

Institutional Best Practices

Academic Year 2021-2022

Best Practice - I

1. Title of the Practice:

Promotion of Research Culture: Our initiative

2. Objectives of the Practice:

Promotion of research culture is an integrated aspects along with teaching and learning at our institution. It's different and manifold ideals have been ploughed in the minds of learners and faculty. Even it has been prioritized as the constructive step to develop research aptitude commensurate to higher education policies. We, at our level framed different polices to create, encouraging and suitable ambiance for seamless promotion of research activities at UG, PG, and Ph.D. levels. It has been significantly linked with innovation and creativity of the researchers.

- **The practice has following set of objectives such as,**
 - To develop research interest, awareness and aptitude amongst researchers by following the comprehensive academic plan.
 - To provide infrastructural and learning resources to accomplish research goals
 - To make effective implementation of research policy at different levels
 - To commence research oriented syllabi of various courses/programmes intertwined with contemporary issues.
 - To promote research aspects through, 'Aavishkar Research Convention' and 'National Service Scheme- Anugoonj- a research journal.
 - To motivate academic departments for the organization of research activities to unfold new areas of their domain
 - To strengthen the healthy collaborations for research activities
 - To provide financial assistance as an institutional accountability

3. The Context:

Research activities stamped its distinctiveness and uniqueness in the development of the college as one of the leading and growing institutes. Due to its lively presence, the college has embarked on new academic journey, since the commencement of research programmes. In designing and implementing the practice following challenging issues have been addressed;

- Preparation of efficient annual plan of research activities
- Promotion of research knowledge and its basics through different policies and procedures.
- Making infrastructural and learning resources available to quench the academic desires
- Effective and successful implementation of 'Research Policy' of the college as per the guidelines of IQAC.
- Commencement of research programmes having relevance with demands of contemporary scenario.
- Provision of financial assistance to researchers.

4. The Practice

Procedure

Our college promotes the various aspects of the research by creating favorable and appropriate atmosphere, whereby the researchers and departments are motivated to undertake research activities as per the plan. On this line, in the beginning of the academic year, the 'Research Committee' convenes the meeting and prepares the plan of action and its effective ways of execution are chocked out. Thereafter, the notification is displayed regarding the new admissions for Ph.D. at our research centers that includes English, Hindi, Accountancy, Business Policy and Administration, Chemistry and Biotechnology.

- **Aavishkar Research Convention:** To develop research culture and scientific temper in students' personality is the basic objective of the Aavishkar Research Convention. It is the collective efforts of college to cultivate the research among the students and the teachers. With the help of

‘Research Advisory Committee’ the projects are formulated, improvised and selected at UG, PG and Research degrees. The subsequent mentoring is done by inviting experts in concerned field.

- **Anugoonj- community-oriented journal by NSS:** The main purpose of this practice is to connect with the society. With this determination, the NSS volunteers of the college choose and complete community oriented projects under the guidance of the faculty of respective departments and this research work is published in Anugoonj.
- **Research Centres:** Research centres in Hindi, Accountancy, Business Policy and Administration, Chemistry, English and Biotechnology has been established and also made a provision of funds in budget for their strengthening.
- **RUSA:** We practiced promotion of research by providing funds for project under research seed money and procurement of softwares and instruments with the help of RUSA grant.
- **Appointment of Coordinator for Science Resource Centre:** Science Resource Centre supports various research activities of the college.
- **Constraints and Limitations:** Due to pandemic situation it becomes challenging task to stimulate learners and faculty for research related activities.

5. Evidence of Success

- In Aavishkar Research Convention Research participants presented 48 projects at district level where 14 projects were selected for university round. College has achieved 02 Gold, 01 Bronze medal and one consolation awards and has bagged overall Runner-up championship at University level.
- As a community-oriented Research initiative, college has published 15 research articles in Anugoonj.
- The college has provided seed money of Rs. 2, 92000/- to eighteen teachers for research.
- Faculty has published 30 research articles in journals notified by UGC.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- **Problems Encountered**

- Challenging task to sensitize research aptitude.
- Ever-changing nature of study areas.
- Hectic schedule of teaching learning in semester system.

- **Resource Required:**

- Faculty and learners for the participation in research activities
- Guidance of dedicated and skill-oriented faculty
- The college shoulders the responsibility in providing infrastructure and learning resources like library, internet, laboratory equipment and other required facilities and financial assistance.

