulip Tree	<i>Thespesiapopulnea</i>	Poovarasu
61	Ponnangani	<i>Alternantherasessilis</i>	Ponnangani
62	Pomegranante	<i>Punca</i>	Mathulai
63	Parakipathai	<i>Similax china</i>	Parankip Pattai
64	Java Olive Tree	<i>Sterculia</i>	Pinarimaram
65	Mountain Knot Grass	<i>Aervalanata</i>	Pilai
66	Gymnama	<i>Gymnemasylvestre</i>	Sirukenujjan
67	Kodivalli	<i>Plumbagoindica</i>	Koduveli
68	Peanut	<i>Arachishyposaeae</i>	Kadalai
69	Yellow Berriednight Shade	<i>Solanumxanthocarpum</i>	Kandenkathiri











Participation of Teams

At **VISTAS**, the Green Audit was conducted with the professional support of **Pragna Shree Venture India Pvt. Ltd.**, with active participation from student volunteers, teaching faculty, and non-teaching staff. This inclusive, cross-functional approach ensured comprehensive coverage of campus operations and strengthened data reliability.

The audit commenced with structured walkthrough surveys across all academic, administrative, residential, and utility areas of the campus. Multidisciplinary teams systematically identified appliances and utilities—such as lighting fixtures, water taps, toilets, refrigerators, air-conditioning units, and other electrical equipment. Usage data were captured through direct observations and measurements, including rated power (watts) from appliance nameplates and water discharge volumes from taps, along with assessment of operating hours and frequency of use to establish consumption patterns and associated environmental impacts.

To supplement observational data, structured interviews and informal interactions were conducted with staff and students to understand actual usage behavior, operational practices, and maintenance characteristics of equipment and utilities. Primary data collection covered key sustainability domains, including energy consumption, water use, waste management, campus greening initiatives, and carbon footprint assessment.

In addition, relevant institutional records—such as utility bills, maintenance logs, procurement records, and previous audit reports—were reviewed and cross-verified multiple times. This triangulation of survey findings, stakeholder inputs, and documentary evidence enhanced data accuracy, ensured consistency, and supported a robust evaluation of the campus's environmental performance.

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6	Mr. D. Rohan Kumar	Associate Dean, Student Affairs	—	—

Equal Opportunity Cell

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1	Dr. Jayashree Krishnan	Director, School of Management Studies & Commerce (Chairperson)	—	—
2	Dr. P. Mohan	Professor, Department of Mathematics	—	—
3	Dr. Jaisre V	Professor, Department of English	—	—
4	Dr. V. Gowthami	Assistant Professor, Department of Physics	—	—
5	Dr. Aarthi S	Assistant Professor, Department of BBA (Women Representative)	—	—
6	Dr. V. S. Shai Sundaram	Assistant Professor, Department of Automobile Engineering (Liaison Officer)	—	—
7	Mr. V. Jayakumar	Assistant Registrar, Academics	—	—
8	Ms. S. Pavithra	II Year – MBA LSCM (Student Representative)	—	—

Equivalence Committee

S. No	Name	Designation	Contact No	Email
1	Dr. Sivaganesan S	Professor & Deputy Controller of Examinations (Chairman)	—	—
2	Dr. R. A. Kalaivani	Dean, School of Basic Sciences	—	—
3	Dr. A. K. Kathireshan	Director, School of Life Sciences	—	—
4	Dr. Thiyagarajan P	Director, Centre for Distance and Online Education	—	—
5	Dr. Kamalakkannan S	Professor, Department of Computer Applications (UG)	—	—
6	Dr. Sudha S	Professor, Department of MBA	—	—

Examination Malpractice Enquiry Committee

S. No	Name	Designation	Contact No	Email
1	Dr. A. Udhaya Kumar	Controller of Examinations (Chairman)	—	—
2	Chief Superintendent (Respective University Examinations)	Chief Superintendent	—	—
3	Dr. C. Arun	Dean, School of Engineering	—	—
4	Dr. S. Ambika Kumari	Dean, School of Law	—	—
5	Dr. A. K. Kathiresan	Director, School of Life Sciences	—	—
6	Dr. P. Sujatha	Professor & Head, Dept. of Computer Applications (UG)	—	—

