



## MAHARANA PRATAP GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, CHITTORGARH (Raj.)

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### Institutional Best Practice (2021-22)

The IQAC of Maharana Pratap Government College Chittorgarh decided to initiate the best institutional practices among faculties and students of the institution. The initiative named as the best institutional practice according to the prescribed NAAC format was decided in the IQAC executive committee after much deliberations. The office bearers and members of the IQAC executive body in a meeting held on 28-08-2021 decided upon initiation of two practices:

(i) Recycling of solid waste (plastic, metal etc.):

The IQAC advised the college administration to develop the idea relating to the solid waste recycling; it was deemed as necessary because the solid waste inc. plastic, worn out metals, scrape etc. is considered as an environmental hazard and needs quick and effective disposal. It was further suggested that an agency involving students i.e. NSS could be accorded the task for its speedy and time-bound implementation. It is noteworthy to mention that the college has four functioning NSS units having one hundred students in each of the units. The IQAC assured all help relating to official sanctions and other budgetary provisions, and it was advised that the services of a professional could also be obtained for the purpose.

(ii) Establishment of Pink (Study) Corner:

The IQAC felt the need for having an exclusive study corner dedicated to girl students; the initiative would feature in the institutional best practice for the session 2021-22. The IQAC advised that the agency who would pursue this task for the benefit of the students would be N.S.S. and the collection of the funds for this purpose (crowd-funding) would done during the seven-days residential camp of the NSS. The 'Pink (Study) Corner' will function as a separate entity and not be a part of the college library. It will be managed by the department of geography.



## 1. Recycling of solid waste:

### Objectives of the practice:

- Timely disposal of the waste collected in the college premises.
- Effective and efficient use of the waste.
- Creation of artifacts and other useful objects from the collected waste.
- Encouraging the students to develop their creative instincts.
- To undertake an initiative aimed at campus beautification.
- To develop collective working ability (Esprit de corps) among the students.

### The context:

The solid waste dumped in the college premises became a menace which needed immediate attention. The college administration granted the responsibility to the NSS involving all the four units. The NSS chalked-out a detailed plan to implement the practice during the seven-day special camp. The NSS volunteers were guided to carry out the desired activity. A need was felt to involve a hired professional (scrap-artist) to help the students in making artifacts and other useful and decorative objects.

### The practice:

- To start earmarking of the solid waste in college premises.
- The collection of the solid waste in a remote place within the college premises not frequented by students and visitors.
- Segregation of the waste collected.
- The waste collected was scrutinized by the professional artist Sh. Appal Raju Surkala (renowned scrape artist).
- Sh. Raju helped the students about how to generate ideas and conceptualizing the art forms while scrutinizing the waste.
- Making use of bigger objects like worn-out overhead plastic water tanks, iron bars and bicycle.
- The much needed technical assistance involving equipments and instruments was provided by Sh. Raju.



#### Evidence of success:

- The activity generated much enthusiasm among the student volunteers and they all enjoyed it.
- The artist Sh. Raju guided the students and they came up with new ideas and concepts to make the best possible use of the scrap.
- The activity helped the students in many ways inc. team work, development of their creative abilities, handling of machine and tools, skill development etc.
- The students under the guidance of Sh. Raju created a beautiful selfie-point in the college garden making use of scrap and a discarded bicycle.
- The students made NSS wagon-wheel and two decorative human faces making use of the plastic and metallic waste.
- The students made several useful plantar pots making use of the discarded water bottles and cans.
- The effort won accolades from various quarters and it was well reported in the media, the college was shortlisted for receiving various awards by different agencies.

#### Problems encountered and resources required:

- Lack of support from other governmental agencies.
- The initiative was not funded appropriately and was done on an experimental basis.
- The professional artist Sh. Raju agreed to participate without honorarium in the event but had other constraints and obligations to carry out which resulted in his limited presence during the activity.
- The student volunteers involved in the activity were amateurs and were not having adequate skills.
- The activity was conducted for two-days only and achieved limited success.
- The activity involved high risk and handling of hazardous machinery (gas cutters, welding, file work etc.) therefore girls had a limited participation.
- The activity was carried out during the winter season and therefore weather played a spoilsport.

