

BEST PRACTICE OF OUR COLLEGE 2018-19

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1. “Go Green”: Evoking Environmental Consciousness and Eco-friendly Culture

b. Objectives of the Practice:

- i. Create general awareness about nature and environment
- ii. Initiate active participation in tree plantation drives for environmental protection and preservation
- iii. Disseminate ideas to promote the efficient use of renewable energy resources
- iv. Advocate adequate measures to survive natural calamities

c. The Context

Massive environmental degradation is a global concern in the 21st century. Ozone layer depletion, global warming, rapid climate change, resource exhaustion, loss of biodiverse ecosystems and the threat of increasing occurrences of natural calamities are some of the many challenges facing the human civilization today. The major causes behind this alarming phenomenon are deforestation, urbanization, unchecked pollution, exploitation of natural resources and population explosion. In this period of crisis it is a requisite need of the hour to reconsider our actions and take adequate steps to resist further damage and decay of our environment. As charity begins at home, the National Service Scheme Unit of our college is dedicated to ensure environment friendly measures on the campus for eventually bringing about an optimistic outlook about environmental sustainability not just within but even beyond the premises of the college.

d. The Practice:

Our institution epitomizes the beauty and bounty of nature as its sprawling campus is adorned by lush greenery and a beautiful garden. In order to preserve this natural bounty by keeping it clean, the N.S.S Unit of the college puts in utmost efforts to develop environmental consciousness. It organizes plantation and cleanliness drives at regular intervals observes and celebrates “Briksha Ropan” not just as a basic event but primarily as an essential part of our culture which believes that nature too needs to be nurtured. There is a Nature Club in our college to general environmental consciousness and engage in various extension activities in this regard. There are display boards banning smoking and the use of plastic to promote an environment friendly campus. Waste generated on a daily basis gets disposed manually by dumping in dustbins placed all over the college campus. Walking and cycling are mostly availed to reduce the harmful impact of vehicle emissions and the college authority has strictly designated a particular day in every month to prohibit the entry of vehicles on the campus, turning it into a no-noise zone for that day. Our college promotes eco-friendly equipment to

reduce pollution by utilizing the Kirloskar Green Generator on the campus. Besides, various seminars, invited lectures, essay writing competitions and debates on environmental issues have been organized by the different departments and committees of the institution to disseminate seminal ideas regarding the challenges in preserving our environment and ways to overcome them.

e. Evidence of Success:

The promotion and use of paper bags and ceramic cups have been adopted by the teaching and non-teaching fraternity of the college to encourage the ban of plastic. Paper is regularly recycled and leaves scattered on the campus are put to use as fertilizers for kitchen gardening. The students of various departments have followed the examples set by their respective teachers and considerably reduced the use of products made of plastic on the campus. Regular community development programmes (“Jol Dhoro Jol Bhoro”, a Government initiative to save water Jalangi river cleanliness drive, including the villagers), special camps and celebration of days of national and global significance (like World Environment Day and World Nature Conservation Day) have been organized by the active volunteers of N.S.S during this period and their outcomes have been welcoming and desirable in all aspects.

f. Problems Encountered:

In spite of the institution’s sincere efforts a few practical problems limited the scope of achieving flawless results in this regard. For instance, evoking interest and ensuring participation of all stakeholders for proper maintenance and preservation has been a major obstacle. Also, specialized gardening has not thrived for lack of adequate area on the campus.

BEST PRACTICE II

1. Title: Evolution, Equity, Empowerment: Deconstructing Gendered Consciousness
2. Objectives:
 - i) Evoking gender sensitization
 - ii) Enabling girl students to strive towards financial independence
 - iii) Involving all the stakeholders in the noble endeavor to respect and support the struggle of women in establishing a distinct identity of their own
 - iv) Demystify myths surrounding ideal womanhood
3. The Context: Patriarchy as a social institution has always attempted to establish its supremacy by subordination the “weaker sex” of the society. The power relation between the sexes which it has developed over the ages has been referred to as “sexual politics” by the American feminist Kate Millett. To simplify, men have always dominated the center, women have forever remained overshadowed in the margins. This equation needs to be modified so that a harmonious relationship blooms and women are able to reclaim what they have been wrongfully denied. To facilitate this reorganization it is mandatory to gain knowledge about women’s rights and various women’s revolutions for this cause. As an educational institution has a massive impact upon the youth of our nation, prioritizing significant issues related to

women and enabling their gradual progress towards achieving an empowered self have been a primary agenda of our college ever since its inception.

4. The Practice: In order to provide a safe and secure place for female students in a co-educational institution, our college has made provision for a spacious and well-maintained Girls' Common Room on the first floor of the main building of the college. It is equipped with a water purifier, attached washrooms, refreshment arena, storage space, sanitary napkin vending machine and so on. This separate space meant exclusively for girls has been instrumental in encouraging interactions and ensuring recreation, rest and relaxation. Be it individual study or group discussions, the female students have this reliable cocoon for whiling away their leisure time on the college campus. Next, to address gender issues with utmost sensitivity, the college administration has constituted an Anti-Sexual Harassment Committee, Women Cell and Internal Complaint Cell in the college. Besides, seminars and workshops organized by the college administration educational lecture series held by various departments and regular, extension and outreach activities carried out by the N.S.S Unit of the college have been instrumental in raising awareness about several challenges women face even today in our society. For instance, a special programme on child marriage (entitled "Child Marriage: A Burning Issue in Present Scenario") to acquaint both the students and the villagers of our college-adjacent area with the abuses of child rights and dangers of child marriage was organized by the N.S.S Unit on 25th March, 2019. "Women Trafficking and Violence" was another burning topic of deliberation on 28th March, 2019 in a motivational lecture organized in our college. To acknowledge the importance of women as equal partners in building a healthy and progressive society, our college enthusiastically celebrates International Women's Day and Anti-Dowry Day every year. Also, to facilitate greater safety measures for our female students, the entire college campus comes under CCTV surveillance.

5. Evidence of Success: Girl students have surpassed the number of boys seeking admission in our college (1082:747 in the academic session 2018-29) and the KanyashreePrakalpa has successfully brought the former under its welfare umbrella through financial assistance. Some of our female students have brilliant academic performances and are well established in respectable professions. Another significant change noticed is that less girl students are getting married at a tender age. Quite a significant number of them are now more career-oriented in their outlook.

6. Problems Encountered: There is still a lot of resistance with regard to the empowerment of women against the background of a rural culture and indoctrinated patriarchal values revered by the people of this area. Female dropouts have decreased but still occur for early marriage, ensuing conception and other related familial concerns.