Best Practices
2022-23

RKSD COLLEGE, KAITHAL

NAAC 'A' Grade accredited, Affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

Ambala Road, Kaithal -136027 (Haryana)

Best Practices I

Title of the Practice

Ground Water Recharge Initiatives to eliminate flood threat and check water table depletion

Objectives of the Practice

- To protect the campus and the adjoining area from rain water caused floods
- To develop the mechanism for artificial recharge of rain water to the groundwater aquifer so as to compensate over exploitation

The Context

The term artificial recharge refers to transfer of surface water to the aquifer by human interference. The natural process of recharging the aquifers is accelerated through percolation of stored or flowing surface water, which otherwise does not percolate into the aquifers. As location of the campus is on Ambala road with around 500 meter facing and down from the level of the road, 20-30 minutes heavy rain used to cause flood like condition on road with water entering college administrative block as well as class rooms. Moreover, excessive use of the groundwater for agriculture purpose i.e., paddy and wheat crop cycle and increasing demand of water due to population pressure has resulted in decline in groundwater to the dangerous level. It had become necessary to take measures which could take care of both - the flood threat and need to check depleting water table. This has been achieved successfully with the help of Artificial Ground Water Recharge initiatives.

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The Practice

College developed mechanism of storm water management by diverting excess water accumulated in front of campus to the playground through two strategically laid channels. Water retention capacity of the playground in the backyard of the main block sets limit to the extent to which these measures are effective. To increase the temporary intake capacity of the ground, laser leveling was done and its boundary was raised by two feet. Playground stores water for the time till it moves underground through artificial recharge system/wells thus avoiding the flood like situation in the area. Similarly rain water has also been diverted from the roof of Tagore Bhawan and PG block through pipes installed for the purpose and then recharged to the groundwater through bore. Another groundwater recharge system has been installed in the newly built Maharaja Aggarsain Bhawan. An open recharge well has also been built in the sports stadium, the catchment area of which covers play ground as well as indoor stadium.

Evidence of Success

After successfully implementing of various initiatives, it has been observed that during consecutive rainy season there has not been any episode of flood in the campus/adjoining area. The water accumulated inside and outside the college campus is now rapidly recharged into the groundwater thus helping in increasing the water table and avoiding chances of flood like situation.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The experiment has been quite successful without much expenditure. One borewell already existed in the corner of the ground and one additional has been installed. Raising the boundary ofthe playground has also provided comfortable sitting space to spectators of the events organised in it.

RKSD COLLEGE, KAITHAL

Best Practices II

Title of the Practice

Dedicating College Sports Complex to Community service towards 'Fit India Movement'

Objectives of the Practice

- To develop culture of maintaining good health and quality of life/well-being of students and community at large
- To groom prospective sports persons by attracting young talent in formative stage

The Context

RKSD College is situated at the heart of City. With growing number of vehicles and congestion caused by population, the area was lacking in open/green space with facilities for community fitness. Inspired by 'Fit India Movement' launched by Hon'ble prime minister, the sports complex was redesigned and renovated with a view to make fitness an integral part of daily life. With this initiative old stadium has been developed into modern sports complex and fitness centre and thrown open to general public in age group of 10 to 80 years or more.

The Practice

College planned to set up an open air Gym and fitness centre for the benefit of the school/ college students as well as general public. Started in 2020-21, it has become a unique community centre giving opportunity for mutual interaction in a motivating and relaxed ambience. Students and public in general are using this facility as a pollution free and well- equipped zone of health and fitness. The facilities exclusively provide running-cum walking track of 200 meter. Outskirt of the oval shaped open space comprise chain of logistics including four types of pedaling/cycling, stepping, arms and legs stretching machines. Overall ranges of facilities include open and indoor Gym and shooting range. Adequate provisions for other sportsi.e., Basketball, Football, Boxing, Volleyball, Squash Court, Table Tennis etc are there. Its users cut across all age groups and genders comprising senior citizens, men, women, children and budding sportspersons and heath enthusiasts. Standard amenities like Drinking Water, washrooms for men and women and first aid have been provided. Besides this benches for sitting are also available. All the facilities are free of any cost/entry fee. Professional coaches utilize these facilities for grooming of upcoming sportspersons. It has become a vibrant centre of yoga camps, meditation, fitness programs and coaching camps for different sports.

Evidence of Success

Everyday students of the institution and the public at large regularly visit the complex to avail the facilities and get benefitted. Old people, ladies-gents and children are regular visitors in both morning and evening shifts. The number of beneficiaries is more than 200 in each shift and is increasing. Thus the centre has become a unique hub of fitness activities. It has also helped in increasing sports intake of boys and girls at college and school level (in RKSD Public School).

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The expenditure on the project crossed 60 Lac besides recurring costs of around 1.5 lac per month. Sufficient funds mobilization for infrastructure development was initially a problem but the same was overcome by mobilization from sister institutions and a grant of Rs. 5 Lac from Govt. of Haryana.