

Environmental Audit Report

BY PRISM ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH & SOLUTIONS

(27.06.2023)

DR. AMBEDKAR COLLEGE OF COMMERCE
& ECONOMICS

(Established 1972)

Wadala

Mumbai 400031

Maharashtra

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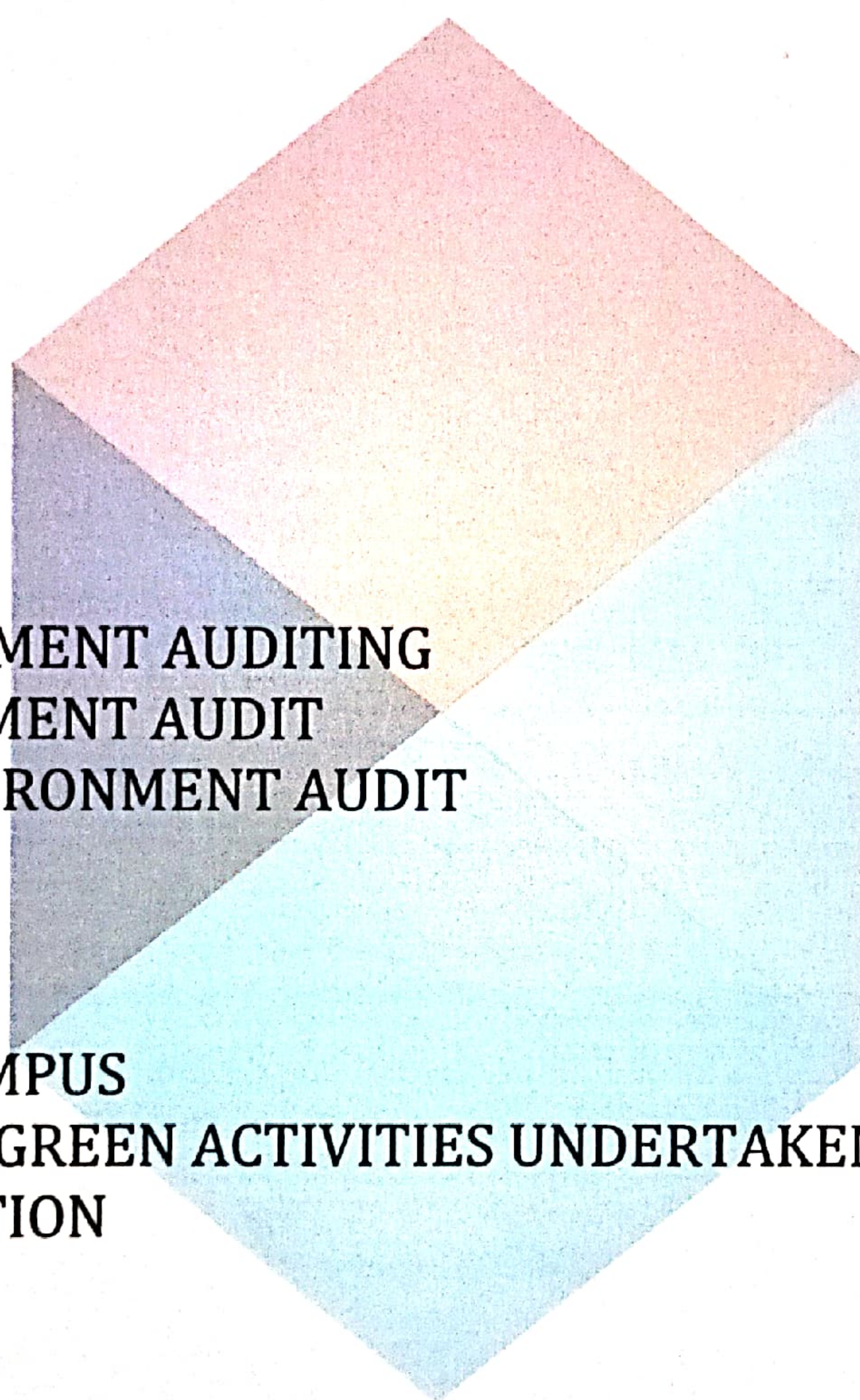
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Audit Team of PRISM Environmental Research & Solutions thanks the management of Dr Ambedkar College of Commerce & Economics, Wadala for assigning this important work of Green Audit (Environmental Audit). We appreciate the co-operation to our team for completion of study.

