



# UNION CHRISTIAN COLLEGE ALUVA-2



**SSR 5<sup>th</sup> CYCLE 2023** 

**Criterion 7**

**7.1.3 Geo Tagged Photos of Green Initiatives**



## Green Campus Initiatives

College has always been committed to nurturing not just the minds of its students but also the environment around it. From its inception, the college has embraced a vision of sustainability and environmental consciousness, which has led to the establishment of various green campus initiatives. These efforts have transformed the campus into a thriving ecosystem where students, faculty, and staff actively participate in preserving nature and promoting sustainable practices.

### The Seed of Sustainability:

The roots of college's green campus initiatives can be traced back to the very beginning of the institution. Our green campus initiatives got a proud beginning with the planting of the mango tree sapling by none other than the father of our nation Mahatma Gandhi during his visit to our college in 1925. We preserve the same and are popularly known as "Gandhi Mavu". This symbolic act represented their commitment to nurturing the environment and set the tone for future sustainability efforts.

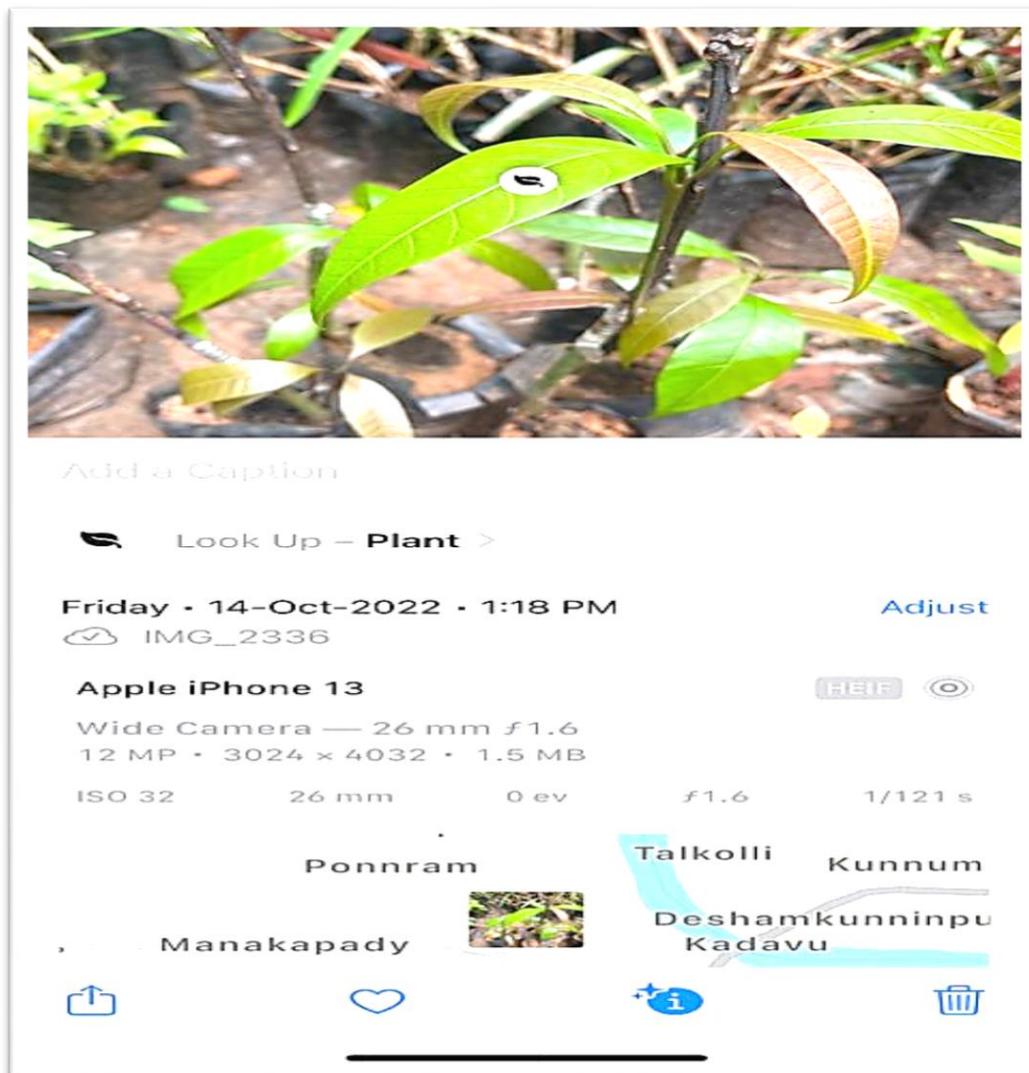


Figure 1 : Propagation of Mango tree sapling in Campus



## Annual Tree Plantation Drives

One of the flagship green initiatives at college is the annual tree plantation drive. Each year, we celebrate World Environment Day on June 5 and as part of it students and faculty come together to plant a diverse range of native trees across the campus. These trees not only enhance the aesthetic appeal of the college but also play a crucial role in improving air quality and providing a habitat for local wildlife.

