

## Best Practice 1: Environmental Consciousness

### Objectives:

- . Creating environmental consciousness.
- . Catalysing public action on environmental conservation.
- . Direct action for conserving natural resources and the environment.

### The Context:

- . The location of our college gives us a strategic advantage (and responsibility). Himachal acts as the water-tower, carbon sink and oxygen plant. We have a responsibility to conserve and enrich these resources.
- . With enrolment from the entire state, our college is ideally situated for diffusion of environmental consciousness.
- . If conditioned with environmental consciousness at this age, students will grow into environmentally conscientious citizens.
- . We have the manpower to engage and lead through collective action to inspire various communities.

### The Practice

#### Best Practice : 1

The college has formulated a Green Campus Policy to institutionalise environmental consciousness.

### Initiatives under Green Policy(5.1)

- Energy conservation and renewable energy.
- Water conservation. Waste management.
- Green campus.

### Initiatives for building environmental consciousness and leadership in students

- **Sensitization, inside and outside the classroom.** All our students compulsorily study EVS. The course contents acting as a primer to environmental consciousness, the theoretical knowledge is brought into behavioural practice through several measures like lectures, nature walks and by observing special days such as World Environment Day, Van Mahotsav, Swachhta Diwaswater Day, Wildlife Week, etc.
- **Student participation and leadership.** The college carries out activities related to environmental awareness through student-led bodies like the Eco Club, NSS, NCC, Rovers and Rangers.
- **Plantation drives.** Examples; plantation drives in College Campus (cleanliness drive by eco club, NSS Plantation drive Under Meri Maati Mear Desh Campaign)
- **Participation in Swachh Bharat Mission.** Undertook a Swachh Bharat Internship at village Chamyana. *SwachhtaPakhwara* is observed by organising awareness lectures, rallies, competitions and cleanliness drives.
- **Cleanliness drives.** Include drives for removing non-biodegradable waste from forests around various villages, cleaning the water bodies, and cleaning village surroundings. The

students involve the local community in cleaning up their surroundings and build environmental consciousness.

**Evidence of success:**

- The Green/Environment Audit of the college conducted by state's Department of Environment, Science and Technology states that "the college takes all necessary steps in sustaining the environment".
- There's a discernible growing environmental consciousness and leadership in the students. The students take more and more initiatives for **plantation, cleanliness drives and awareness** rallies.

**Students have donated more than 100 medicinal plants to the college green house.**

**Problems Encountered and Resources Required:**

- The growing pressure of urbanisation puts a lot of pressure on natural resources, including forest and water. The public at large and the state's development agencies need better sensitisation to the environmental concerns;
- Small steps by college students need better recognition and encouragement; and
- State services are required for better waste disposal and recycling of non-biodegradable waste.

## **Best Practice 2: Social Outreach and Responsibility**

### **Objectives**

- To inculcate values of social responsibility and sensitivity;
- To inculcate respect for diversity;
- Prepare students for selfless service to the community and nation; To instil a sense of self-worth and unshakable moral character.

### **Context**

- With the right initiation and motivation, youngsters easily imbibe the values of social responsibility and the spirit of service to the community and the nation. They can become the carriers of this message for their peers, year after year.
- It is observed that these activities contribute to the overall personality development of students and equip them with essential interpersonal skills, organisation acumen, and confidence to take up and overcome challenges.
- Also, various avenues in the institutional set-up of the college such as our NSS, NCC, and Rovers and Rangers units, along with various Clubs and Societies offer something of interest to almost every student.