Fee Fixation Committee

S. No	Name	Designation	Contact No	Email
1	Hon'ble Justice Balasundaram Rajendran	Chairman, Fee Fixation Committee	—	—
2	Mr. B. Kalyanakumar	Finance Director	—	—
3	Thiru. T. Pitchandi	IAS (Retd.), Former Secretary & Commissioner, HR&CE, Govt. of Tamil Nadu	—	—
4	Dr. Rajendran N	Chairman, Faculty of Science & Humanities, Anna University	9444908426	—
5	Dr. R. A. Kalaivani	Dean, School of Basic Sciences	—	—
6	Capt. N. Kumar	Director, School of Maritime Studies	—	—
7	Dr. Hemalatha R. J	Associate Professor & Head, Allied Health Sciences (General Secretary)	—	—

Library Committee

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2	Dr. Thirumagal P. G.	Professor & Head, Department of MBA	—	—
3	Dr. Udaya Prakash N. K	Professor, Department of Biotechnology	—	—
4	Dr. Andal V	Associate Professor, Dept. of Commerce (A&F)	—	—
5	Dr. Karthikeyan V	Assistant Professor & Head (i/c), School of Law	—	—
6	Dr. Jenifer Ashwini S	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Chemistry & Analysis	—	—
7	Dr. A. Ganesamurthy	Deputy Librarian (Member Secretary)	—	—

Maintenance Committee

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2	Dr. C. Dhanasekaran	Professor & Dean, Campus Development	—	—
3	Dr. N. Shanmuga Sundaram	Professor, Dept. of EEE	—	—
4	Dr. P. R. Kalyan Chakravarthy	Associate Professor, Dept. of Civil Engg	—	—
5	Mr. A. Lincoln Paul	Director – Administration	—	—
6	Mr. P. Gunasekaran	Residential Director	—	—
7	Dr. G. Sharmilaa	Assistant Registrar – Academics	—	—
8	Mr. M. Rajasekar	Maintenance Manager	—	—
9	Mr. B. Sreedhar	Senior Purchase Manager	—	—
10	Mr. Mahesh R	IT Manager	—	—
11	Mr. S. Vaidhyanathan	Administrative Officer	—	—
12	Mr. Winston Prabhu R	Assistant Engineer – Civil	—	—
13	Dr. Durgalakshmi S	Associate Professor, Dept. of Civil Engg (Member Secretary)	—	—

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SEDGs Cell

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2	Dr. Somanathan T	Professor, Dept. of Chemistry	—	—
3	Dr. Komala	Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutics	—	—
4	Dr. Meenakshi C	Associate Professor, Dept. of Computer Applications (PG)	—	—
5	Dr. Vijayalakshmi	Associate Professor, Dept. of ECE	—	—
6	Dr. Rajalakshmi M	Assistant Professor, Dept. of English (OBC Rep.)	—	—
7	Dr. G. Sharmilaa	Assistant Registrar – Academics (Member Secretary)	—	—
8	Mr. J. Surya	B.Tech CSE (AIML) – III Year (Student)	—	—
9	Ms. S. Suja	MBA (BA) – II Year (Student)	—	—

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S. No	Name	Designation	Contact No	Email
1	Dr. A. Subramanian	Dean, Student Affairs (Chairman)	—	—
2	Capt. N. Kumar	Director, Maritime Studies	—	—
3	Dr. Sivasankar V	Professor & Head, Dept. of Tamil	—	—
4	Dr. S. Umadevi	Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutics	—	—
5	Dr. Rohini K	Professor, Dept. of Computer Applications (UG)	—	—
6	Dr. Ramasubramanian S	Associate Professor & Head, Dept. of Aviation	—	—
7	Dr. M. Sumithra	Associate Professor & Head (i/c), Pharma Chem & Analysis	—	—
8	Dr. Vinayagam K	Associate Professor, Dept. of BBA	—	—
9	Dr. Sathya S	Associate Professor, Dept. of CS & IT	—	—
10	Dr. M. Mohana Priya	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Commerce	—	—
11	Mr. Rohan Kumar D	Associate Dean – Student Affairs	—	—
12	Dr. A. Arangannal	Physical Director	—	—
13	Dr. A. Ganesamurthy	Deputy Librarian	—	—
14	Mr. Saravana Pandiyan M	MECH – IV Year (Student)	—	—

