6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

masters' union university

MASTERS' UNION | ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2025

clean *water* and sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.



SDG 6 IMPACT REPORT

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01 Introduction

1.1 Understanding SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Sustainable Development Goal 6 seeks to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Its scope runs from access to safe drinking water and sanitation to wastewater treatment, water-use efficiency, reuse, protection of water systems and community participation in water management.

For a business school, SDG 6 matters in two ways. Water is a critical input for communities, agriculture, industry and cities, and managers decide how it is sourced, used, treated, reused and protected. Business education can contribute by running responsible premises and by teaching water-conscious decision-making.

1.2 Masters' Union's Contribution to SDG 6

Masters' Union contributes to SDG 6 through four connected pathways.

01
Research
Faculty work on industrial pollution and river-water quality.

02
Stewardship
Water-efficient buildings, safe drinking water, wastewater treatment and reuse, smart irrigation, monitoring and conscious use.

03
Outreach
Industry forums and public learning on water security and resource management.

04
Teaching
Water within sustainability, agriculture, environmental systems and field-based learning.

The strongest evidence is practical. DLF Cyber Park is documented as a GRIHA 4-Star development with an 82.65% reduction in building water demand against the GRIHA base case and a 1,300 kLD sewage-treatment plant. CDS Corporate Tower in Udyog Vihar holds LEED BD+C: Core and Shell v4.1 Gold certification, awarded in July 2024, with Water Efficiency scoring 8 of 11 points. Together the two sites show that water-conscious building standards run across the premises Masters' Union uses, and are not confined to one address.

These are building-level systems delivered by the property owners, and Masters' Union benefits from them as an occupant. This report therefore keeps the buildings' performance separate from the institution's own practices and teaching.

1.3 Contribution at a Glance

AREA	DOCUMENTED CONTRIBUTION
Water-demand reduction	82.65% reduction from the GRIHA base case in building water demand through efficient low-flow fixtures at DLF Cyber Park.
Wastewater treatment	1,300 kLD Moving Bed Biofilm Reactor sewage-treatment plant documented for DLF Cyber Park.
Water reuse	Treated wastewater is reused for landscaping, flushing and cooling, reducing demand for freshwater.
Monitoring and efficiency	Water meters and sub-meters support consumption monitoring, leakage detection and corrective action.
CDS Corporate Tower	LEED BD+C: Core and Shell v4.1 Gold, awarded July 2024; Water Efficiency 8 of 11 points.
Water-conscious learning	Sustainability curriculum covers water cycles, pollution pathways, irrigation, climate-smart agriculture, circularity and environmental resource management.
Field-based learning	PGP Immersions with the Swades Foundation and TIEEDI connect water access, sanitation, watershed care and community systems to applied management learning.
Public sustainability teaching	66 hours across five programmes at Miranda House, Hansraj College, Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce and Shaheed Bhagat Singh College.
Water-related faculty research	A faculty study of how dyeing and textile activity affects Noyyal River water quality in Tiruppur.

02 Research

Research under SDG 6 concerns the quality, availability and management of water and sanitation systems. Masters' Union's water-specific research is concentrated, but it includes a directly relevant faculty study on industrial pollution and river-water quality, and it is complemented by applied sustainability knowledge from industry forums and teaching practice.

2.1 Research on Water Quality and Industrial Pollution

Dr Ajith Babu, who works in Operations Management, is a co-author with P. Chinnaiyan and S. Abhinaya of 'Effect of Dyeing and Textile Industry on Noyyal River Water Quality, Tiruppur: A Case Study' (2017). The paper, published in the International Journal of Civil Engineering and Technology, looks at the Noyyal River, which flows through four districts of Tamil Nadu, and at wastewater released by the small-scale dyeing units of Tiruppur. The authors sampled the river and tested hardness, total dissolved solids, alkalinity, pH, sulphates, dissolved oxygen, iron and manganese. Hardness and dissolved solids rose at the downstream sampling points, and lead levels were well above prescribed limits, which the authors link to lead-based dyes. They conclude that the dyeing cluster has a net negative effect on the river and recommend treating the lead.

