



# SREEKRISHNAPURAM V.T. BHATTATHIRIPAD COLLEGE

Aided and Affiliated to University of Calicut, NAAC Accredited with B+ Grade

Phone (Office) : 0466-2268285 | Email : principalvtbcollege@gmail.com



## CRITERION - I CURRICULAR ASPECTS

### 1.3 Curriculum Enrichment



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Mannampatta P.O., Palakkad - 678 633

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## **1.3.1 Institution integrates crosscutting issues relevant to Professional Ethics, Gender, Human Values, Environment and Sustainability in transacting the Curriculum**

### **Activities Relevant to Environment and Sustainability**

# FOOD FOREST

## Introduction

Food Forest, a project in collaboration with Kerala State Bio-diversity Board and Sreekrishnapuram Grama Panchayath, was officially inaugurated in our college on October 18, 2021 by Ottappalam MLA Adv. K. Premkumar. It was initiated with the technical support of Organic Farmers' Organization, JAIVORG, which is lead by the Plant Genome Saviour Award Winner, Sri. Reji Joseph. It is the first such project initiated by Kerala State Bio-diversity Board in an educational institution in Kerala. The Project was initially funded by contributing ₹5,00,000/- and ₹1,50,000 by Kerala State Bio-diversity Board and Sreekrishnapuram Grama Panchayath respectively. The remaining fund was contributed by Management and Sponsorship arranged through NSS and Nature Club Volunteers.

## Concept of Food Forest

With a view to connect the people with nature and presenting a natural way for balancing the echo-system, a new concept named FOOD FOREST which is conceived by the Organic Farmers' Organization, JAIVORG, which is lead by the Plant Genome Saviour Award Winner, Sri. Reji Joseph at Sreekrishnapuram. The slogan of this Food Forest is One Solution for Seven Mission. Seven missions are 1. Bio-diversity conservation 2. Food security 3. Eco-system restoration 4. Reconnecting human and nature 5. Water preservation 6. Ecological balance and 7. Soil Enrichment.

The Concept of Food Forest is a farming system that integrates the views of great Organic farmers Narendra Dabholkar, Subhash Palekar, Masanobu Fukuoka who brought new ideas in the field of agriculture into Permaculture Approach. In order to ensure the Canopy Management, one sapling is plated in every 10 feet distance so that the canopy of one plant will not disturb the canopy of another one that makes this concept a Forest.

This project is a forest that gives food at all times which is a combination of pragmatic aspects of traditional and modern agricultural methods that is a golden opportunity for the students to learn and research on the topic of innovative agriculture. This is the main vision and mission of starting such a project in the college. It is essential to retake the lost culture and precious food trees back to our life. We are in deep belief that we can protect the bio diversity through the continuous maintenance of our Food Forest.

The two highlights of this project are **Live Mulching** and **Live Shading**.

**Live Mulching:** In agriculture, a **living mulch** is a cover crop interplanted or undersown with a main crop, and intended to serve the purposes of a mulch, such as weed suppression and regulation of soil temperature. Living mulches grow for a long time with the main crops, whereas cover crops are incorporated into the soil or killed with herbicides.





**The big circled portion of land shows live mulching. Also you can note that the people entering into the land shall not use chappals because it hurts the seeds of mulching**

Other benefits of mulches are slowing the growth of weeds, and protecting soil from water and wind erosion. Some living mulches were found to increase populations of the natural enemies of crop pests." Legumes used as living mulches also provide nitrogen fixation, reducing the need for fertilizer.





### Live Shading

In order to protect the land and tree saplings from the excess exposure to sun light, a system of shading, known as live shading is implemented in this project. For that, we plant millats, grains, dainja, oil seeds, flowers, etc. in the free land of the selected area so that it will grow and give us necessary food items and in addition to that, it protects the land from sun light. It also gives micro elements to the land that enhance the soil quality so that the main trees grow to its fullest potential.



The grown up greeneries are the Live Shading of our Food Forest.



## 1. Green and clean Campus

As a part of Green protocol we conducted the Green and Clean campus program at our college .It was inaugurated on 1/11/2016, Keralapiravi day by our beloved principal. All students of our college were participated and provided basket to each class to avoid waste. Nature club co-ordinator Prof. P.Haridas, Staff club secretary Smt. Bindu , college union Chairman Syam Karthik and other faculties of various departments were participated. This program was very successful. This program which helped to arouse the awareness of waste management among the students of our college. The follow up activities were conducted in our college. The work was continued for one year as clean campus and created a cleanliness culture in our campus.

Photo

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

The waste management system was introduced in campus. The bio gas plant was installed at college canteen for biodegradable waste management on 1/11/2017. It was inaugurated by Professor M K Narayanan nambbothiri, Principal in charge and HoD of Department of Sanskrit.

## Bio gas plant - Compost





During Special camp 2017 at PTM School the volunteers cleaned the site and provided a message to the school students.



There are regular cleaning programmes in campus and swachata pakhvada and other programmes related to suchitwa mission were conducted. There were regular observations of international environment day and water day by the volunteers



# ARANYAKAM - III

## BUTTERFLY GARDEN



VTB College is rich in variety and various butterflies because the college is situated in the forest area. We have started the project of Butterfly Garden in the college campus with the noble objective of preserving the ecosystem of butterflies by providing food and shelter. This project is implemented in association with Thanal Paristhithi Kootayma. There are more than 20 varieties of butterflies and moths in our college campus including the largest butterfly in India - GARUDA SHALABHAM - and second largest butterfly - KRISHNA SHALABHAM and ATLAS MOTH, one of the largest Moths in the world - NAGA PADA SHALABHAM.

No. of volunteers involved - 200

Monetary value - ₹ 2,25,000 (Per day labour 150 X 6 volunteers for 250 days)



PLANNING THE PROJECT







Land clearing



Soil stuffing



Land clearing



Fencing





Planting



Planting



Planting



Planting



Irrigation





Maintenance



Maintenance





Butterflies rests in the garden







*[Handwritten Signature]*  
**PRINCIPAL**  
Sreekrishnapuram VT Bhattathiripad College  
Mannampatta, Palakkad - 678633