#### Conclusion:

The activity involving recycling of the waste (scrap) evoked much enthusiasm among students and enhanced their creative abilities and skills. The students created beautiful artifacts and objects making best use of the plastic and other waste. The students were briefed about the proper handling of the waste and its subsequent recycling. However, the activity needs more financial assistance and a wider platform to bring out the desired results.



## 2. Establishment of the Pink (study) Corner

### Objectives of the practice:

- Creating a new facility for day scholar (regular) girl students.
- Encouraging the girl students to participate in career oriented activities.
- Providing quality study material to girl students for better preparation for appearing in competitive exams.
- Procuring books according to the latest syllabus of UPSC, RPSC, NET, etc. exams.
- Purchase of books in Hindi language to promote national language and foster the spirit of nationalism.
- Catering to the needs of girls hailing from rural background.
- Making competitive books accessible to girls free of cost.

### The context:

It is often argued that the students living in today's digital age are drifting away from books and literature; however no concrete efforts are being made to attract students, keeping in the mind the above mentioned fact the college IQAC decided to undertake an initiative directed towards a remedy. The situation is even worse in the case of girl students which are mainly coming from impoverished and rural backgrounds. The college IQAC decided to involve a student-centric agency i.e. the NSS in carrying out the task for creating a book-bank consisting of competitive exams related books.

### The practice:

- The NSS committee was assigned the task for the creation of a book bank named as 'Pink (Study) Corner' exclusively for girl students.
- Each student volunteer was assigned the responsibility for seeking a donation (for creation of Pink Corner) of rupees five from each family for 7 days, a student volunteer could collect donations from twenty such families living in his/her neighborhood.
- The student volunteers went all out to collect donations and many families agreed to donate larger sums of money for this noble cause.
- The students collected a sum in excess of thirty eight thousand rupees for this purpose.
- The collected amount has handed over to the college Principal in a function.
- The college Principal accorded the responsibility for purchase of books for 'Pink Corner' to the department of geography.



#### Evidence of success:

- The students were successful in collecting a sum of thirty-eight thousand rupees which could be considered as a handsome amount.
- The launch date was selected 24 Jan. coinciding with National Girl Child Day.
- The Chairman of the Municipal Corporation was invited as a chief guest on the occasion of its inauguration.
- The books purchased were published by renowned publishers specializing in various subject formats suitable for national and state level competitive exams.
- The books evoked good response from girls preparing for competitive exams.
- The books were all published in Hindi which is a unique idea in itself.

#### Problems encountered and resources required:

- The idea of collecting of donations was initiated for a limited period of time.
- Only NSS volunteers participated in the funds collection drive.
- The idea was implemented with limited resources and manpower.
- The student volunteers faced many issues while collecting the donations.
- The books meant for competitive exams are expensive.
- The books were not placed in the college library due to the shortage of manpower a person could not be designated for the transaction of books on a regular basis.
- The pink corner is managed by the department of geography.

#### Conclusion:

The establishment of 'Pink Corner' exclusively meant for the girl students preparing for the competitive exams is a unique idea in itself. The concept evoked a good response from all quarters right from its inception. The date chosen for its launching coincided with the National Girl Child Day and the occasion was marked by presence of the Chairman of the municipal corporation and other renowned academicians. It is however noteworthy these initiatives need more funding and other assistance from various other agencies. The student volunteers have a limited approach and scope for managing such a task. The 'Pink Corner' is meant for girl students and only regular/day scholars are benefitted by it. The shortage of manpower and a skilled library professional is causing a major hindrance as well. The 'Pink Corner' could nevertheless be considered as a moderately successful initiative.

Principal and Chairperson I.Q.A.C.  
Maharana Pratap Govt. College  
Chittorgarh (Raj.)