Under the beatification committee since 2017 conducts mass propagation of ornamental plants and planted in the campus

2018-19: 5500 plants

2019-20: 7070 plants

2020-21: 5200 plants

2021-22: 4000 plants

2022-23: 6700 plants



Figure 2 : Students planting trees in campus as part of Annual tree plantation drive

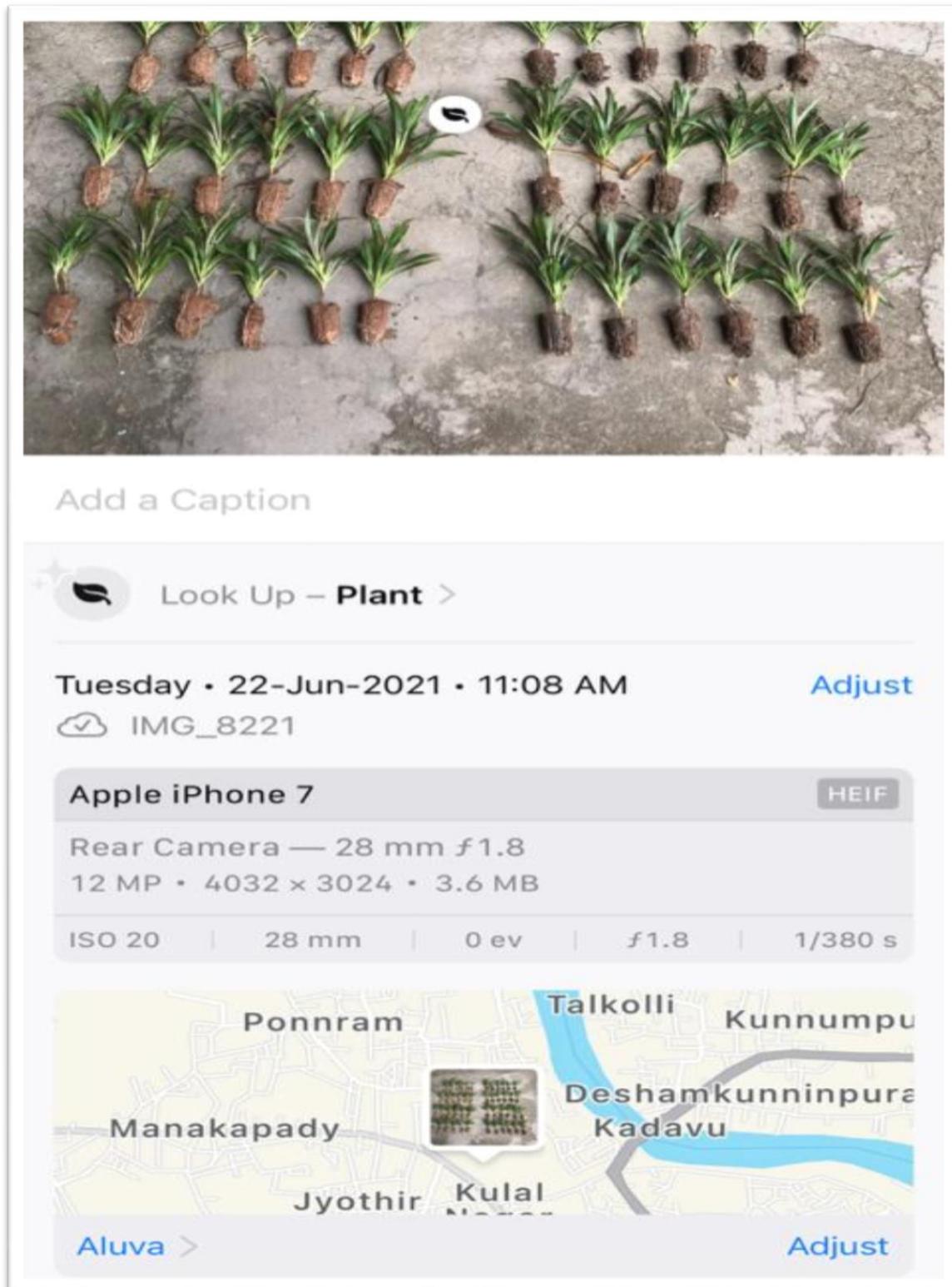


Figure 3 : Plants prepared for plantation drive

### Pedestrian Friendly Pathways

Through a detailed survey it was found that there is a growing demand for ornamentals and fruit tree saplings for the on-campus planting, local community and partner institutes. A major initiative to