The study speaks to SDG 6 because it shows what unmanaged industrial discharge does to water quality. For a management institution it also ties operating decisions to industrial accountability: who is responsible for treating effluent, and what it costs a community when no one is.

PUBLICATION	FACULTY LINK	RESEARCH FOCUS	SDG 6 RELEVANCE
Effect of Dyeing and Textile Industry on Noyyal River Water Quality, Tiruppur: A Case Study (2017)	Dr Ajith Babu, Operations Management	Industrial impact on river-water quality in a textile-production cluster	Water pollution, industrial discharge and protection of water quality

03 Stewardship

Stewardship under SDG 6 concerns how water is used, treated, reused and protected where Masters' Union operates, in DLF Cyber Park and CDS Corporate Tower in Gurugram. The honest account separates what Masters' Union does itself from building-level infrastructure run by the facility managers, while recognising the water systems the campus community benefits from.

3.1 Water Stewardship Across Masters' Union Facilities

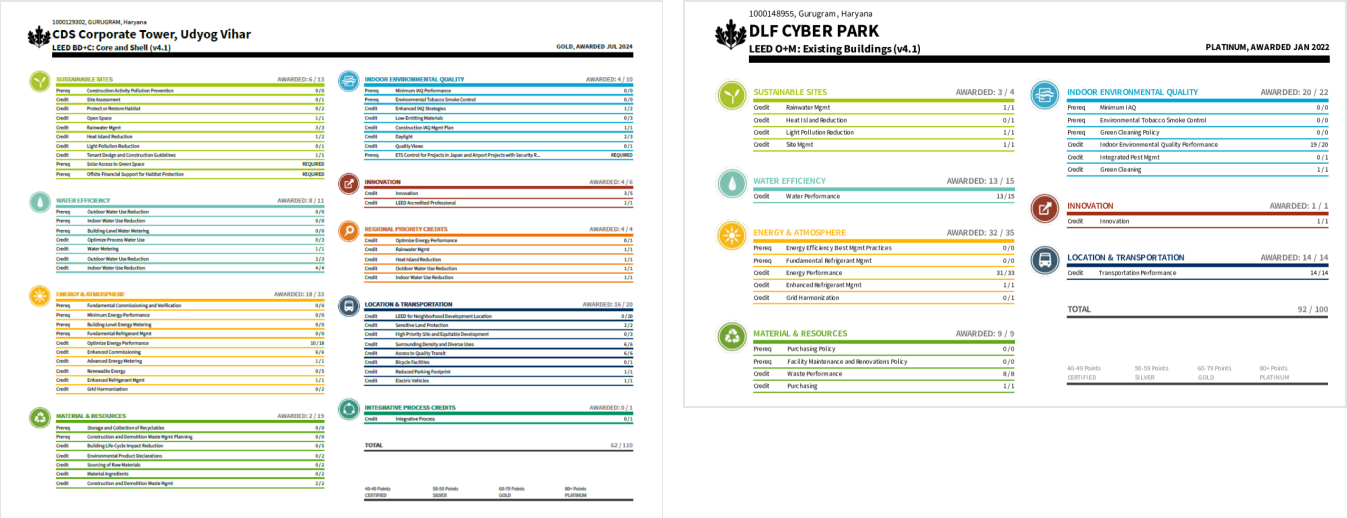
At DLF Cyber Park the strongest evidence comes from the GRIHA case study. The site records an 82.65% reduction in building water demand against the GRIHA base case through efficient low-flow fixtures. It also documents a 1,300 kLD Moving Bed Biofilm Reactor sewage-treatment plant, water metering, rainwater management, treated-water reuse and irrigation systems. These systems are operated within the DLF development, and Masters' Union benefits from them as an occupant.