Our special thanks to:

Dr Jeyashree Iyer, Principal, DAC & IQAC Coordinator – Dr Gangotri Nirbhavane; and the

Teaching & Supporting Staff of DAC for giving us necessary inputs to carry out this very vital exercise of Green Audit (Environment Audit). We are also thankful to other staff members who were actively involved while collecting the data and conducting on-site observations.

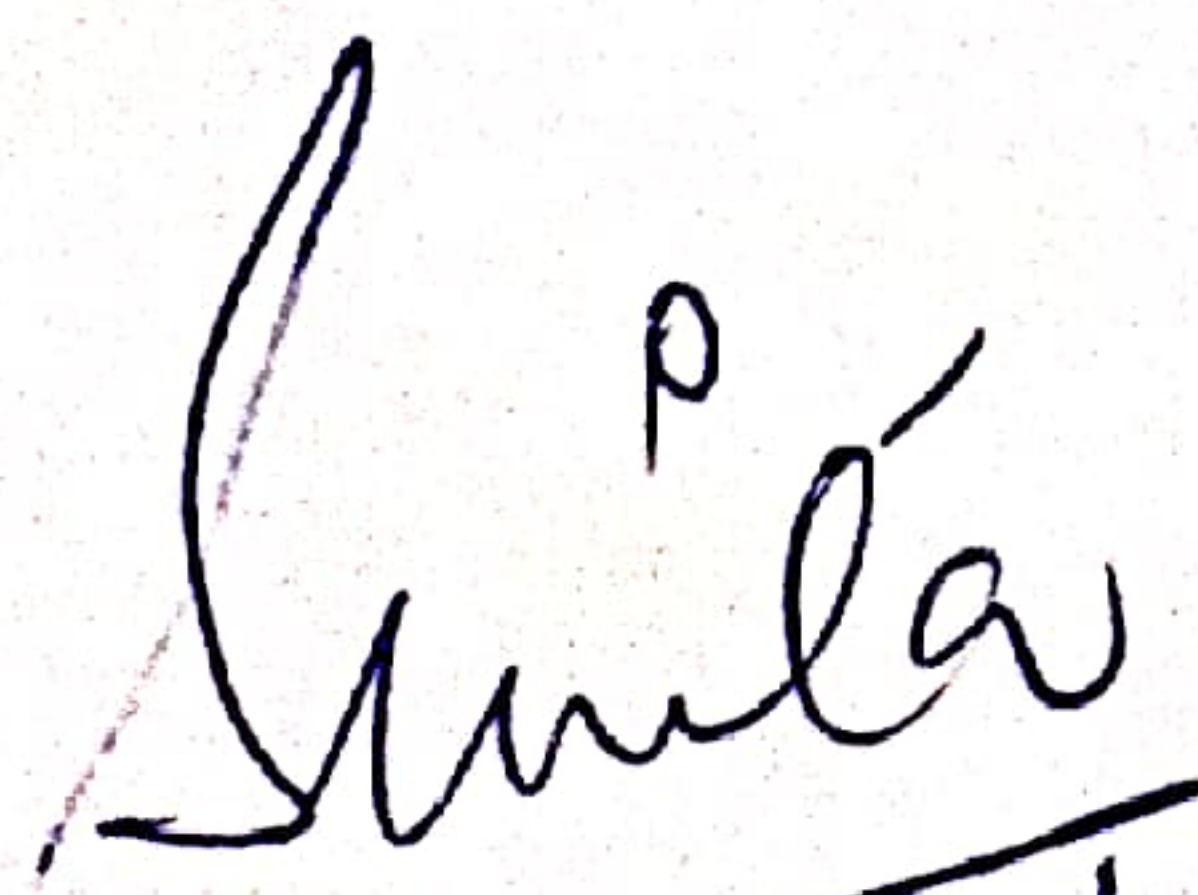
DISCLAIMER

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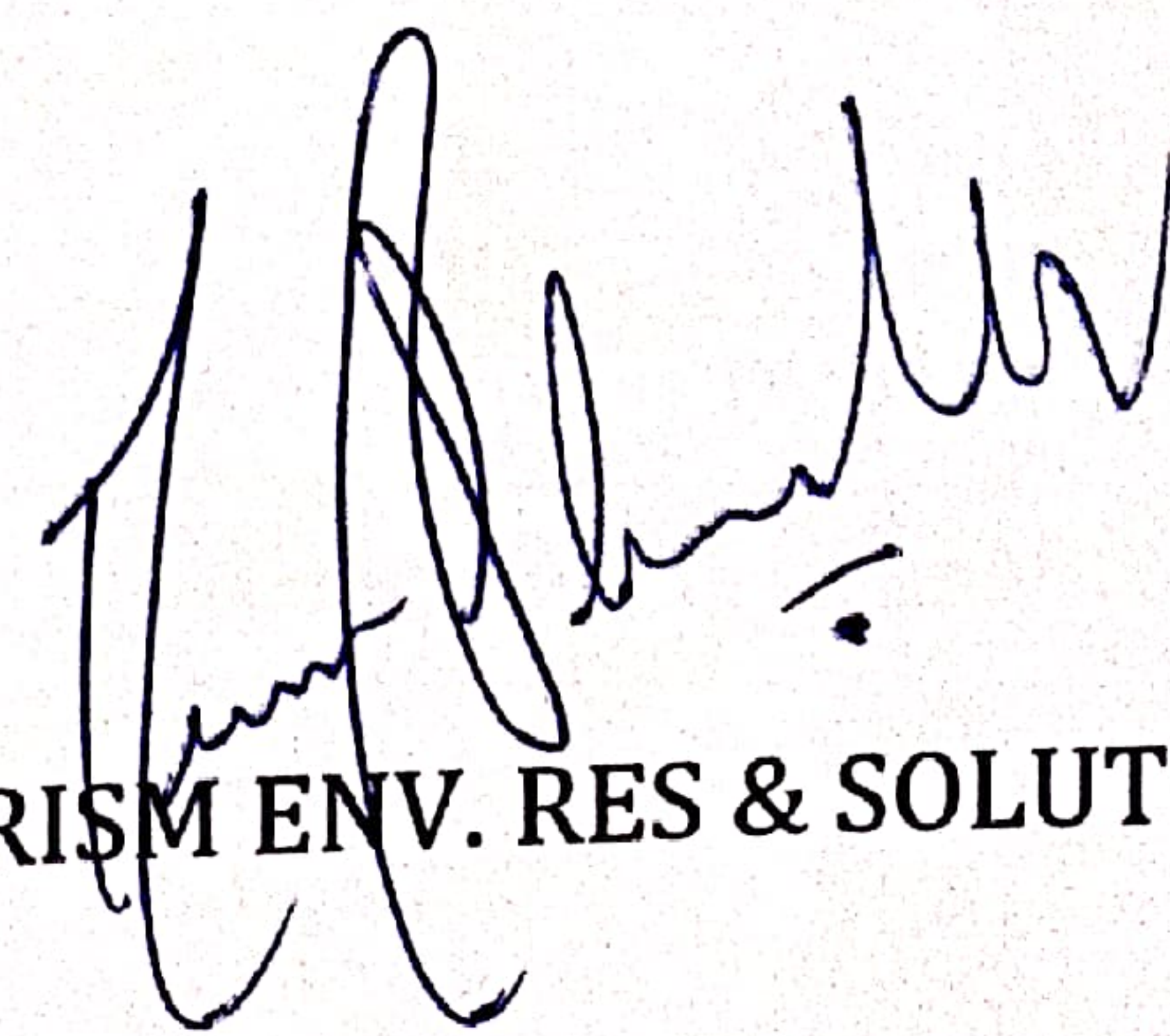
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Report by: (Dr. Smita Salunke)