S. No	Name	Designation	Contact No	Email
15	Mr. Varun Ganesh V	B.Sc CS – II Year (Student)	—	—
16	Ms. Nivedha V	MBA – II Year (Student)	—	—

Student Grievance Redressal Committee (SGRC)

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5	Dr. K. Karthickeyan	Professor & Head, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice	9841910057	hodppractice@vistas.ac.in
6	Ms. S. Swathi Sarumathi	B.Tech ECE – IV Year (Special Invitee)	7200032950	swathisarumathisankar@gmail.com
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Transport Committee

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1	Dr. K. Sheeba	Associate Professor, Dept. of Education (Chairperson)	—	—
2	Dr. K. Kamala	Professor, Dept. of Tamil	—	—
3	Dr. R. Senthil	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Bioinformatics	—	—
4	Dr. G. Jayaraman	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Mathematics	—	—
5	Mr. S. Vaidhyanathan	Administrative Officer	—	—
6	Mr. R. Kasilingaraja	AGM – Transport In-charge	—	—

Best Practices

1. Vermi Composting

Vermiculture is a process by which all types of biodegradable wastes, such as farm wastes, kitchen wastes, market wastes, bio-wastes from agro-based industries, and livestock wastes, are converted into nutrient-rich vermicompost as they pass through the worm gut. Vermi worms act as biological agents, consuming these wastes and depositing excreta in a process called vermicomposting. This process is faster than traditional composting because, as the material passes through the earthworm gut, a significant but not fully understood transformation occurs. The resulting earthworm castings (worm manure) are rich in microbial activity, plant growth regulators, and are fortified with pest-repellent attributes. In short, earthworms, through a type of biological alchemy, are capable of transforming garbage into "gold."

The Vels Institute of Science, Technology and Advanced Studies (VISTAS) established a vermicompost unit in 2022. The unit comprises four beds (7 x 3 x 2.5 feet) and uses African worms (*Eudrillus eugunae*). VISTAS utilizes campus wastes, such as dry leaves and other crop residues, as input for vermicomposting. This vermicompost is effectively used within the VISTAS campus. Additionally, a hands-on training program on vermicomposting techniques is conducted for students of B.Sc (Hons.) Agriculture.



2. Hydroponics

Vels University has successfully established a state-of-the-art hydroponics system to promote sustainable agricultural practices, enhance research capabilities, and provide hands-on training to students. This initiative aligns with the institution's commitment to advancing innovative agricultural technologies and fostering environmental stewardship.

- To provide students with practical exposure to soilless cultivation techniques.
- To support research in sustainable farming methods, focusing on water-efficient crop production.
- To produce high-quality, pesticide-free vegetables for academic and community use.
- To reduce the environmental footprint of traditional farming practices.

Installation:

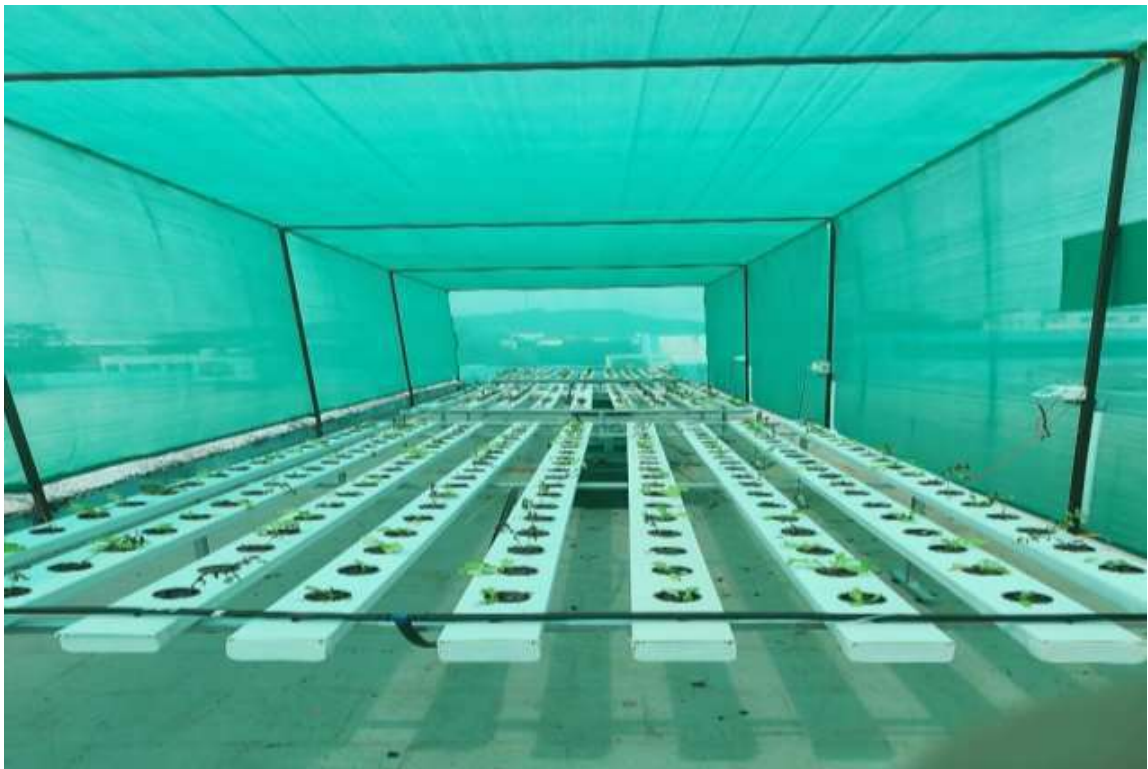
- **System Type:** The installed hydroponic system employs the Nutrient Film Technique (NFT) and Deep-Water Culture (DWC) methods, ensuring versatility in cultivating various crops.
- **Location:** The setup is located within the university's agricultural experimental facility, ensuring accessibility for both students and faculty.
- **Features:** The system includes automated nutrient and water circulation, energy efficient LED lighting, and real-time monitoring of pH and nutrient levels.
- **Crops Cultivated:** Leafy greens such as lettuce and spinach, alongside fruiting vegetables like tomatoes and cucumbers

Maintenance:

The system is maintained by a dedicated team from the School of Agriculture. Regular monitoring, nutrient balancing, and equipment servicing ensure optimal performance and learning outcomes. Additionally, faculty members incorporate the hydroponics unit into their curriculum and research activities.

Impact and Outcome:

- Academic Enrichment: Students gain practical experience in advanced agricultural techniques, boosting their employability and entrepreneurial skills.
- Research Opportunities: The system serves as a platform for experimenting with crop varieties, nutrient formulations, and water usage.
- Community Outreach: Workshops and demonstrations are conducted for local farmers, spreading awareness about sustainable practices.



Organic Waste Composting Bioreactor Composting Process

This groundbreaking technology converts any quantity of organic waste into nutrient-rich compost through a completely natural process, without burning, harmful emissions, or a significant carbon footprint.

The core process lies in a natural bio-mechanical approach, leveraging the power of proprietary bacteria and a bioreactor mixture, along with an inbuilt chopper for efficient mixing of bio-culture with organic waste and reducing particle size to up to 4mm. This method swiftly breaks down organic waste, transforming it into valuable compost in remarkably short timeframes.