WATER-MANAGEMENT COMPONENT	DOCUMENTED PRACTICE
Building water demand	82.65% reduction against the GRIHA base case through efficient low-flow fixtures.
Wastewater treatment	1,300 kLD MBBR sewage-treatment plant.
Treated-water reuse	Recycled water used for landscaping, flushing and cooling towers, with no discharge to the municipal drain. The April to September 2024 compliance report records 1,092.9 kLD of reusable treated water.
Monitoring	Water meters and sub-meters support consumption tracking and leakage identification.
Rainwater management	Stormwater management and groundwater recharge, including six rainwater-harvesting pits with twin bore wells.
Landscape irrigation	Smart irrigation and treated-water reuse reduce reliance on potable water.

The documentation for DLF Cyber Park also includes a LEED O+M Platinum scorecard dated January 2022, with 13 of 15 available points under Water Efficiency. It is a second independent green-building reference for the site and sits alongside the GRIHA evidence on reduced water demand and wastewater treatment.

3.2 CDS Corporate Tower: LEED Gold Water-Efficiency Performance

Masters' Union also uses CDS Corporate Tower in Udyog Vihar, Gurugram. The building's LEED BD+C: Core and Shell v4.1 scorecard records Gold certification, awarded in July 2024, with an overall score of 62 out of 110. Water Efficiency scored 8 of 11 points, and the assessment recognises indoor and outdoor water-use reduction, water metering and rainwater management. It shows water-conscious building standards at a second Masters' Union location, and not only at DLF Cyber Park.


1000129302, GURUGRAM, Haryana

CDS Corporate Tower, Udyog Vihar

LEED BD+C: Core and Shell (v4.1)

GOLD, AWARDED JUL 2024

SUSTAINABLE SITES	AWARDED: 6 / 13	
Prereq	Construction Activity Pollution Prevention	0 / 0
Credit	Site Assessment	0 / 1
Credit	Protect or Restore Habitat	0 / 2
Credit	Open Space	1 / 1
Credit	Rainwater Mgmt	3 / 3
Credit	Heat Island Reduction	1 / 2
Credit	Light Pollution Reduction	0 / 1
Credit	Tenant Design and Construction Guidelines	1 / 1
Prereq	Solar Access to Green Space	REQUIRED
Prereq	Offsite Financial Support for Habitat Protection	REQUIRED
WATER EFFICIENCY	AWARDED: 8 / 11	
Prereq	Outdoor Water Use Reduction	0 / 0
Prereq	Indoor Water Use Reduction	0 / 0
Prereq	Building-Level Water Metering	0 / 0
Credit	Optimize Process Water Use	0 / 3
Credit	Water Metering	1 / 1
Credit	Outdoor Water Use Reduction	3 / 3
Credit	Indoor Water Use Reduction	4 / 4
ENERGY & ATMOSPHERE	AWARDED: 18 / 33	
Prereq	Fundamental Commissioning and Verification	0 / 0
Prereq	Minimum Energy Performance	0 / 0
Prereq	Building-Level Energy Metering	0 / 0
Prereq	Fundamental Refrigerant Mgmt	0 / 0
Credit	Optimize Energy Performance	10 / 18
Credit	Enhanced Commissioning	6 / 6
Credit	Advanced Energy Metering	1 / 1
Credit	Renewable Energy	0 / 5
Credit	Enhanced Refrigerant Mgmt	1 / 1
Credit	Grid Harmonization	0 / 2
MATERIAL & RESOURCES	AWARDED: 2 / 13	
Prereq	Storage and Collection of Recyclables	0 / 0
Prereq	Construction and Demolition Waste Mgmt Planning	0 / 0
Credit	Building Life-Cycle Impact Reduction	0 / 5
Credit	Environmental Product Declarations	0 / 2
Credit	Sourcing of Raw Materials	0 / 2
Credit	Material Ingredients	0 / 2
Credit	Construction and Demolition Waste Mgmt	2 / 2
INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	AWARDED: 4 / 10	
Prereq	Minimum IAQ Performance	0 / 0
Prereq	Environmental Tobacco Smoke Control	0 / 0
Credit	Enhanced IAQ Strategies	1 / 2
Credit	Low-Emitting Materials	0 / 3
Credit	Construction IAQ Mgmt Plan	1 / 1
Credit	Daylight	2 / 3
Credit	Quality Views	0 / 1
Prereq	ETS Control for Projects in Japan and Airport Projects with Security R...	REQUIRED
INNOVATION	AWARDED: 4 / 6	
Credit	Innovation	3 / 5
Credit	LEED Accredited Professional	1 / 1
REGIONAL PRIORITY CREDITS	AWARDED: 4 / 4	
Credit	Optimize Energy Performance	0 / 1
Credit	Rainwater Mgmt	1 / 1
Credit	Heat Island Reduction	1 / 1
Credit	Outdoor Water Use Reduction	1 / 1
Credit	Indoor Water Use Reduction	1 / 1
LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION	AWARDED: 16 / 20	
Credit	LEED for Neighborhood Development Location	8 / 20
Credit	Sensitive Land Protection	1 / 2
Credit	High Priority Site and Equitable Development	0 / 2
Credit	Surrounding Density and Diverse Uses	6 / 6
Credit	Access to Quality Transit	6 / 6
Credit	Bicycle Facilities	0 / 1
Credit	Reduced Parking Footprint	1 / 1
Credit	Electric Vehicles	1 / 1
INTEGRATIVE PROCESS CREDITS	AWARDED: 0 / 1	
Credit	Integrative Process	0 / 1
TOTAL		62 / 110