Lead Auditor



For PRISM ENV. RES & SOLUTIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Audit aims to analyze environmental practices within and outside the college/university campuses, which will have an impact on the environment-friendly atmosphere. Environment audit can be defined as systematic identification, quantification, recording, reporting and analysis of components of given environment. It was initiated with the motive of inspecting the effort within the institutions whose exercises can impact the health of inhabitants and the environment. An environment audit aims to shed light on the existing environmental conscious approach of the institution and to identify areas of concern, if any and provide suitable recommendations.

1.1. NEED FOR ENVIRONMENT AUDITING

Environment auditing is the process of identifying and determining whether institutional policies and practices are environment-friendly and sustainable. Environmental Auditing becomes necessary in order to make sure that the institution is proactive and competent enough at addressing specific environmental challenges and goals; and finding out opportunities to improve environmental performance.

It becomes necessary for an institute that imparts education, to have the right approach towards conserving and preserving resources; so as to not only meet the desired level of Green consciousness but also to set an example for its students and other stakeholders towards preserving the Earth's resources and adopting a sustainable way of life.

While the world stands at the crossroads of climate change and resource exhaustion it becomes imperative to verify the processes in practice and convert them into green and clean one, wherever required. Environment audit provides a direction towards assessment and improvement in this context. It also increases overall consciousness among the people working in the institution towards environment.

1.2. GOALS OF ENVIRONMENT AUDIT

Oriental Institute of Management has conducted an environment audit with specific goals, viz.:

1. Identification and documentation of environment practices followed by the college.
2. Identify strengths and weaknesses in environmental practices.
3. Analyze and suggest solutions for problems identified.
4. Assess facilities of different types of waste management.
5. Increase environmental awareness throughout the campus

6. Identify and assess environmental risk.
7. Motivates staff for optimized sustainable use of available resources.
8. The long-term goal of the environmental audit program is to collect baseline data of environmental parameters and resolve environmental issues before they become a problem.

1.3. OBJECTIVES OF ENVIRONMENT AUDIT

1. To examine the current practices such as of resource utilization, waste management, etc.
2. To identify and analyze significant environmental issues, if any.
3. Setup goal, vision, and mission for environment practices in campus.
4. Establish and implement Environmental Management System in various departments.
5. Continuous assessment for betterment of environment on the campus.
6. Sustainable use of natural resource in the campus.
7. Financial savings through a reduction in resource use
8. Curriculum enrichment through practical experience
9. Development of ownership, personal and social responsibility for the College campus and its environment
10. Developing an environmental ethic and value system among students.

2.0. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT AT DR AMBEDKAR COLLEGE

An environmental audit is a snapshot in time, in which one assesses campus performance in complying with applicable environmental laws and regulations. Though a helpful benchmark, the audit almost immediately becomes outdated unless there is some mechanism in place to continue the effort of monitoring environmental compliance. This audit report contains observations and recommendations for improvement of environmental consciousness.

2.1. About DAC

Dr. Ambedkar College of Commerce and Economics was established in June, 1972 under the umbrella of the People's Education Society founded by Bharat-Ratna Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (An Architect of Indian Constitution).

It is ideally located in the heart of Centre Mumbai on Tilak Road Extension, Opp. B.E.S.T. Depot, Wadala, Mumbai - 400 031. The College is the equidistant from Dadar and Wadala railway stations and is served by a number of BEST bus routes.

The college was started with the aim to cater and spread knowledge through higher education among the underprivileged sections of the society, more particularly to SC, ST and other backward communities.

The college, affiliated to the University of Mumbai is run by dedicated, experienced and qualified staff. The college offers HSC in Commerce in Junior College along with MCVC courses and B.Com in Degree College.

