

The two best practices implemented by the institution are:

☑Promotion of sustainable environment

☑Social commitment and community outreach

BEST PRACTICES – 1

Title: Social Commitment and Community Outreach

Objectives of the Practice

- This practice tries to instil a sense of social service in our students so that they can recognise it as a larger conditioning framework of their education.
- We aim to raise student knowledge of current socioeconomic gaps in income, education, health, and nutrition, as well as instil compassion and understanding for the needs of the underprivileged.
- Without social commitment, education is incomplete. We work for the betterment of marginalised section of the society and assist them through a variety of outreach programmes.

The Context

People from low socioeconomic backgrounds live lives marked by social inequity and a lack of possibilities, whether it be a lack of a sustainable livelihood or educational prospects, or a lack of access to healthcare and cleanliness. Education, on the other hand, is the only way to level the playing field. Education system in India can bridge these gaps by creating awareness among the youth of the nation.

College provides a comprehensive education with the aim of maximizing students social sensibilities. Several college committees and associations work together to build a long-term action plan to address social challenges. Shivaji College students are involved in the implementation of these goals and are given multiple opportunities to engage in empathetic community service.

The Practice

The college creates a synergy between its community work and outreach platforms such as the NSS, the NCC, the Eco-Club, the Heritage Club, IQAC, various College Committees and the Alumni Association, thereby creating a multivalent and mutually renewing forum for meaningful dialogues, actions, and interactions. College organises programmes to sensitise youth towards the needs of the under-privileged.

- **Efforts towards inclusion:** The NSS/NCC volunteers regularly visit Orphanage and Oldage Home at Udhampur, near to Head Post Office Udhampur. Students visit and interact with the occupants and discuss issues related to health, hygiene and education. The volunteers also teach young children living in the Orphanage Home. They celebrate festivals like Diwali and other major festivals with them as a small effort towards inclusion.
- **Awareness for protecting the environment:** The Eco Club has played a seminal role in educating the students about the pressing needs to conserve the environment through eco-friendly practices. Multiple approaches to addressing environmental issues like effective organic and e-waste management procedures and locality cleaning drive have become a model of sorts for green initiatives in the area. Several plantation drives take place with the help of different communities.
- **Financial aid and help:** College organizes visits to destitute homes like Orphanage and Old Age Home. These homes offer shelter to people who have been abandoned by their families due to financial or health issues. Our students interact with them, share their problems, and extend help wherever possible. College also provides Financial Aid to the needy and poor students (who belongs to Below Poverty Line) of the college in every session through Financial Aid Committee of the College. Moreover, College also provide assistance to the College students to get the various scholarships from Government and private bodies.
- **Sharing and caring:** Festivals such as Saraswati Pooja, Republic Day, Independence Day, International Youth Day, International Women Day, International Yoga Day, etc. were commemorated by a variety of activities.
- **Awareness programmes against alcoholism and drug abuse:** Alcoholism and drug-addiction is one of the major problems in Udhampur. Not only do the men waste a major part of their family income on alcohol and drugs, they also indulge in fights with family and neighbors, under the influence of these substances. Student volunteers perform plays and organize rallies to highlight the evils of substance abuse through interaction with the people from Udhampur. College also organize different seminars, debate and painting competitions in collaborations with different organisations on such issues to aware the students.

- Efforts towards creating a gender just society: College considers gender issues as one of the core issues to be highlighted and addressed. College also run a course on Gender Sensitization to aware the students on such issues.

Evidence of Success

The colleges various practises have been extraordinarily successful in terms of the intensity and scope of its vision and action. Not only has the institution been able to educate its volunteers and other students about the importance and nature of social work, but it has also been successful in reaching out to Udhampur locals.

In general, students have become observant of the requirements of needy and poor people. Looking at their poor living conditions, students and the staff expressed compassion and empathy by initiating food and clothes distribution drives. Sanitary pads and other daily use items were collected in the college and later on distributed to these needy people through NSS and NCC students of the College.

Through plays, rallies and other campaigns, we have been able to garner the attention of the slum dwellers and the public towards these issues.

Problems encountered and resources required

Illiteracy and poverty are interrelated and deep-rooted problems of our society. For a poor person, food is more important than education. Convincing people to send their children to school instead of sending them to work is very difficult. Consistent, continuous efforts are required to convince parents to send their children to school with very little success.

The mindset of the inhabitants of the local slum had to be gradually changed by the NSS volunteers and faculty advisers. The volunteers could eventually convince them of their well-meaning intentions through their sustained efforts at social amelioration.

Alcoholism is a rampant problem in our society. Alcoholic abuse aggravates domestic violence. Student volunteers have made efforts to convince young men in the neighbouring area not to take up alcohol and save their future and their families.

Planning visits to destitute homes requires resources. For regular visits, a large amount of funding is required. More financial resources and local partners in this comprehensive endeavour are required.

BEST PRACTICES – 2

Title: Improving Teaching and Learning Process

Objectives of the Practice:

To promote the skill of learning and to improve the learning outcomes to provide “head-heart and hand approach” to learning to communicate and collaborate to provide hands-on and heads-on experience to develop learning resources to use multimodal representations, multimedia and hypertext possibilities to have an unlimited access to authentic resources to support the process of learning to accelerate the teaching and learning efficiency to motivate students towards innovative learning to enrich the process of learning.

The context:

Chalk-Talk-Walk, the traditional teaching style, has some drawbacks, such as board management, crisp diagrams, and handwriting abilities. Curricula that emphasise proficiency and performance are becoming popular in modern settings. Curricula are designed to emphasise abilities and concerns related to information application. All of these prerequisites can be met using ICTs, and there are currently numerous great examples of world-class settings for competency and performance-based curricula that make effective use of these technologies. Teachers and students can benefit from the integration of information and communication technologies. ICT is used to supplement traditional teaching methods, particularly in challenging subject areas. Teachers must be involved in the development of online teaching resources, multimedia presentations, and online video lectures in order to attain these goals. Teachers use ICT to create relevant and interesting learning experiences for their pupils. Students can use ICT to engage in inquiry-based, innovative learning strategies. In today's world, ICT is unavoidable.

The implementation of ICT in education develops higher order skills such as collaborating globally and solving complex real world problems. It improves the perception

and understanding of the world of the student. Thus, ICT can be used to prepare the workforce for the well informed, skillful society and enhance the global economy.

The practice:

Information Communications Technology (ICT) enabled teaching methodologies are being followed by the faculty members in class rooms as a complementary tool for conventional teaching methods. The use of multimedia teaching aids like, LCD projectors, smart classrooms and internet enabled computer systems are usually employed in classroom. Every year, all the departments conduct seminars, workshops and guest lectures on the new developments in the core subjects for effective teaching and learning by the faculty members and students. Language lab and communication skill laboratory help the faculty to enhance knowledge in the field of English communication and writing skills. Seminar halls is equipped with multimedia facilities. Invited talks and webinars are conducted in seminar hall using ICT facilities.

Evidence of success:

The multimedia presentations, video lectures and links developed and provided by the faculties

belonging to different disciplines. The hits, following up of the above mentioned videos by Students, feedback and comments.

Problems encountered and resources required:

The major problems encountered are

- Non-availability of smart phones among rural students who are in large numbers in our Institution.
- High-speed internet facility with WiFi
- Smart boards with proper acoustics