40-49 Points CERTIFIED | 50-59 Points SILVER | 60-79 Points GOLD | 80+ Points PLATINUM

1000148955, Gurugram, Haryana

DLF CYBER PARK

LEED O+M: Existing Buildings (v4.1)

PLATINUM, AWARDED JAN 2022

SUSTAINABLE SITES	AWARDED: 3 / 4	
Credit	Rainwater Mgmt	1 / 1
Credit	Heat Isl and Reduction	0 / 1
Credit	Light Pollution Reduction	1 / 1
Credit	Site Mgmt	1 / 1
WATER EFFICIENCY	AWARDED: 13 / 15	
Credit	Water Performance	13 / 15
ENERGY & ATMOSPHERE	AWARDED: 32 / 35	
Prereq	Energy Efficiency Best Mgmt Practices	0 / 0
Prereq	Fundamental Refrigerant Mgmt	0 / 0
Credit	Energy Performance	31 / 33
Credit	Enhanced Refrigerant Mgmt	1 / 1
Credit	Grid Harmonization	0 / 1
MATERIAL & RESOURCES	AWARDED: 9 / 9	
Prereq	Purchasing Policy	0 / 0
Prereq	Facility Maintenance and Renovations Policy	0 / 0
Credit	Waste Performance	8 / 8
Credit	Purchasing	1 / 1
INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	AWARDED: 20 / 22	
Prereq	Minimum IAQ	0 / 0
Prereq	Environmental Tobacco Smoke Control	0 / 0
Prereq	Green Cleaning Policy	0 / 0
Credit	Indoor Environmental Quality Performance	19 / 20
Credit	Integrated Pest Mgmt	0 / 1
Credit	Green Cleaning	1 / 1
INNOVATION	AWARDED: 1 / 1	
Credit	Innovation	1 / 1
LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION	AWARDED: 14 / 14	
Credit	Transportation Performance	14 / 14
TOTAL		92 / 100

40-49 Points CERTIFIED | 50-59 Points SILVER | 60-79 Points GOLD | 80+ Points PLATINUM

LEED scorecards for CDS Corporate Tower (left) and DLF Cyber Park (right).

3.3 Water-Efficient Fixtures and Safe Drinking Water

Water efficiency in the spaces Masters' Union uses is reinforced through sensor-based taps, low-flow faucets and showerheads, dual-flush sanitation systems, water-efficient sanitary fittings and regulated spray nozzles. Push-button mechanisms and sensor activation limit unnecessary flow while keeping hygiene and usability intact.

Conservation comes with attention to drinking-water quality. Drinking water is tested routinely, and refill stations give students and staff a safe alternative to bottled water. Together these measures tie water efficiency to the public-health side of SDG 6.



Sensor taps (left) and low-flow and dual-flush fixtures (right).