DAC also offers Professional Courses like B.Com.(Banking and Insurance), Post-Graduate Courses namely Masters in Commerce. and also has a Ph.D Centre.

The college has more than 7000 students in Junior, Degree and Self-Financing Courses.

Apart from academics, the college encourages co-curricular activities. In an on-going programme, the college endeavours to help students in their overall development.

2.2 DAC CAMPUS

The College Campus has a well-maintained ground and another big sports ground situated at Naigaon Cross Road, Wadala.

The campus is lush green with sprinklers fitted at regular intervals, which reveals the environmental consciousness at the Administrative and Management Level of the Institution. A full time gardener is appointed by the Institution.

Filtered drinking water is made available for staff and students to minimize usage of bottled drinking water, thus reducing plastic waste on the campus.

Hygiene is well-maintained in corridors as well as in the rest rooms.

Murals on the walls in the corridors are very informative and beneficial for the students to understand their responsibility towards environmental protection.

Several trees, both small and big, exist on the campus. The botanical names of some are shared below:

Table 1 Botanical names of some of the trees existing on the campus

1	Guava	<i>Psidium guajava</i>
2	Henna	<i>Lawsonia inermis</i>
3	Curry plant	<i>Murraya koenigii</i>
4	Lemon	<i>Citrus limonium</i>
5	Money Plant	

		<i>Epipremnum aureum</i>
6	Neem	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>
7	Tulsi	<i>Ocimum sanctum</i>
8	Turmeric	<i>Curcuma longa</i>
9	<u>Mango</u>	<i>Mangifera indica</i>
10	Jackfruit	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>
11	Coconut tree	<i>Cocos nucifera</i>

2.3 Waste Management

The college campus, classrooms and library, etc are cleaned every day. Dustbins are kept on every floor for solid waste collection. The college has a compost pit for the recycling of garden and other organic waste.

The college practices a Zero Wastage policy along with the approach that encourages the practice of Reuse, Reduce and Recycle.

Biomedical waste management:

As far as biomedical waste management is concerned, sanitary napkin vending machine, as well as the machine to dispose of pads is installed in the Ladies' Common Room.

2.4 Environmental-friendly Activities By Students

Students have been engaged in essay and poster-making competitions with the theme related to environment protection.

Under the Corporate Employee Engagement Program, environment themed mural paintings were carried out. Also, 300 saplings were planted in the college campus.


Other student activities undertaken include:

- E-Waste Collection Drive,
- Shore walk,
- Beach cleaning activity at Shivaji Park,
- Kitchen gardening, workshop on composting,
- Guest lecture on the topic Ecological Restoration of Dead Lakes,
- Marine Pollution,
- Water Conservation, etc

