

7.2 Best Practices

Describe at least two institutional best practices

Upload details of two best practices successfully implemented by the institution as per NAAC format in your institution website, provide the link

BEST PRACTICES -I:

Title of the practice: PLANTATION DRIVE IN THE COLLEGE VICINITY

The context:

- Indiscriminate cutting of trees in last decades leads to non-recoverable biodiversity loss.
- Most native plant species are under threat in near future due to overexploitation.
- Un-proportionate plantation rate using non-native and ecological insignificant species.
- Plantation drive initiated by Forest Department, Maharashtra Government under the title, 'ATAL ANANDWAN GHANVAN'.

Objectives:

- To promote plantation of native, ecologically significant forest species.
- To make students understand biodiversity and its conservation.
- To develop skill regarding native species identification, nursery development, composting and allied techniques.

The Practice (250 – 300 words)

- As a part of 33 crore tree plantation drive initiated by Department of Forest, Government of Maharashtra for the year 2019-20, college contributed through active participation in terms of technical assistance, man power and management skills by planting about 55, 000 native tree species in Anandwan premises throughout year.
- 'Atal Anandwan High Density Plantation' drive was started in the month of May, 2019 and completed in July, 2019 by planting 10,448 native plants belonging to 71 species over 18 plots in approximately 2.5 acres of land. Density of 3 plants per meter square has been maintained during plantation which represents the floral density in local natural forests of the region.
- Besides adopting high density plantation method, modified, experimental plantations at varying distances such as 1 X 1 meters square (Anandwanshree), 2 X 2 meters square (Student plantation) and 5 X 5 meters squares (VIP plantation) have also been conducted in the Anandwan premises keeping scientific aptitude in view. Nearly, 45,000 plants belong to 89 native species has been planted at the site using these methods.
- Students, teachers, and non- teaching staff of the college voluntarily contributed in the endeavour.
- A thick forest maintaining rich diversity of floral and faunal species has been set up at the site in a period of less than one year.
- Inspiring from the results, a target of 1 million native tree plantations by 2030 has been set by the parent institution, Maharogi Sewa Samiti.

Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them (150 - 200 words)

- No noticeable obstacle has been raised during the task. All stakeholders supported and contributed whole heartedly for successful completion of the plantation drive.

Impact of the practice (100 – 120 words)

- With the plantation and successful establishment of native floral species, rich faunal and micro-floral diversity has been recorded at the site in a very short span of a year.
- Awareness has been created among the youth regarding importance and conservation of native biodiversity.
- On the site experimentation results encouraged many visitors including local administrators, industrialists and educationalists to conduct plantations using these methods at their regions.
- New employment opportunity in the form of afforestation and allied practices has been developed for rural people.

Resources required

- Technical assistance in the form of subject expert and management practices is available with the institution.
- For accomplishing laborious plantation work, man power is available at the institution in the form of volunteered teachers and students.

Financial support is biggest hurdle for conducting such programmes, but parent institution had taken best care of it.

BEST PRACTICES – II:

Title of the practice: POLITICAL AWARENESS AMONG STUDENTS.

Objectives:

- To inculcate the value of political literacy - among students
- To make the students aware of current political activities by giving them the relevant information.
- To inspire students about the active political participation
- To strengthen the interrelationship among students and society.
- To make the students aware of the citizen's rights
- To make students aware of the importance - of voting by conducting voter awareness program.
- To ensure the development of informed citizens among the students
- To inculcate the ideals a constitution and democratic values among the students
- To make the students and the public aware of Govt. recognized citizen's identity cards
- To encourage students to know about the social and political situation of their village/ area.
- To inculcate the value of political ethics among the students
- To inspire the students to conduct various socio-political surveys.

Program List / Context:

- Survey related to Voter Id in the area
- Survey related to Aadhar card

- Voter registration workshop
- Human Rights Day
- National voter's day
- Constitution Day
- Republic day
- Awareness on Governance of local Bodies (Sarpanch - students meet)
- National youth Day

The Practice:

Democracy has been accepted by the independent India, but we must into consideration that most of the Indian population is rural on whom there is a deep influence of ignorance, illiteracy, superstition and traditional old customs. Therefore, it is very important to implant democratic culture in the rural Indian psyche. Otherwise, democracy will remain only on paper and then power will concentrate in the hands of a few and it will become corrupt. Hence, in order to do strengthen the democracy in our country, it is very important to inculcate a democratic culture among the rural and general populace. In view of this, the department of political science annually organizes various programs based on the constitution and the democratic values. Taking inspiration from the programs organized in the college, the students work in their respective villages to uphold the constitutional and democratic values. The students are given projects by the dept, according to the objectives allotted to them. Therefore, simultaneously two objectives are achieved - co-curricular project is completed on the one hand and student's contact and communication with the society/ villages establish a bond between student and the society Through these programs, directly or indirectly, an inculcation of national, social and political values is brought about.

Obstacles:

Though, it is important to create political awareness among the people, it must be considered that most of our population is rural on whose rare minds there is a deep impact of old tradition and customs. So, the pace of political literary and democratic awareness is very slow. Most of our college students come from villages, hence they are made to communicate with the rural people and asked them to convince the rural people of the importance of the modern ethics and rales. Political literacy and democratic awareness are taking their roots in the people but its speed is very slow.

Remedies:

Today, the people round the world are looking expectantly at democracy and the concepts of modem values. By encouraging the students and the villagers, the programs an organized so as to affect a positive political participation. This small effort is done by the college annually.

Impact of the Practice:

It is observed that the students have been showing increased interest in these programs related with political activeness. These programs broaden the social and political awareness of the students, besides their curricular ends. It is also observed that the students are getting involved to make their village's politics more positive.

Resources:

The programs are planned and executed so as to develop democracy centric students. To achieve this, expert guidance, student seminars, essay competition, elocution competition and such the programs are organized so as to create a favorable atmosphere. Various awards and prizes are given to the participants. In this way, by linking the students, the college and the society with each other, an effort is made to strengthen the democracy in the country.