

Best Practice No 1

Environment Protection and Conservation

Objectives:

- To create Eco- friendly campus.
- To create consciousness regarding environment protection and conservation among students and society.
- To keep college premises clean and plastic free.
- To improve biodiversity.
- Optimize utilization of resources.

Context: We are all aware of activities for environment protection and conservation of resources done by NGOs, other organizations or individuals. The college is however inspired to make continuous, focused efforts in this regard. Only collective efforts will be able to bring about positive changes. The soil on the college premises is *Murrum* - gravel type. We plan to keep the premises green, conserve water and make optimum use of available resources.

Practice: The environment committee of the college plans and oversees activities and initiatives for environmental conservation. Many environment friendly activities are implemented on and off the campus. The college nursery provided hundreds of saplings for distribution. Gram Panchayats and NGOs approached the college to procure free saplings for plantation drives. The trees in the college premises flourished with a myriad variety of birds making it their home. Conservation of biodiversity in the area improved with potting new varieties of flowering plants and placing feeder and water pots for birds under the shady trees. Initiatives for providing information and encouraging students for environmental protection and conservation is a regular feature of the college. Two trolleys full of flowers and leaves etc. collected by city Nagar Parishad during *sarvajanic* Ganesh festival is deposited in the campus. This is treated to make organic manure. This year, packets were sold to citizens in Khamgaon.

Evidence of Success:

- The college premises are green and cooler, abuzz with birds and butterflies. Nests on trees in the college are a pleasing sight. Many different birds come here to roost.
- Students have been inspired to take up green initiatives in their villages.
- Green audit certification.
- The college has received the prestigious University 'Environment Award' for 2020.
 - Awareness regarding generation of and proper management of flowers etc. during Ganesh festival was created among citizens during sale of organic manure.
 - A few customers regularly buy the organic manure from the college, which proves they are happy with the effectiveness of the manure.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required: Due to pandemic, many activities could not be arranged. Students were encouraged to plant trees in the nursery of the college by distributing the saplings to the students in the college premises as well as to a number of organizations and citizens working for environmental conservation in the suburbs. College students were provided with saplings to plant trees in their backyards and on farms. The trees in the college premises were protected and nurtured.



Best Practice 2:

Women's Empowerment

Objectives:

- To sensitize students and staff towards gender equality.
 - To bring awareness about redressal mechanism in case of sexual harassment.
- To sensitize students and staff to examine their personal beliefs and attitudes, to enhance mutual respect and cooperation.
- To boost confidence by providing leadership roles as positive discrimination to girls.

Context: Providing an enabling environment to girl students is an important aspect of our institution and sensitization towards needs of girls is all the more necessary in a social and educationally backward district like Buldana where the female to male ratio is dismally low (928 per 1000 as per population census 2011) and girls drop out because they are married off early.

Practice:

- In the session 2020 – 21, various activities for women's empowerment were organized. The college Internal Complaint Cell (ICC) of the college conducted an online lecture on "Women's Safety on Social Media: Measures and Laws" on 10/3/2021 and was uploaded on the college YouTube channel. Advocate Anusaya Itanare briefed the audience on safety of women on social media and related laws. She talked in detail about cyber bullying, financial scams and security precautions while using social media.
- An E- National Conference was jointly organized by the College and Yashwant College, Seloo, Dist. Wardhaon "Women Empowerment: Issues and Challenges". The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Seema Salgaonkar, Head, Department of Political Science, Government College of Arts, Commerce and Science, Goa. The resource person, Dr. Sindhu

Thulsidharan, Head, Department of Law, Kerala University, Thiruvananthapuram spoke about the legal rights of women. A few research scholars read out their papers. The one-day E- national conference was attended by 395 people from across India and many more have viewed it on YouTube. 126 researchers contributed research articles which were published in three volumes.

- On the occasion of Nutrition Week on 11/9/2021, guest lecture by Child Development Project Officer Mr. Rajesh Wagh on "Nutrition and Health of Today's Alliance" was organized. He explained to college girls how to plan a nutritious diet by changing their daily diet, various schemes of Child Development Department.
- A slogan competition was organized by the Home Science Department of the college on the occasion of Breastfeeding Week. In the competition Ms. Anita Mohan Ingle won first prize, Ms. Komal Tiwane won second prize and Ms. Rupali Mule won the third prize. The importance of breastfeeding in the mother-baby relationship was emphasized to the students through the program.

Evidence of Success:

Girl students are conscious of womens' issues in general and their own rights. They are aware of complaint and redressal mechanisms. There is often talk in class, regarding good nutrition and avoiding junk food. Girls are now aware of scientific grounds behind benefits of breastfeeding.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

- A bigger project on the issue would require more funds.
- Many students are first generation learners belonging family of farm laborers and drop out early.



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