- 1. Title of the Practice: Promoting Eco-Friendly Environment in the Institution
- 2. AIM: The aim is to develop a green biodiversity and oxygen rich zone in the heart of the Tehsil (township) of Kotputli which would provide fresh breathing air laden with oxygen to the whole ecosystem and innumerable health benefits to humans. Such an effort is being done by planting fruit and flower bearing trees, plants and bushes in a planned phase-wise manner. The plantation done with a conscious effort is intended to attract birds, butterflies and food chain components along with providing safe home, shelter and breeding space for birds. Plantations would help in further spread of green cover as the birds will fly far and wide and spread the seeds. Butterflies would also help in the spread of biodiversity by pollination.
- 3. The Context: The institution is located on a sprawling 104176 square yards land along National Highway 8 which is abuzz with 24X7 economic activities. The context is, that the continuous passage of heavy vehicles on the highway results in air and noise pollution. The mining activities nearby also lead to loss of green cover; besides generating particulate pollution results in ill-effects on human and cattle health. Also, in recent past an alarming absence of environmental indicators such as butterflies and reduced occurrence of birds and other flora and fauna was noticed in the college campus. Kotputli is a semi-arid area and the summer temperature may rise above 40 degrees centigrade. The greatest challenge is the summer heat (from April to mid July) and the short monsoon with scanty rainfall. September is also hot. Only Neem plantations and naturally grown Khejri (Babool) survive the summer heat here. Large trees also dry up many a times during summers. Regular watering of plants and trees and protecting them from the scorching summer heat is a challenge for the college staff. In the state of Rajasthan, it is a tradition to hang earthen pots on trees for birds, especially during summer months and fill them with water every day. This is done by the society, college staff, students, NGOs, etc. in the college campus. The tradition also involves spreading grains for the Avians and other beings. As per the Ecological concept, the dense trees would support pollinating and seed spreading agents which would further contribute to increase in the number of trees and plants far and wide. The more the trees increase in number, there will be more humus, moisture content and living organisms in soil, thus leading to more productivity of the soil
- 5. The Practice: A plan was made for phase wise development of green cover which involves Planting dense trees such as Banyan, Peepal, Ashok, Wood apple, Neem, etc. which would provide green cover.
 - Fruit bearing trees such as fig. Guava, Pomegranate, which would attract birds
 - Flowering plants for attracting butterflies Planting medicinal plants such as Giloy, Ashwagandha, Tulsi, Aloe vera, Jasmine, Hibiscus, wood apple, Asparagus etc. Aparajita (Clitoria), Shatawari (Asparagus), etc.

A conscious effort was made to involve the students in taking care of the plants and trees. It took many efforts to make the plants survive. Greenery and the anti-pollution drive in the institution has been initiated in a planned and phase-wise manner: Lush green lawns are

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maintained in-front of the buildings for the students to relax, study and enjoy their free periods. In addition, plantations are being done regularly, all around the campus.

Along with the campus beautification, the institution focuses on environment protection and sustainable development. Although the institution has a Botanical garden, best practice aims towards providing a live laboratory for Ecological studies and research.

Students may be encouraged to take up research, entrepreneurship related projects on herbal medicine, socio-economic, environmental or any other project on aspects related to this best practice.

The constraint lies in the absence lack of bulk allocated funds for campus maintenance. The large expanse of the campus needs continuous upkeep and care which is difficult in the absence of funds.

6. Evidence of Success: It is heartening to see the ecological indicators such as butterflies and birds in the campus. The large trees planted and nurtured have grown and contribute to moisture content and organic matter. The campus looks verdant green, beautiful and serene. Birds, squirrels, insects can be seen on trees and all-over. The results indicate that along with urbanization, even a small dense forest area with fruit and flower bearing plants and trees would help in environment protection.

7. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

- i. Regular staff and gardener for maintenance of the campus are required.
- ii. Regular funds are required for the upkeep of the campus area.
- iii. Grants are also required for inviting resource persons for interactive sessions, seminars, trainings on Botanical, environmental, entrepreneurial, socioeconomic aspects of the practice. The institution wishes to invite professionals for imparting knowledge on Intellectual property rights and research methodology to the students.
- iv. Regular visits by agricultural officers and officials from forest department are required for advice on nurturing of flora and fauna.

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Best Practices-II

1. Title: Providing free coaching facility to students for various competitive examinations.

Pratiyogita Dakshata Program

- 2. Goal: The goal is to provide free learning facilities to students for success in various competitive examinations so that they may avail best employment opportunities. To inculcate the zeal & necessary skills in students so that they may clear competitive exams with flying colours
- 3. The context: In addition to the knowledge imparted to the students via courses and programs offered in the institution a strong need is felt to train them in a specific manner for the competitive examinations conducted by State Public Service Commissions, UPSC Banks, etc. By conducting coaching classes in the college itself, the students get an opportunity to fulfil their aspirations and dreams without putting financial burden on their parents. Such a free facility will definitely bring boost to employability in rural areas and lead to student empowerment.
- 4. The practice: Under this program three classes were held daily. The main emphasis was enhancing knowledge in subjects of different faculties like science, arts and commerce and general knowledge which are the basis of several competitive exams. In addition, the students were provided mentoring for best career opportunities by college teachers and resource persons invited from outside under other schemes run in the college.
- 5. Evidence of success: Almost 400 students benefitted under this program. Even during the University examinations queries regarding these classes were seen. Students were keen to attend them after their exams got over. A register was maintained for student attendance.
- 6. Problems encountered and resources required: During the program, the main problem encountered was, arrangement of resource persons for free coaching classes Budget allocation may be made by the Government for such programs in order to pay honorarium to resource persons providing facilities to students such as distribution of study material, books, online learning conducting test and checking answer sheets etc. Private as well as pass out students were also granted permission to attend the free coaching classes.

7 Notes: The course aims to develop such skills like:

1- Presence of mind

2- Optimum Awareness

3-Time frame target,

4. Self management