The machine is designed to facilitate aerobic composting by maintaining optimal temperature, air, oxygen, and moisture conditions, ensuring fast and efficient composting. Once the organic waste is processed, no further steps are needed. The finished compost can be directly placed into aerated crates for storage and future use.

For agricultural purposes, we recommend allowing the compost to mature fully for 3 to 7 days, depending on climatic conditions. Alternatively, it can be used the same day for landscaping and gardening projects, offering immediate benefits to the environment and surrounding green spaces.

Any type of organic waste, from cooked food waste, bones, meat, feathers, and eggshells to vegetable waste, tender coconut, horticulture waste, grass clippings, and even tissue paper, can be used.

To achieve nutrient-rich compost, it follows the principles of a proper carbon-nitrogen ratio. This means blending carbon-rich materials (also known as "browns"), such as dried leaves, straw, and sawdust, with nitrogen-rich materials (also known as "greens"), such as grass clippings, wet waste, and kitchen scraps. By mixing fresh green waste or wet waste with dry horticulture waste daily, it ensures the production of compost that is rich in nutrients, ideal for nourishing plants and promoting healthy growth.



Capacity in Kgs per day	50 Kg
Process duration	8 hours
Approximate Manpower required per day	1
Approximate Power Consumption per batch	6-7 Units

Brown Matter (Carbon)

Cardboard
 Kraft paper (shredded)
 Paper Grocery Bags
 Organic packaging material
 Dead leaves
 Sawdust (untreated wood)
 Chopped twigs or sticks
 Shredded Newspaper
 Straw or Hay
 Shredded Paper (shredded)
 Dry Pine Needles
 Wood Ash
 Eggshells

Green Matter (Nitrogen)

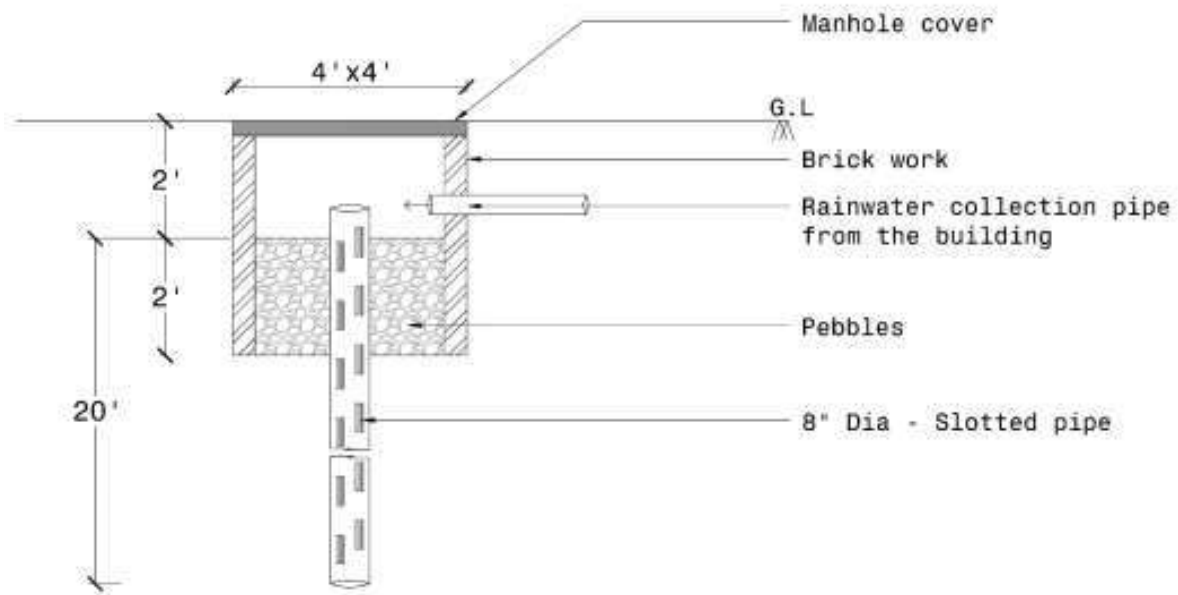
Fruit scraps
 Vegetable scraps of all kinds
 Coffee grounds
 Weeds (if not gone to seed)
 Flowers
 Seaweed and kelp
 Chicken Manure
 Tea Leaves
 Corn Cobs
 Fresh Leaves
 Grass clippings
 Garden Waste
 Baked Goods without Dairy