regenerate indigenous tree species such as *Morinda citrifolia* (Noni), *Syzygium cumini* (Njaval), *Syzygium jambos* (Rose apple), *Bunchosia glandulifera* (peanut butter fruit), *Garcinia gummi-gutta* (Camboge), *Phyllanthus emblica* (Gooseberry) was performed.

A pilot plantation of the species in the herbal garden of Union Christian College under the supervision of Research Scholars of the Department of Botany was carried out in student friendly manner with pedestrian friendly pathways.



Figure 4 : Pedestrian Friendly Pathways in Campus



## Restricted Entry of Automobiles

To reduce the ecological footprint of vehicular emissions and enhance the overall environmental quality on campus, the entry of automobiles has been restricted to designated areas. This strategic measure not only contributes to lowering carbon emissions but also fosters a safer and more pedestrian-friendly campus environment. Restricted entry zones are clearly demarcated, and compliance with this policy is essential for the collective well-being of the campus community.



Figure 5 : Cross bar for restricting vehicle entry in campus

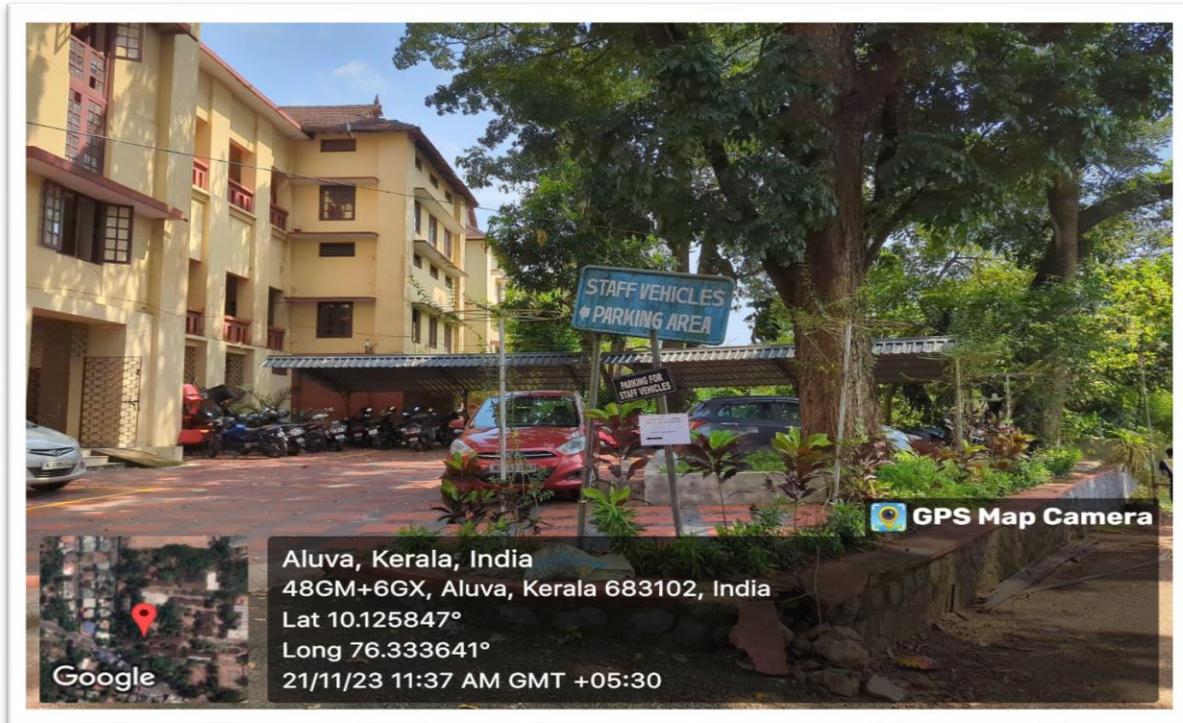


Figure 6 : Parking area for staff

In tandem with the restriction on automobiles, we actively encourage the use of bicycles as a sustainable and healthy mode of transportation. To facilitate this, dedicated bicycle lanes and parking areas have been established across the campus.