Best Practice - II

1. Title of the Practice:

Green Campus: Our Initiative towards Environmental Consciousness

2. Objectives of the Practice:

The college is located in the city of 21st century, New Panvel, a node developed by CIDCO, Maharashtra. CIDCO has allotted 05 acre land on lease, of which 2.5 acre for college building and 2.5 acre for playground. CIDCO also allotted us 1.5 acre land on lease exclusively for development of botanical garden. We have developed our campus with green initiatives towards environmental consciousness.

- **The practice has following set of objectives such as,**
 - Transformation of barren/messy land in green campus
 - To balance the environment by tree plantation
 - To aware the students and neighbouring communities on environmental issues
 - To demonstrate institutional accountability towards the society
 - Cleanliness of campus
 - To formulate and execute green campus policy

3. The Context:

Our main focus behind Green campus initiatives is to ensure the sustainability of environment. Industrialization and urbanization has led to environmental degradation in terms of industrial pollution. In spite of the deteriorating status of the environment, study of environment has so far not received adequate attention in our academic programmes. Recognizing this, the Hon'ble Supreme Court directed the UGC to introduce a basic course on environment at every level in college education. Our college has tried to implement this program by incorporating environmental courses in the syllabi, organization of conferences and training programs for students and staff and implementation of interdisciplinary research projects in the field of life science. More emphasis is

being given on the proper infrastructure development so as to continue and maintain the green practices.

4. The Practice

To set an example and inspire all stakeholders to opt for environment friendly alternatives, college has initiated the following practices:

- **Academic initiatives:**

As an autonomous college we have full freedom to launch environment humanities skills and design a syllabi according to the future generation needs. Our College offered environmental studies courses at UG level that infused theoretical and analytical knowledge and skills that are essential for exploring and addressing various environmental issues. Green practices plans were also discussed and implemented efficiently. There are various departments at this college that organizes green practices to target the burning issues of the environment.

- **Extension Cells initiatives:**

The various extension cells of the college like NSS, NCC and DLLE special mention for organizing regular campus cleaning campaigns, awareness program on emerging issues for environmental education. The NSS unit of the College are engaged in regular green initiatives like plantation drives, soil conservation and environmental awareness programmes within the premises and also in the college vicinity in order to maintain a healthy and green environment.

- **Organization of Co-curricular activities:**

The College always encourage to learners and faculty to undertake different projects and organized seminars on environment related issues through various co-curricular activities.

- **Environment Friendly alternatives:**

- The College has installed 462 solar panels generating electric power of 150 KW at 36.72 V per month.

- The infrastructure for vermicomposting has been successfully installed with four beds. The solid wastes generated from the college canteen are used in vermicomposting pits to generate compost which is used in college gardening purpose.
- The campus harbours well fenced botanical garden with many plant species including medicinal plants.
- Repairing and recycling of laptops, computer hardware, projectors is encouraged and executed frequently. Some departments use overhauled computer peripherals and laptops as a part of this process. Disposal of unusable hardware is achieved through buy-back policies and the money is utilized to get new and upgraded equipment.
- During rainy season, we collect the roof rain water through filter fitted pipes in a reservoir and uses it later during fire drill, washing the roads and gardening purpose.
- Our college maintain plastic free and clean campus.
- Sensitization of ‘Green Practices’ among the students.
- Fire extinguishers and its management system has been established in the college by Shree Enterprises.
- Department of Physics had taken the initiative to distribute 50 solar study lamps to students of tribal village.

5. Evidence of Success

Large number of participants in different awareness programs organized by our college is really appreciable. The waste disposal management initiative taken by our college is yielding very good results. By installing Solar Panel College saves from the monthly electricity bill. We also rewarded with different extension activities. The college achieved second prize by Panvel Municipal City Corporation for Green Campus. The green audit certification at highest level III.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- The main problem encountered in the Green campus initiative is development and maintenance of proper infrastructure for the green practices. It must have the comprehensive approach right from home.
- Green campus program should be considered as a necessity in every institution and separate funds should be allotted for this.
- Implementation of the green practices needs series of awareness programs to educate more people and train them for it. Going green not only needs investment in terms of money but also a strong will from all the beneficiaries.

7. Notes (Optional)

The college has worked as a team consisting of teaching, non-teaching staff as well as daily labour for effective implementation of green initiatives. Development of botanical garden and plantation of different trees and plants with lawn created beautiful ambience at our campus.