IMAGES OF THE CAMPUS, STUDENT ACTIVITIES, ETC

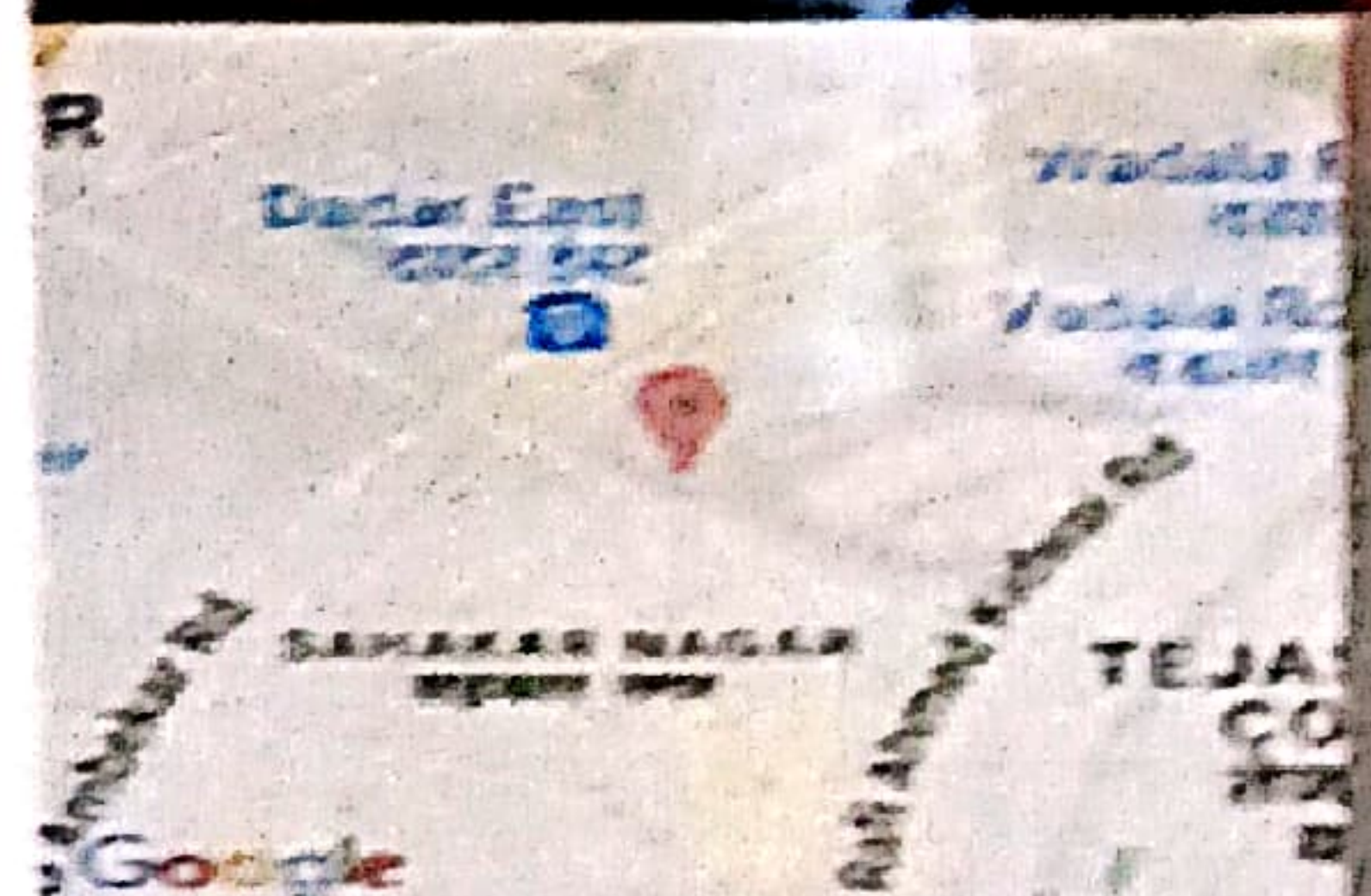
Activity

Dry Waste Collection Drive



- Newspapers/Books
- Biscuit, Chips and other food packets
- Milk/Buttermilk/curd packets (washed cleaned and dried)
- Terra packs
- Oil and detergent packets
- Soap bar boxes and packets
- Shampoo bottles
- Water Bottles
- Glass Bottles