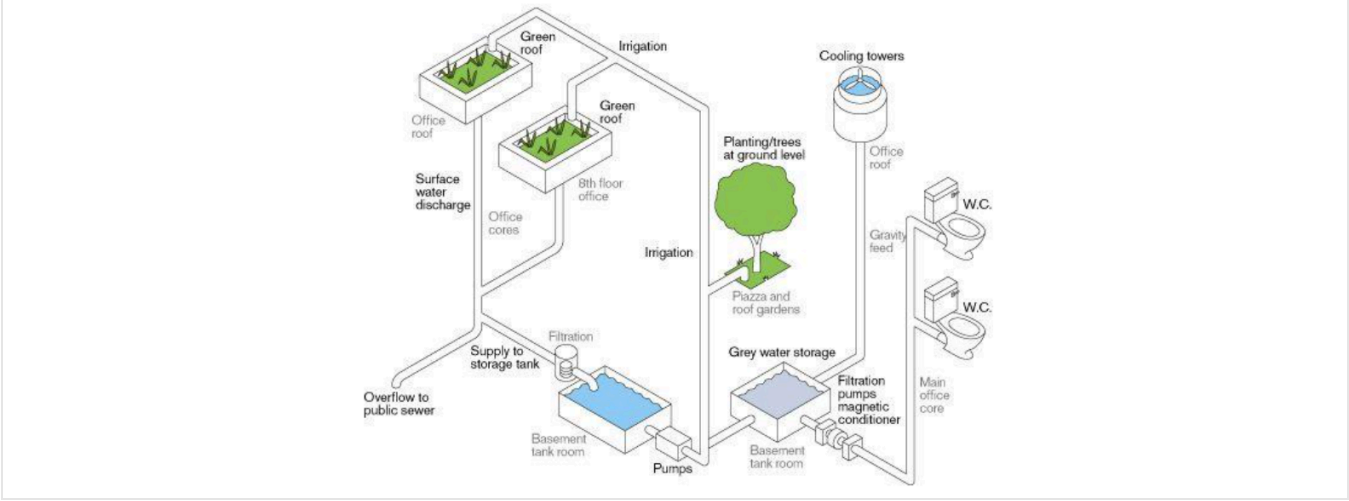
3.4 Wastewater Treatment and Water Reuse

The campus water system treats wastewater and reuses it for landscaping, flushing and cooling. That removes much of the potable water that horticulture and cooling would otherwise use, and it turns wastewater from a disposal problem into a managed resource.

The 1,300 kLD treatment capacity at DLF Cyber Park matters because treatment and reuse sit at the centre of SDG 6. Reuse also builds resilience: it eases pressure on freshwater supply while keeping the landscaped areas of a dense commercial campus green.

3.5 Smart Irrigation and Landscape Water Efficiency

Landscape management uses smart irrigation to supply the water plants need without avoidable waste, and treated water is used for irrigation, which further cuts potable use for non-drinking purposes. The system shows how efficiency can be built into everyday operations through infrastructure, automation and reuse, instead of depending on individual behaviour alone.

