

Best Practice-1

- **Title of the practice**

Eco Friendly Policies and Measures like Installation of Solar Power Plant and Artificial Recharge of groundwater

- **The context that required the initiation of the practice**

Due to the increasing demand and consumption of power, to promote clean energy sources and for addressing the issue of depleting groundwater level, the college administration decided to shift to the solar energy and water harvesting/artificial recharge in a big way. It was also observed that generally there are misconceptions about the real use and utility of renewable energy in society at large. In this regard, need was felt to address the overall issue in a manner that the college campus becomes eco-friendly and the consumption habits of natural resources as prevalent among the students, faculty and non-teaching also change accordingly.

- **Objectives of the practice**

- To make the college campus eco-friendly.
- To make long lasting impact on the life style within, around and outside the campus.
- To evolve the campus as a site of experiential learning and community awareness.
- To make deep and wide impact from college campus to grass-root level

- **The practice**

The college decided to start the campaign with active involvement of Eco-Club members, NSS and NCC students. This initiative was successful in gradually including different cells, societies and committees. At the initial stage, plantation, cleanliness and general awareness drive on environmental issues were taken up. For popularizing the campaign, social networking sites, college website, Facebook page of the institution, WhatsApp and Alumni link were actively used. A large number of student-volunteers came forward to participate and carry forward the campaign to the nearby localities and rural areas. The college administration also reached out to a number of govt. and non-govt. organizations for support and participation. The college became a centre of debates, discussions, exhibitions and other related activities on renewable energy sources and water harvesting. This movement spread further to the sister institutions i.e. R.K.S.D. Public School, R.K.S.D. College of Education & R.K.S.D. College of Pharmacy.

- **Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome**

The popular mode of addressing the issue in a rhetorical and ceremonial manner was a major problem and special efforts were required to make the campaign really effective. As the campus is having old infrastructure, the space and requirements for the practice to be followed was worked out. Proper roof tops were selected and maintained to make the efficient power generation possible and PVC pipes were installed in a number of buildings and the open spaces such as lawns and grounds so as to channelize the

rain water in a proper way and then storing it and re charging in the aquifer. As considerable amount of cost was also involved, the funds were made available from different sources available with the college.

- **Impact of the Practice**

The campaign was thoroughly successful in making deep impact from micro to the macro level. Beginning at the institutional level, it is helping a wider messaging to a number of nearby villages. Students under *Swachhata Abhiyaan* and environmental awareness campaigns took summer training in community service and became volunteers as well as leaders of the campaign. As done at the college level, they actively used social networking sites like Facebook and What Sapp. This practice was particularly successful in building a tempo of awareness that resulted in ground level activism addressing a wide range of local and global issues including stubble burning, groundwater level, diversification of crops, organic farming, forms and management of pollution, transport habits, climate change, diversity of species, flora and fauna etc. with a genuine community perspective. The recurrence of natural calamities and resultant urgency of risk management remained the vantage point of all activities and discourse emanating from the practice. Finally, it was felt that this practice carries a scope and social responsibility for the generations to come and the existence of planet Earth itself. Since, all the steps were taken in a uniform manner in R.K.S.D. Group of Institutions and implemented accordingly, practically the awareness target has been achieved from KG to PG level. Students and faculty have shown keen interest in utilizing this vast infrastructural change as a formal and continuous system of experimentation and learning on a long-term basis.

- **Resources Required**

Initially, the college and the sister institutions are providing required finances and logistics. But it can be further expanded with broader support from society, govt. and several NGOs identifying their objectives with the campaign. Volunteerism of participants and organizers is self-assuring in terms of resources required.

Best Practice II

- **Title of the Practice**

Extension and Upgradation of Infrastructure and Learning Resources

- **The context that required the initiation of practice**

The academic ambience of an institution depends upon several factors. But it is the quality of infrastructure available within the institution that serves as the foundation for the germination, diversification and impact of academic ambience. Tough quality infrastructure is the pre-requisite of the success of every institution, the proper and judicious use of the available infrastructure is possible only when it is used in the best possible way so that others also follow the practice. During this academic session, the college has taken a number of initiatives to improve and extend the infrastructure available in quality as well as quantity. Keeping in view the facilities available in the reputed academic and professional institutions at national level, it was decided to take a number of steps to improve the infrastructure in the college, particularly in case of college library and PG block.

- **Objectives of the Practice**

- To transform the newly constructed PG block into a model with sound and eco-free classrooms well equipped with ICT tools and a separate multi-purpose seminar room.
- To develop the college library as a source of quality learning through inculcation of reading habits among the students

- **The practice**

Without the excitement of participation in the classroom and motivation for self-learning through various innovative methods, students are prone to become indifferent to the teaching-learning process in the classroom. While consolidating classroom teaching, sustained efforts were made to overcome the tendency and limitation of the students as passive listeners in the classroom. The PG block (Diamond Jubilee Block) was renovated and upgraded with an expenditure of nearly 15 lakh. To make the class rooms, corridors and seminar room eco-free and ICT tools equipped, recommendations of NAAC Peer Team and suggestions of IQAC were given special consideration in planning and execution. In addition, smart boards with projectors have also been provided for students-centric teaching & learning process. Power point presentations using smart board have become a regular phenomenon in PG level teaching-learning process. The task of preparing presentations with due space for needful explanations was assigned to the students in groups of two-three with other students and the faculty as audience. The college library is being fully renovated and provided with central air conditioning. Locked almirahs have been replaced by open shelves displaying books and other periodicals for direct access to the study material available. Further, the library is partially automated to ILMS software so as to keep pace with the adaptability of users' habits and needful re-orientation for latest technology in learning resources. New books numbering 490 worth Rs. 117865/-, reference books numbering 54 worth Rs. 30700/- and one journal worth Rs.

3000/- have been added during the year. This practice has increased the number of students/faculty visitors to the library to a considerable level.

- **Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome**

Diverse adaptability levels of learners to the fully/ semi- automated library, ICT tools equipped classrooms and online learning resources due to pre-eminently rural background and economic hurdles.

- **Impact of the Practice**

A genuine and qualitative shift in infrastructure has rejuvenated teacher-taught relationship and overall academic space of the institution. The college library witnessed increased interest in INFLIBNET, frequent use of books and sustained presence of students in reading Hall. The Library Committee started a process of getting suggestions and feedback from students for incorporating the needful changes. Faculty and students placed special request before the management to further upgrade the facilities available in the library. A major dividend of the practice has been a qualitative shift in the teaching learning process, growing interest among faculty and students for consultations with students on issues in or beyond curriculum. The college administration and faculty got sensitively attuned to the students in understanding their specific problems in imbibing technology in self learning methods. This has led to an initial general view that to make students adopt e-resources within or outside classroom learning process requires additional and sustained efforts.

- **Resources Required**

The college management and administration provided required resources for infrastructural renovation, purchase and needful additional support system to students and faculty.