Dry waste collection drive by students



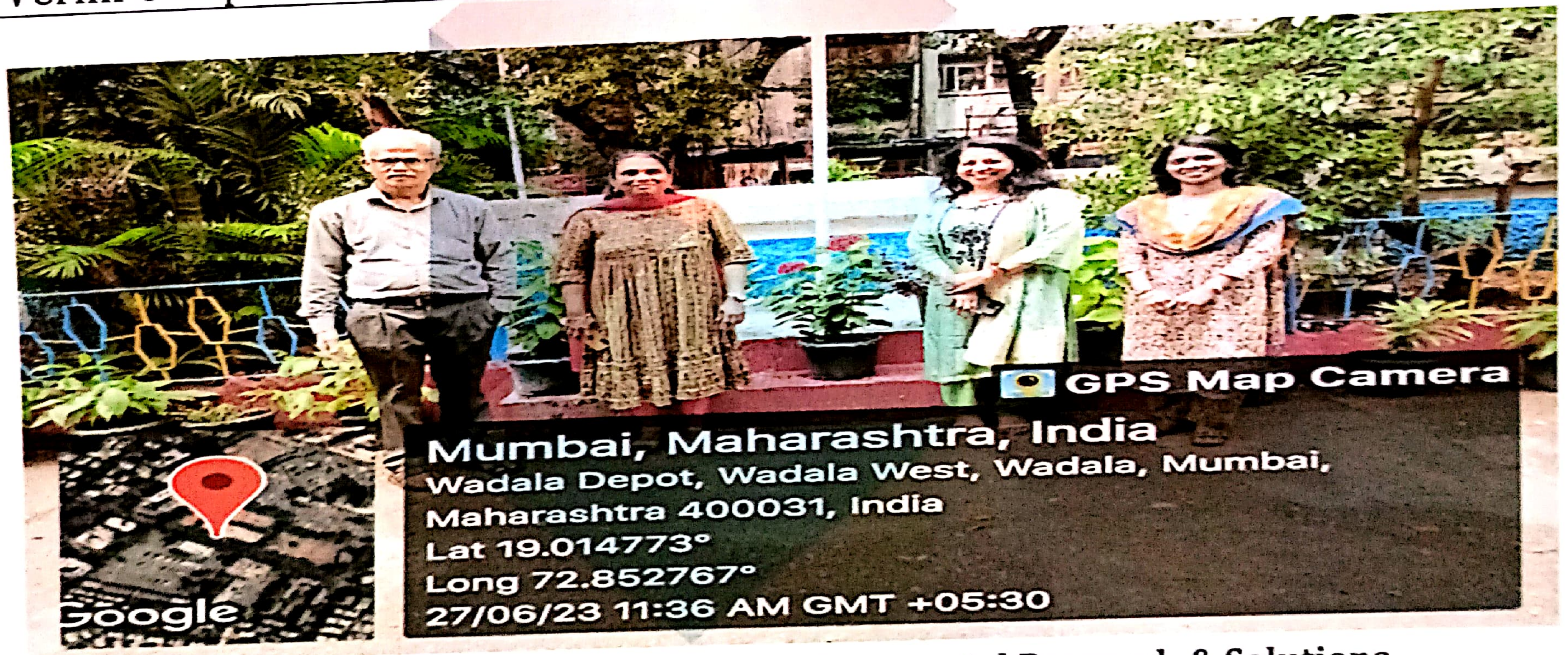
Mumbai
Maharashtra
India

2022-12-12(Mon) 09:11(AM)

28°C
82°F



Vermi Compost Pit



Environmental Audit Conducted by PRISM Environmental Research & Solutions

3.0 CONCLUSION

This is the first time that Dr Ambedkar College of Commerce & Economics has conducted an Environmental Audit.

The main objective to carry out environment audit is to check the green practices followed by the Institute and to conduct a well-defined audit report to understand whether it is in sync with the concept of sustainable development.

The campus has a vast green area and therefore; direct ground-water recharge is possible. Paper waste is sent to the old paper marts where it is further recycled. Posters and stickers are put up at strategic points for students to become aware about the importance of energy and water conservation.

It may be concluded that although cleanliness, hygiene, provision of clean drinking water, maintenance of green cover on the campus, existence of an open compost pit, involvement of students in environmental programs and activities, etc are in place, certain measures can be undertaken by the college for sustainable growth.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT TEAM

Recommendations of the Environmental Auditing Team are given below. These recommendations can be taken up to enhance the sustainable practices in the campus.

- Given the sizeable area of the building, rooftop rainwater harvesting system can be developed. This can add not only to the ground water recharge; but the collected water can be reused for cleaning and gardening purpose during the summers; thus, leading to a reduction in the consumption of BMC supplied water.
- The manure generated in the compost pit can be used for the standing plants in a more effective manner.
- A Green Policy for the Institution can be drafted and notable achievements can be made in the context of sustainable functioning.
