Policy for Quality Audit on Environment and Energy

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University

Lucknow

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1. Introduction

Government of India through its National Environment Policy in 2006, has made mandatory for every organization to have green audit / environmental audit in their organization. The process of environmental audit was formalized by Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) according to the guidelines given in Manual of Standard Orders (MSO) issued by Authority of the Controller and Auditor General of India 2002. Accordingly, realizing the need of responsibility towards environment, NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council), an autonomous body under UGC has also added the concept of environmental audit in accreditation methodologies of State and Central Universities as well as colleges. Accordingly, **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technical University** has also initiated a Green/Environmental Audit/Energy Audit of its Campus and constitutional institutes.

2. About the University

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technical University (**AKTU**) (formerly UPTU) was established by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, vide Act Amendment No. 1156(2) LXXIX-V-1-15-1(Ka), 24-2015 dated Sept 9, 2015 Uttar Pradesh Adhiniyam Sankhya 23 of 2000. Under the University Act, 'Technical Education' includes programmes of education, research and training in Engineering, Technology, Architecture, Town Planning, Pharmacy, Applied Arts & Crafts and such other programmes and areas that the central Government may in consultation with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) by notification in Gazette declare.

3. Vision, Mission

As enshrined in the University Act, the University aims to provide and upgrade education, training and research in fields of technical education, and to create entrepreneurship and a conducive environment for pursuit of the technical education in close co-operation with industries. Further, as a very distinguishing feature of its vision, the University aims to make provisions for the advancement of technical education amongst classes and communities which are educationally backward. To fulfill the above broad vision, the University develops flexible and innovative academic programmes and procedures that cater to a very broad range of students with different background, and prepares them to compete at the national and international levels.

In addition to transmission of knowledge through a very well thought teaching pedagogy, the University lays a strong emphasis on knowledge creation through a well-planned research programme in emerging areas, and application of knowledge by undertaking issues and problems from the industry. Apart from academics, the University lays a very strong emphasis on the overall development of a well-rounded personality of its students with both professional and emotional maturity to take up the challenges in their chosen profession, and to contribute to the development of society.

4. Objectives of Green/Energy/Environment Audit

The main objectives of Environmental Audit in Academic Institution are:

- a) To understand the awareness of employees and students towards environmental conservation
- b) To recognize the initiative taken by organization towards environmental conservation
- c) To understand and recognize the effects of an organization on the environment and vice versa
- d) To ensure that the natural resources are utilized properly as per national policy of environment
- e) To study waste minimization and safe disposal of waste particularly hazardous wastes
- f) To initiatives for water and energy conservation
- g) To contribution and participation of various stakeholders in the environmental protection
- h) To diagnose and resolve the environmental problems
- i) To facilitate the stakeholders with different aspects of disaster management

5. Scope and goals of Environmental Auditing

Government of India through its National Environment Policy in 2006, has made mandatory for every organization to conduct green audit / environmental audit in order to ensure a clean and healthy environment within and outside the organization. Further, it also helps in effective learning and provides a conducive learning environment. Efforts are taking place around the world in order to address various environmental issues. Green auditing or environmental auditing is one among them for educational institutions. Green auditing helps organization to understand various environmental issues of the organization and identify existing lacuna or gap towards meeting the objective of National Environmental Policy and thus, to plan accordingly.

6. Process or Methodology of Environmental Audit

An environmental audit has three phases - pre-audit stage, audit stage and post-audit stage, and accordingly the environmental audit should be conducted.

Pre-audit Stage

Audit Stage

Post-Audit
Stage

6.1. Pre-audit Stage

Pre-audit stage should involve the identification of target areas for environmental auditing, which must include at least following thrust areas:

- i) Water management
- ii) Energy management
- iii) Waste disposal and management
- iv) Environmental Awareness
- v) Green cover related activities
- vi) Involvement of nearby villages/society
- vii) Disaster related awareness

6.2. Audit Stage

6.2.1. Collection of data through observation and interaction:

This stage of the Audit involved the activities relating to collection of data through observation, interactions and discussion with the concerned stakeholders i.e., faculty, administration and staff from different of departments and sections of the university. A mix of open ended and closed ended questionnaires should also be developed. Meetings with specific stakeholders of different target areas identified in the pre-audit stage should be conducted for getting the data. Detailed discussion on some specific topic should also be held.

6.2.2. Review of previous records and policies:

This should be carried out in order to understand the various initiatives taken by the University towards environmental protection and amelioration. For the purpose, office registers, visitor's book, purchase registers, office communications, policy level documents of AC/EC should be examined. Further, the published material such as prospectus, University annual reports, bulletins, and other magazines should also be studied by the audit team for getting information / data on the target aspects.

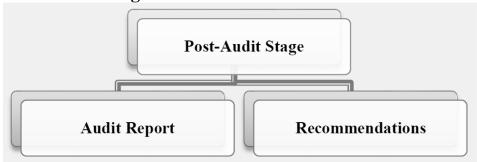
6.2.3. Inspection of departments/sections / various sites:

The audit team should visit the various departments, sections, offices and its premises (including playground, canteen, library, office rooms and parking area) in order to have an idea of various activities carried. Campus greenery and gaps should be identified as applicable.

6.2.4. The stakeholders:

The stakeholders included teaching staff from different schools, people from administration, water supply and maintenance, electricity department and ICT. The audit team should discuss the issues related with key target areas. Questionnaires should be prepared for getting information and accordingly meeting with concerned stakeholder should be conducted. Data on water and energy use can be collected from concerned departments.

6.3. Post-Audit Stage



6.3.1. Audit Report

Audit report must contain analysis on following:

- i) Sources of air pollution
- ii) Water Resources and Management
- iii) Energy consumption
- iv) Waste disposal and management
- v) Environmental Awareness
- vi) Mitigation and Remedial Measures

6.3.2. Recommendations

Recommendations should be based on various aspects relating to the target areas identified in pre audit stage and audit.