

## **Best Practices**

### **1 Title of the practice: “Environment Protection for Sustainable Development”**

### **2. Objectives of the Practice:**

- i. To create awareness about environment conservation in students, staff and society
- ii. To promote use of resources in Sustainable way
- iii. To promote locally available nutrient rich food
- iv. To promote the use of solar energy on the college campus.

### **3. The Context**

Western Ghat is one of the richest bio-diversified areas in the world. The college is located in this area i.e. Western slope of Sahyadri ranges. Threat to biodiversity, climate change, deforestation, increased pollution such environmental problems are not common not only in Konkan region but also across the world. Eco-friendly and sustainable development pattern should be adopted by common people for the sustenance of mother earth. Renewable resources like Solar energy being a clean and non-conventional energy resource should be promoted. Though environment degradation is a global problem, it must be addressed by public participation in this biodiversity rich area. So the college has decided to create awareness about environment conservation among people and their participation for the mitigation of environment issues.

### **4. The Practice**

- i) Every year twenty-five students of the college work as ‘Climate Ambassadors’ to create awareness about climate change and global warming in villages and society under ‘Mumbai-Stockholm Climate Ambassador Project’ in collaboration with NGO Srushtidnyan (India) and Climate Action (Sweden).
- ii) Every year, various awareness programs including one international workshop are organized focusing on climate change and other environment problems.
- iii) Cycle Club is initiated in the college and cycle rallies and awareness activities are being organized.
- iv) 50 KW solar power project covering the entire campus is installed, various programs to promote use of natural resources for sustainable development are organized

v) Local nutrient food is promoted by organization of Wild vegetable festival, Locally grown finger millet and other millet conservation festivals, promotion and conservation of locally available varieties of rice etc.

vi) Nisargbhan Vyakhyanmala is lecture series organized by the college in collaboration with NGOs for creating awareness about various aspects of biodiversity and environment conservation. Due to COVID 19 pandemic it was not possible to organize regular activities so this online lecture series is organized on Sunday at 11:00 am. This lecture series is continued in 2021-22 and will be continued in future also.

v) The uniqueness of this practice in the context of India higher education is students learn various aspects of environment education by participative learning; they are sensitized about local to global socio-environmental problems.

## **5. Evidence of Success**

Students are involved in various programs and activities in this practice. Students performed well in Environment Studies and other related subject. Knowledge of socio-environment problems helped in holistic development of students. Even our alumni are working for biodiversity conservation in this area. Students and common people are voluntarily involved in Nisargbhan Lecture series and other environment conservation measures. Students and villagers are helping in plantation drive and sacred grove conservation.

## **6. Problems Encountered**

- i) Difficulty in the organization of regular programs due to COVID 19 pandemic situation
- ii) Lack of funds.
- iii) Lack of awareness in the community
- iv) During the rainy season thick cloud coverage resisting incoming solar radiation.

## **Resources Required**

- i) Monetary resources.
- ii) Human Resources.
- iii) Expertise.
- iv) Availability of land for nursery.

## **Best Practice – 2**

**1. Title of the practice:** “Woman Empowerment and Gender Sensitivity”

### **2. Objectives of the Practice:**

- i. To create gender sensitivity among the students
- ii. Creating health awareness among the girl students
- iii. Promoting higher education for girls
- iv. Psychological counseling for teenage problems
- v. Creating awareness about healthy food habits and anemia among women from society

### **3. The Context**

Women are an integral part of society. Ignoring women's development negatively affects social and national development. In the 21st century, knowledge is power and if empowered and opportuned properly, women can directly contribute to the socio-economic development of society. Despite being a rural and hilly area, more than 60 percent of the student strength is shared by girl students. Most of these girl students belong to nearby villages and commute for college education. It is a poverty-dominated area and mal-nutrition is a common phenomenon. Physical weakness, hemoglobin deficiency, and low weight are common problems of girl students. The WDC has undertaken awareness programs on these issues. Lectures, counseling regarding mental and physical health, diet, self-defense training are major programs by the WDC. It builds confidence among the girl students. Above that, motivating participation of girl students in various curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities, organization of programmes for girl students and women in society, various related activities manifest the spectrum of women empowerment in our college.

### **4. The Practice**

i) Promoting for Higher Education: Counseling at the junior and senior college level regarding career and academic development is being carried out. A girls' hostel facility has been provided by the college to boost the girl students to have comfortable access to higher education.

ii) Counseling Lectures and programmes: Various lectures of legal practitioners, dieticians, psychiatrists, women activists etc are regularly organized to widen the vision of girl students and for gender sensitization.

iii) Yoga Training: Yoga has been the best preventive measure for physical and mental problems. WDC of the college organizes short-term yoga introduction workshops for the girl students. Meditation, Yogasanas, diet, etc. are focused upon.

iv) Health Check-up camps: Regular camps for hemoglobin and general checkup are organized and suffering students are treated at Dervan hospital free of cost. But due to COVID 19 pandemic it was not possible to organize such camps during 2020-21.

v) Awareness campaign: The WDC of the college in collaboration with NGOs organize awareness programs on healthy, nutrient food habits among women from society to avoid anemic condition. This year this campaign was done at nearby ten villages; Workshop on how to prepare protein and vitamin rich breakfast was conducted.

vi) Distribution of Arsenic Album medicines and COVID 19 Awareness: In COVID 19 pandemic, the parent institution DSPM and College teachers in collaboration with Devrukh Nagar panchayat did door to door awareness campaign about COVID 19 and Arsenic Album medicines were distributed.

## **5. Evidence of Success**

The college is successful in meeting the problem of anemia due to low hemoglobin. Increased percentage of the girl students in the college is an outcome of the continuous efforts taken by the WDC. Participation of girl students in various curricular and co-curricular activities has increased in the last five years. The progression of girls towards higher education is increasing. Increasing trend of girls towards participation in skill-oriented courses

## **6. Problems Encountered**

- i) Financial constraints
- ii) The self-contented mentality of the students
- iii) Gross unawareness about the changing dimensions
- iv) The orthodox approach of parents towards girl education.
- v) Lack of awareness among the parents about girls' education

## **7. Resources Required**

- i) Need for continuous financial assistance
- ii) Human Resources