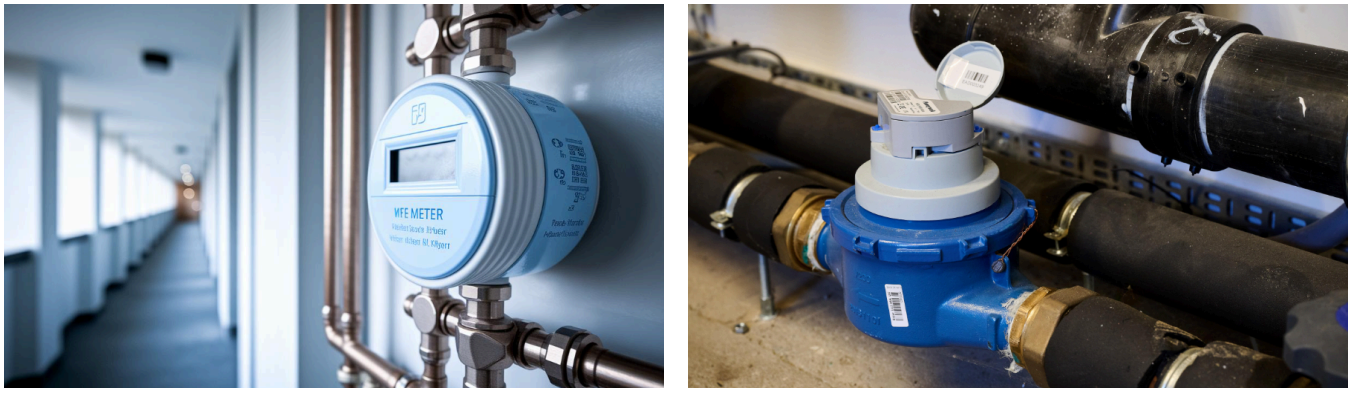


How treated water is stored, pumped and reused for irrigation and cooling.

3.6 Smart Water Monitoring and Rainwater Management

Water meters and sub-meters across DLF Cyber Park let facility managers watch consumption, spot abnormal use, detect leaks and act on them, so resource management rests on evidence.

Rainwater measures complete the picture by capturing stormwater, reducing surface runoff and supporting groundwater recharge. Metering, treatment, reuse and rainwater management together make up one integrated approach to water on the campus.



Water metering supports monitoring, leak detection and corrective action.

3.7 Promoting Conscious Water Use

Infrastructure is backed by signage and behavioural guidance across the campus. Students and staff are asked to avoid unnecessary flow, close taps fully and use shared facilities carefully. Each measure is small, but together they connect building systems with everyday behaviour and keep water conservation visible.

04 Outreach

Outreach under SDG 6 takes water and resource-management learning beyond Masters' Union's own operations. The strongest documented contribution is industry engagement and environmental education on sustainability, where water is treated as part of wider resource stewardship rather than a stand-alone theme in every case.

4.1 ASSOCHAM Engagement on Sustainability, Environment and Water

As an institutional member of ASSOCHAM, Masters' Union took part in a Joint Council Meeting of the National Council on Sustainability and Environment and the National Council on Water in New Delhi. Industry leaders, practitioners and sustainability professionals examined environmental governance, ESG integration, resource efficiency and water stewardship.

The meeting turns water security into an organisational decision. Participants heard how companies account for water risk, environmental performance and responsible resource use, and Masters' Union brought that practice back to its students and faculty.

4.2 Public Sustainability Learning

On 1 April 2025 Masters' Union hosted 'Sustainability in Business: The Next Big Career Opportunity', led by Dr Anushree Poddar. The session introduced sustainability strategy, climate action and responsible resource management as parts of business leadership. On 10 May 2025 'Inside Sustainability in Business' continued the conversation on campus with practitioners and prospective learners.

Both sessions were broader than water alone. They help the public see how natural-resource management, circularity and environmental risk are becoming ordinary business concerns, with water stewardship as part of that picture.



'Sustainability as a Growth Strategy' with Dr Anushree Poddar.



Sustainability in Business sessions on campus.

4.3 Extending Resource-Management Education Beyond Campus

Masters' Union faculty also taught sustainability pro bono at colleges of the University of Delhi, a public university. The programmes covered circular economy, ESG, climate action, responsible business, impact measurement and climate entrepreneurship. Water was not the only subject. It enters through the wider treatment of natural-resource efficiency and environmental accountability. In all, five programmes added up to 66 hours of teaching.

PARTNER INSTITUTION	PERIOD AND DURATION	RESOURCE-MANAGEMENT FOCUS
Miranda House	9 May to 30 Jun 2025 | 12 hours	Circular economy, sustainable resource management, responsible consumption and climate technology.
Hansraj College	18 Aug to 26 Sep 2025 | 13 hours	Climate action, ESG, sustainable business and environmental resource conservation.
Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce	6 Oct to 24 Oct 2025 | 10 hours	Responsible business, ESG frameworks and organisational resource efficiency.
Shaheed Bhagat Singh College	17 Nov to 5 Dec 2025 | 15 hours	Climate entrepreneurship and resource-efficient business models.
Shaheed Bhagat Singh College	8 Dec to 19 Dec 2025 | 16 hours	Impact measurement, ESG reporting and environmental performance assessment.

