

Best Practices

1. Green Initiatives and Environment Friendly Campus

Keeping the growing ecological concerns in mind, there is a need for immediate action to be carried out and promote ecofriendly practices. The college firmly believes that, when it comes to environmental conservation, awareness must be followed by sustainable practices. In this endeavor, different departments, along with the institution's NSS / RANGERING and dedicated committees, have undertaken several initiatives and organized different activities to reduce our institutional and societal carbon footprint and inculcate greener practices. Listed below are the details of many such initiatives being undertaken and strengthened.

2. Objectives of the Practice:

We have identified the following objectives that are in tune with the practice:

1. To raise environmental awareness among students, resulting in better environmental management, greater sustainability, and an improvement in the quality of life for all stakeholders associated with the campus.
2. To make the campus as pollution-free as possible. to safeguard every connected stakeholder from the adverse effects of environmental pollution. Plant more trees and protect the ones that are already there. To keep the campus cool and clean by putting into practice energy conservation strategies.

3. The Context:

Our college is committed to the cause of building environmental consciousness among students, staff and community members. It has made numerous efforts at green practices at the campus, generating and disseminating knowledge on issues and concerns of the environment. Our collective lives are impacted by the local, national and global contexts. Building a campus that has zero plastic use, produces minimal waste, disposes/converts of its solid, , conserves energy, lowers consumption, protects biodiversity, and practices self-sustainability in areas of water and cleanliness is challenging due to environmental degradation.

4. The Practice:

- **Plantation:** Tree plantation program was organized every year. Principal with all academic and office members, students, NSS volunteers actively participated in the program and many trees were planted at various places within campus. On this occasion everyone pledged to take responsibility to increase the Maximum number of saplings faculty motivated all the students to plant trees explaining the importance of nature from trees. Students were then assigned as guardians of one plant each wherein they will look after these plants as they grow and make sure that the plants are being watered regularly and cared for. Planting more trees can be a small step towards protecting the environment.
- **Compost Pit for Waste Management-**

Our College has a large green campus as our college staff and students are sensitive to environment protection. So we have large amount of Green waste which a type of biodegradable waste includes garden and park debris, grass clipping, shrubs and yard clipping, branches, woodchips, bark, wood and weeds. For this College takes initiative about composting for waste management by making compost pit in college campus. After composting the resulting mixture is rich in plant nutrients and beneficial organisms such as Bacteria, Protozoa, Nematodes, and Fungi. So that we can reuse green waste as manure and

fertilizer in our college garden and botanical garden as Composting is an important part of waste management.

- **Increase in green cover:** The college has greatly improved its green cover by increasing the quantity of potted plants and constructing a botanical garden. On campus, there are over 75-100 plant species, including 15 types of medicinal herbs.
- **Botanical garden:** The College has also created a botanical garden and maintains medicinal trees. This initiative contributes to the expansion of the already green campus of College and creates awareness of the medicinal properties of plants and trees.
- **Tobacco -free zone:** The College has guaranteed that its campus is tobacco-free zone. The college also regularly organizes awareness campaigns towards this purpose.
- **Reduction of plastic waste:** As part of an endeavor to make the college campus a zero-plastic zone, the use of plastics has been significantly decreased.
- **Rainwater harvesting:** The College is steadily working towards the creation of an infrastructure to facilitate rain water harvesting on a large scale. The green grounds around the College building allow the rainwater to percolate through the soil so that the deep water aquifer/underground water reserve gets replenished. Storm water drains have also been positioned all along the perimeter of the large terrace to collect rainwater.
- **Saving paper:** The College is consciously working towards reducing the use of paper by way of digitalization of documents and introduction of an e-academic management system which involves digital management of students' academic details including marks, attendance, etc. The College also encourages duplex printing and photocopying and recycles paper. Used printed letter heads are used for internal memos.

5. **Evidence of Success:** This best practice has proven to be successful through the following activities:

- The college has developed a beautiful campus with lawns, a botanical garden, etc. Through periodical tree plantations, flora and fauna on the campus have been enriched, resulting in the transformation of the campus into an eco-friendly one.
- The college has preserved the existing flora and fauna within the campus
- Through lecture/Rallies/NSS/range ring, students are made aware of the various environmental issues.
- A mandatory course on environmental awareness at the B.A/B.Sc./B.Com level is taught.
- LED bulbs are installed in the college buildings and the campus to save electricity

6. **Problems Encountered and Resources Required:** While carrying out this practice, the following problems are encountered by the college:

- Green Campus initiatives are challenging, so they require determination and a long-term commitment from all the stakeholders.
- The Green Campus initiative is a rather expensive practice. It needs expert advice and an investment of resources.
- Sufficient manpower is needed to sustainably maintain green practices.
- Lesser awareness among the students and community towards environmental issues aggravates the problem levels.

Best Practices 2

1. Gender equity and women empowerment

2. Objectives of the Practice:

- To empower the girls and women of different background of society and to integrate them with the social, economic and political mainstream.
- To increase the capacities of women to resist oppression and discrimination in ensuring women empowerment.
- To incorporate necessary skills in female students to help them find better job opportunities.
- To inspire women and girls to stand up for their rights through awareness programs.
- To facilitate overall health and wellbeing of female students through a holistic approach
- To develop the capacity of women to raise their status and role in socio-economic and political realms

3. The Context:

Gender equality and Women empowerment is all about giving women the power and control of their lives to become anything they want and to do what they want in situations where they were not allowed once upon a time. It refers to the creation of an environment for women where they can make decisions of their own for their personal benefits as well as for the society. "Women empowerment" and "women equality with men" is a universal issue. Women empowerment is a term that is used to encourage, inspire and celebrate women. It is also used to celebrate the strides that women and girls have taken in terms of gender equality, financial independence and high confidence.

4. The Practice:

Many initiatives have been taken for gender equity and women empowerment as part of extracurricular activities in the Institution. Women health related awareness and trainings programs were organized such as breast feeding, adolescence problems, food and nutrition training, yoga & meditation sessions etc. Training and awareness programs on Self-defense, Sexual Harassment, POCSO Act, Child Marriage Prevention, etc. were organized. Activities related with Government Flagship Program on gender sensitization namely "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" were organised. Programs with title "Daughters are precious" were held.

5. Evidence of Success:

After a thorough discussion about the relevance and advantages of the programmes related to health and hygiene, self-defense and legal rights of women, it was observed by the conveners of various cells like Women Cell, NSS/YDC/ RANGRING and Anti Sexual Harassment Cell that the execution of such awareness programmes invested the girl students with a sense of self confidence and moral courage to face the challenges of life. It was observed that acquainting them with the knowledge of their legal rights and duties helped them enhance their morale and instilled in them a strong sense of self-esteem. It was also observed by the female staff members that a considerable number of girls felt inspired and benefitted by the information about health and hygiene which they received through these programmes and enthusiastically adopted the requisite health measures suggested.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:.

The activity in charges of various programmes encountered certain problems during the execution of these programmes:

- One of the issues was to make the girl students believe in the successful execution of their rights, despite all their legal awareness, in a social setup still governed by the orthodox conventions of patriarchal psyche.
- Some of the girl students revealed that in their social setup women are still not granted the right of exercising their freedom of thought and action to take important decisions for themselves and their families.

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