OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

Phone & Fax No.: 03222-243400
Mob.- 9733846160
e-mail: principaldebra@gmail.com
Website : www.debracollege.ac.in

DEBRA THANA SAHID KSHUDIRAM SMRITI MAHAVIDYALAYA

(Government Aided, NAAC Accredited College, affiliated to Vidyasagar University)

P.O.: CHAKSHYAMPUR ★ DIST.- PASCHIM MEDINIPUR ★ PIN- 721124 ★ W.B. ★ INDIA

Ref. No_____   Date_____

7. Institutional Values and Best Practices

7.2: Best Practices

7.2.1: Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per NAAC format provided in the Manual.

Institutional Best Practice -1

Title of the Practice – Inclusive Teaching Environment

The objective of the best practice:

To reach out to the maximum number of students of first-generation learners as a major section of the student community belongs to the rural areas, and is financially backward. Keeping in mind these factors, our primary concern is to provide opportunities for higher education with minimum cost. Skill-based courses are also provided to guide them to secure employment. Also, the aim is to make them technologically enabled to cope with the modern ways of learning.

The Context:

Dedicated to serving the new generation of youths in the surrounding areas of the college which was built on the blood, sweat, and land of local villagers, the conventional teaching practice has been upgraded with the help of digital platforms in this pandemic situation.

The Practice:

Our college is located in a rural, backward district where a major section of the population depends on agriculture, a significant population hails from financially backward and weaker sections of the society and still a significant proportion of our students are first-generation learners. Keeping these factors in consideration, our primary target and challenge is to provide our students with the opportunity for Higher Education at a minimum financial cost, provide them with skill-based training, and also to upgrade them by imparting soft skills and basic computer handling efficiency. Mental boost and financial support are ensured to reduce the dropout rate which occurs due to a variety of reasons.

In the pandemic situation, the conventional teaching-learning process has been upgraded and amalgamated with digital platforms to reach out to students even in remote rural areas. Social platforms are used to communicate with the students, with the aim of imparting quality education which will ultimately benefit the learners and with the aim to reduce dropouts that occur due to various financial and social reasons.

Segregation of learners with regards to their learning abilities at the very beginning and creation of mentor groups is done.

The scholarship helps desk work towards guiding and online filling and submission of scholarship applications to different government and non-government agencies is done.

Psychological counseling by mentors is also a continuous process.

Along with standard and conventional modes of classroom teaching, the college has successfully used Learning Management System in providing e-study materials, Virtual classes and online assessments have been conducted using LMS.

The Official Facebook page and WhatsApp groups have been used effectively for the interchange of information and as modes of communication with the students.

The official YouTube channel is effectively used as a teaching tool along with G-suit accounts for live google meet classes.

Digital library with e-books using D-Space, institutional repository, and INFLIBNET login access for students of all departments have been used effectively for the aid of students.

Thus, the college tries to blend conventional methods of teaching-learning with digital learning.

In addition, Skill-based training in Hardware, Soft Skills, Basic Computer training, Automobile servicing, and Mushroom cultivation is done after class hours to empower them with various skills for self-reliance and entrepreneurship development to make them job-ready.

Evidence of Success:

Communication and Goodwill of the institution have significantly brought widespread recognition through this inclusive teaching environment in this Pandemic situation. Students have been able to keep direct access with their respective teachers to be able to keep regular updates on classes and other academic purposes. In spite of hindrances due to this pandemic situation, all students could appear in exams with no dropouts.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

All the students residing in remote villages could not be accessed or provided the upgraded digital learning. An individual student monitoring system has to be looked after with care.

Institutional Best Practice – 2

Title of the Practice – Promotion of Sustainable Environment

Objectives of the Best Practice:

Environmental sustainability is of great importance in the light of ever-increasing environmental degradation, and it can be accomplished with the implementation of eco-friendly activities. The objectives of nurturing environment sustainability are:

To promote an eco-friendly environment and to find out innovative ways of sustainable use of natural resources.
To maintain a waste-free, pollution-free, healthy, and eco-friendly green camp and to reduce overall carbon exhaustion and ecological disorders.
To bring about a significant positive change in the pollution levels and ensure healthier lives for all of us.

The Context:

Our college has abundant plants and sunlight. It is of immense importance to transform productively green waste and sunlight into sources of sustenance. Our college has implemented mechanisms by which wastes can be utilized for the production of compost, and for its use as fertilizer in the college garden. The greenery of the college campus is an oasis amid the neighbouring rural commercial establishments. Tapping the sunlight for generating solar energy is an important step toward reducing carbon footprints. The energy thus generated fulfills about half the energy requirements of the college. To sustain the clean and green environment of the college, a balance between utilization and transformation/disposal of waste has to be maintained. A large quantity of green waste is generated on the college premises, which is effectively composted as manure.

The Practice:

Our college is determinedly committed to creating an eco-friendly and sustainable campus. Instilling the urgency of environmental conservation and environment

sustainability among the students and staff as well as realised through the following practices:

(i) Events and campaigns:

The college regularly organises various events and campaigns to spread environmental awareness:

Save Paper campaign:

Several Campaigns for discouraging the use of polythene. Several campaigns by Eco-Club and NSS for creating awareness through social media are conducted. Student volunteers interact with the public to generate consciousness among them about the responsible use of natural resources.

(ii) Maintaining a green campus and a medicinal garden:

Our college has a lush green vehicle-free campus. A dedicated area for parking has been allotted near the main gate; vehicle movement and parking on the main campus are prohibited.
The college has about 363 varieties of trees, many species of birds, and aquatic flora and fauna in the pond located inside the campus that balances the ecosystem of the surrounding area.
A medicinal garden on the premises, with nearly 50 different species of medicinal plants, provides a healthful ambiance in the college.

(iii) The Solar Power Plant:

A 10 KWH solar-power plant was installed on the college rooftop and has been operational since December 2016.

(iv) Solar Lights:

The campus is enlightened with street solar lights throughout the campus.

(v) Vermicompost Unit

The Vermicompost Unit of our college converts green and food waste to vermicompost, being used in the college garden.

(vi) Biogas plant:

Bio-gas plant installed in the campus which supplies LPG to the hostel kitchen is an eco-friendly approach.

(vii) Rainwater harvesting:

A network of pipes collects the rainwater from the roof-tops and channelizes them to the water body inside the campus.

Evidence of Success:

Reduction in electricity:

The electricity bill of the college has considerably reduced after the successful implementation of the rooftop solar power plant.

Reduced carbon footprint:

The college has significantly reduced the carbon footprint that occurs because of conventional sources of power generation.

Use of solar lamps:

Following the example of our college, other institutions have made efforts to install solar power plants in their premises. Students and staff in the college have been using solar lamps instead of electric lamps.

Genuine awareness among staff and students:

We have been to able create awareness amongst staff and students of our college regarding the environment and the need for sustainability. Our students have received appreciation from the public during several campaigns; many have promised to use the resources wisely and make all efforts to protect and conserve the environment.

Problems encountered and resources required:

Heavier initial cost and investments:
Shifting to renewable resources is a costly affair and support and involvement from the government front is a prerequisite in terms of financial assistance and subsidy.

Greater Challenges in motivating all academic fraternities:

The whole fraternity needs to be educated and motivated toward sustainability. Continuous efforts are made to create a general shift in the mindsets of the students and college staff toward promoting environmental consciousness.