Figure 7 : Bicycle Parking Area for Students



Figure 8 : Students using Bicycle in Campus

## Ban on Use of Plastic

The Service-Learning Centre, NCC (Girls unit), NSS and Campus Beautification committee jointly organizes plastic audit programmes every 3-6 months, during which thrown away plastics are gathered and handed over for proper disposal.

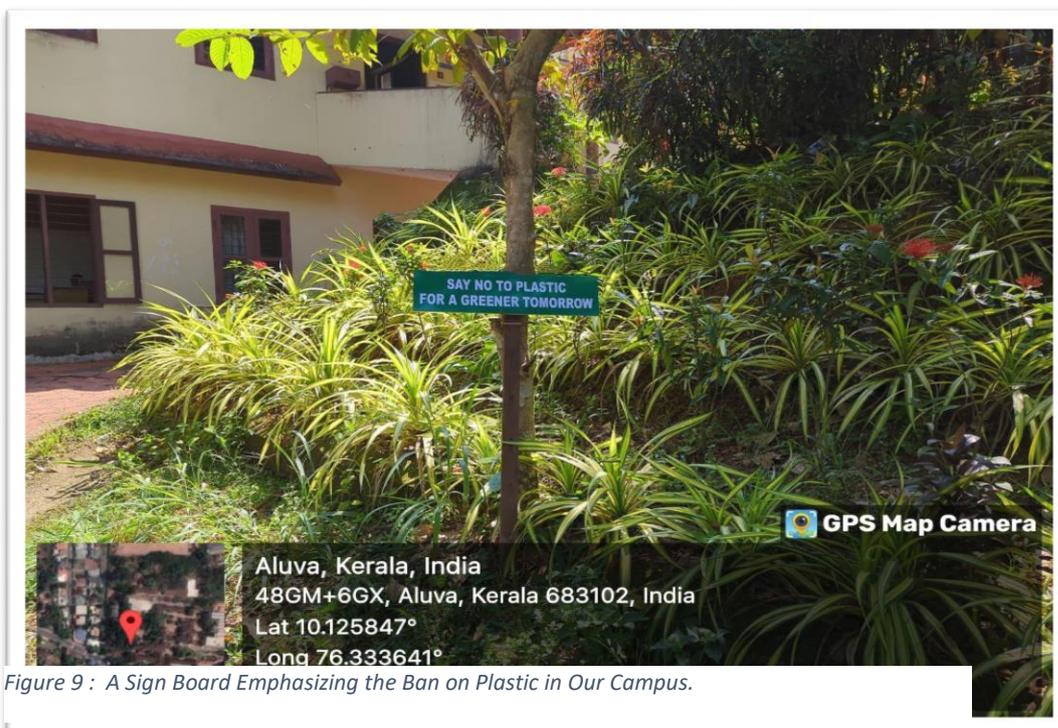


Figure 9 : A Sign Board Emphasizing the Ban on Plastic in Our Campus.



## Landscaping

Over 200 varieties of ornamental plants which fall under Dracaena (25 + varieties), Croton (25 + varieties), Ixora (5 + varieties), Tabernaemontana (5 + varieties), Spiral ginger (5 + varieties), Pandanus (5 + varieties), Lilly (10 + varieties), Water lily (5 + varieties), Crassulaceans (10 + varieties) and over 100+ assorted flowering plants were performed. Over 10000 ornamental plants were raised and planted in the campus as a part of greening the campus. Rooting and cultivation technology for Schefflera arboricola, Graptophyllum pictum, Excoecaria cochinchinensis, Coleus scutellarioides, Dracaena white, Red leaf edged dracaena, lucky bamboo, Coleus white and geranium aralia was developed by 7 students of BSc Botany Biological methods for reducing invasion of apple snails in UCC campus is fast in progress. Faculties of the Department of Botany serve as consultants for the medicinal and aromatic plant garden in the Government Lower Primary School (Chamaparambu), Kadungaloor. Members also support the herbal garden in the School for the Blind, Keezhmadu, Aluva.



Figure 10 : Clean and Green Campus Initiative Sign Board



# UNION CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, ALUVA

Affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, India

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Figure 11: Organic farming