

Addressing environmental concerns on G.U. Campus



The Gauhati University campus is located in an idyllic setting which provides a unique landscape of low lying hills and wetlands juxtaposing terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem

Some concerns

However, in recent decades there has been a continued pressure on these ecosystems, particularly in its green cover due to a host of natural and human factors. Thus, recurring pre monsoon storms have uprooted hundreds of trees in the campus. This thinning of green cover has led to an increase in the ambient temperature in the campus. Moreover, over the years, Gauhati University has seen increased footfall, heightened activities including various academic, sports and cultural events that brings in the unavoidable burden of both biodegradable and non biodegradable wastes. These wastes have a damaging potential for the overall campus environment. The present arrangements for garbage disposal too need to move beyond purely administrative measures and include everyone's spontaneous participation as a community in order to have tangible and sustainable results

A time to act

These ecological imbalances need to be urgently addressed. The loss of trees needs to be replenished through targeted plantation. A thick green cover in the campus can help restore this balance and is the need of the hour to maintain a balance. Besides, a suitable green surrounding will impart a pleasant and aesthetic look to the buildings and other built-up areas

These and other actionable issues relating to the G.U. campus overall call for earmarking a day for joint action, offering all stakeholders an opportunity for an all-round awareness and participation under the single banner of Gauhati University for a clean and green programme. Involving the students, research scholars, teachers and non teaching staffs is essential for a combined effort to develop and sustain a healthy campus environment. This will also help in developing a sense of responsibility and attachment towards the institution

Be
Natural

The forthcoming birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, whose life stood for cleanliness, offers us all a unique opportunity to start this movement in the campus in both a symbolic and a practical way