05 Teaching

Teaching is where Masters' Union does the most for SDG 6. Water enters management education through environmental systems, agriculture, circularity, climate technology, industry exposure and field-based community learning.

5.1 Sustainability and Business Management Curriculum

The PG Programme in Sustainability and Business Management gives the clearest curriculum base for water-related learning. It connects environmental science with strategy, policy, operations, finance and business-model design, so students treat resource stewardship as part of organisational decisions.

Water sits inside environmental systems and agricultural resource use instead of standing alone as a single topic. Students meet water cycles, pollution pathways, irrigation, climate-smart agriculture, natural-resource dependencies and environmental indicators alongside the wider sustainability frameworks.

5.2 Water Systems, Irrigation and Resource Stewardship in the Curriculum

COURSE / LEARNING AREA	WATER AND SDG 6 RELEVANCE
Environmental Systems	Climate systems, water cycles, land use, pollution pathways, resource flows, environmental indicators and restoration strategies.
Agritech Innovation	Irrigation, precision agriculture, sensors, climate-smart agriculture and how technology changes natural-resource use.
ClimateTech	Technology-enabled resource efficiency, circular economy models, ESG and sustainable infrastructure, including how AI and IoT can improve resource monitoring.
Circular Business Models	Closed-loop systems, resource efficiency and business models designed to reduce environmental pressure.
Sustainable Supply Chains	Due diligence, traceability, circularity and resource efficiency in supplier and operational decisions.

A Sustainability and ESG Masterclass led by Vipul Arora, Partner for ESG and Climate Solutions at Sattva Consulting, reinforced the curriculum. It showed how environmental factors enter strategy and business decisions, and how resource stewardship fits within ESG implementation and long-term value.

5.3 PGP Immersions: Water, Sanitation and Community Systems

PGP Immersions take classroom learning into the field. In rural Maharashtra, the Swades Foundation immersion showed participants an integrated development model spanning livelihoods, education, health, water and community institutions. Students looked at how water access, sanitation, conservation, decentralised solutions and community ownership interact within rural development.



PGP Immersion with the Swades Foundation, rural Maharashtra.

The TIEEDI immersion in Darjeeling linked water with permaculture, ecological restoration, natural farming and regenerative land use. Students considered conservation, watershed management, sanitation and wastewater in relation to community well-being and local environmental systems.





PGP Immersion at TIEEDI, Darjeeling.

Together the two immersions move SDG 6 beyond abstract sustainability language. They show how geography, community institutions, land-use systems, infrastructure and local constraints shape water decisions, the same interdependencies future managers face when they design or finance water-sensitive solutions.

5.4 Industry Exposure to Water-Positive Operations

On 2 January 2025 PGP-TBM Cohort 5 visited The Times of India headquarters in Sahibabad. Alongside newspaper production and large-scale operations, students learned about the organisation's water-positive initiatives and how it builds water conservation and environmental considerations into operating practice.

The visit reinforced a central teaching point of this report: water stewardship is not limited to utilities or environmental organisations. It is a management issue that appears in facilities, manufacturing, supply chains, risk, cost control and corporate sustainability across sectors.



PGP-TBM Cohort 5 at The Times of India headquarters, Sahibabad.

06 Institutional Direction

We already work from buildings that save and reuse water, teach water-conscious decision-making and share sustainability learning beyond our classrooms. Our ambition is for water to be a first thought in every decision our community makes.

6.1 A Campus that Uses Water Wisely

We want to run our campuses so that every drop is used well, choosing spaces that use less and reuse more as we grow, and helping students and staff do the same.

6.2 Future Leaders Who Think about Water

We want every manager and founder we teach to understand water risk and weigh it in commercial decisions. Our ambition is to make water a clear part of our courses and of the immersions we run.

6.3 Water Knowledge Shared Widely

We want to share what we learn about water with industry, colleges and the public, and to grow our research on water risk and industrial pollution, building on the Noyyal River study.



SDG 6 IMPACT REPORT

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