

7.2 Best Practices

Describe at least two Institutional Best Practices Upload details of two best practices successfully implemented by the institution as per NAAC format in your institution website, provide the link.

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- i) **Goal:** 1) To impart knowledge and awareness, related to health and hygiene and
2) To empower the opportunity-disadvantaged women from rural India, by creating an enabling environment and ensure / obtain financial sustenance.

ii) **The Brief :** Empowering women is a vision of the institute. So this becomes a major thrust area for most programmes, academic and non-academic. This is one such programme evolving for more than a decade. Women in India and especially those in rural areas need the means to sustain themselves and their families financially in this ever-growing competitive world. Hence the Institute, through its various departments, collectively gives inputs and help them in establishing their financial sustainability. A healthy mind and body create a healthy family is one the belief the institute follows and therefore endeavours educate where it would make a difference the most, the womenfolk.

iii) **The practice:** In the adopted village by the institute, staff and students disseminate knowledge and hands-on experience by conducting workshops identifying a product or two for each session or meeting organized in the village for a group of women of all ages. Womenfolk are given sponsored or donated materials and equipment as an initial contribution by the staff of the college or other allied stakeholder organization so as to minimize initial financial strain on the frugal resources of the Village. Various skills and crafts such as paper bag production, rakhi making, candle making, jewellery making have been taught, and the group of women undertaking training have been encouraged to sell them and helped by the institute to identify potential market, packaging and accounting.

iv) **Evidence of success:** The feedback received from the trainee women hailing from Village Harankhuri (60 km) and Mahurjhari (25 km) and their customers is encouraging.

v) **Problems encountered, and Resources required :** Access to the community is sometimes difficult due to the agrarian nature of the occupation. Most women are involved in Agricultural practices and have little time to spare. However, their enthusiasm for some products was encouraging. Other problems:

- Commuting to the city: the potential market is another issue which needs to be dealt with
- Family support : The reluctance from some families in villages is another obstacle and lastly lack of resources: It is still an ongoing process for entrepreneurship skills and potential market to develop.

2) PAT ON THE BACK :serves as a Recognition of Excellence, Commitment, Achievements, Encouragement, and Motivation. Performance in Programmes, Recipients of Awards and Endowment prizes of major stakeholders viz. Students and Staff (Teaching and Non-teaching / administrative) are appreciated.

i) **Goal** : Schemes for awards of excellence for faculty , administrative staff and students who have excelled in academics, co-curricular activities , research and sports have been instituted to give an impetus to excel, to boost morale and create an enabling and a sustained atmosphere by providing appropriate rewards and encouragement for good performers, and inspiring and guiding others to be good performers as well.

ii) **The Context**: For the college students excelling in all arenas; academic, sports as well as the non-academic in which they were active participants as a team or individuals and excelled is a step towards their empowerment which will play a huge role in boosting their self-confidence and building self-esteem. And for the faculty working with the college it is equally important if not more so hence whether it is recognising the achievements or acknowledging their commitment to the institute therefore is a win-win situation for both.

Commitment, dedication and sincerity are attributes which are becoming obsolete in current times and thus it has been a practice to recognize and acknowledging the dedicated service of the staff to the institute which fosters a progressive environment and signals a progression towards excellence.

iii) **The Practice**: There are three programmes in place till date in which this recognition takes place ; 1) 15th August NCC cadets are felicitated for their achievements in various camps at regional , state and national level. 2) The 3rd of January every year, which marks the birth anniversary of *Savitribai Fule* , the pioneer and ideal of women's education in India- students are felicitated and given endowment prizes for their achievements in academic, sports and co-curricular activities at the university and college level. Also this day the teaching and non-teaching Staff who have completed 25 years in the institute are acknowledged and felicitated. 3) Pat on the back which is a recent addition held on founders' day is a programme to felicitate extraordinary work by students, alumni, teaching and non-teaching staff.