What Not to Compost

Meat
 Dairy Products
 Cat/Dog Waste
 Weeds that have gone to seed
 Coal Ash
 Black Walnut Debris
 Insect Infested Plants
 Anything treated with chemicals
 Glossy Paper
 Plastic or Metal

Rain Water Harvesting

The rainwater collected from the rooftops of various academic and other buildings is directed into specially constructed rainwater harvesting structures. The cross-sectional details are shown in Figure 1.



The collected rainwater is fed into the lower strata, which is 6 meters (or 20 feet) below ground level, where we have gravelly soil with good absorption capacity. The rainwater collected from the roofs of eleven blocks is harvested through seventeen rainwater harvesting structures spread across the campus. The total rainwater harvesting capacity is approximately 450,000 liters.

Disclaimer

The following disclaimer applies to the Green Audit process and the associated observations, findings, recommendations, and reports prepared as part of this assessment:

Scope of the Green Audit

The Green Audit is conducted based on the defined scope covering selected environmental aspects, facilities, activities, and practices of the organization. It is not intended to be an exhaustive or comprehensive assessment of all environmental impacts, statutory obligations, or sustainability risks that may exist. The audit represents a snapshot of environmental performance and practices observed at the time of assessment and should not be construed as a complete evaluation of all environmental conditions.

Limitations of the Audit

The audit methodology includes site inspections, document reviews, data analysis, and interactions with designated personnel using information available at the time of the audit. Findings and recommendations are based on observed conditions, records provided, and responses received during the audit process. The audit does not involve detailed laboratory testing, environmental sampling, or forensic verification unless explicitly stated, and may not reflect changes, corrective actions, or improvements implemented after the audit date.

No Assurance of Absolute Environmental Performance

While the Green Audit aims to identify key environmental aspects, impacts, gaps, and opportunities for improvement, it cannot guarantee the elimination of all environmental risks or impacts. The implementation and effectiveness of recommended corrective and preventive actions depend on organizational commitment, resource allocation, and operational controls, and therefore cannot be assured by the audit alone.

Compliance and Advisory Nature of Recommendations

The audit evaluates environmental practices with reference to applicable regulations, guidelines, and recognized sustainability frameworks in force at the time of the audit. Recommendations are advisory in nature and are based on professional judgment, best practices, and observed gaps. Regulatory compliance remains the sole responsibility of the

organization, and it is recommended that the organization regularly review applicable legal and statutory requirements to ensure ongoing compliance.

Professional Judgment and Subjectivity

Certain audit conclusions may involve professional interpretation and judgment, particularly in areas such as environmental management practices, awareness levels, behavioral aspects, and sustainability initiatives. These conclusions are derived from the auditor's expertise and the information available during the audit and may therefore involve a degree of subjectivity.

Responsibility for Implementation

The recommendations provided in this report are intended to support environmental improvement and sustainable development. They are not mandatory directives and should be evaluated, prioritized, and implemented by the organization based on its objectives, risks, feasibility, and available resources. The responsibility for decision-making and implementation rests solely with the organization.

Limitation of Liability

The audit team and associated parties shall not be held liable for any direct or indirect environmental, financial, legal, or operational consequences arising from the audit findings or recommendations. The Green Audit is an advisory exercise aimed at facilitating environmental awareness and improvement, and ultimate accountability for environmental performance lies with the organization's management.

Continuous Improvement Perspective

The Green Audit should be considered part of an ongoing process of environmental management and continuous improvement. It is not a one-time certification or guarantee of sustainability performance and should be supplemented with periodic reviews, monitoring, and follow-up audits to ensure sustained environmental compliance and improvement.