

## **BEST PRACTICES**

### **Title of the Practice : Reach to Unreached**

#### **1. Goals**

- To attract and retain the rural talent in higher education
- To empower and shape the rural and backward masses by providing higher education.
- To investigate the condition of socially and educationally backward classes.
- To acquaint with difficulties and barriers of rural and backward communities regarding higher education.
- To increase the enrolment to higher education and find out the possible remedies.

#### **The Context**

The college is located in rural, hilly and drought prone area. The most of the people are engaged in farming and sugar factory labourers.. The higher education is the backbone of modern society It has the power to transform human beings into human resources. The higher education is an instrument to build future generation. In India majority of the higher educational institution are urban-centric. The rural population is deprived of quality higher education. The gross enrollment ratio of the rural students is very poor in the rural area,the situation is very worse for female population. The practice is in relevance to the mission statement of the college. **Dnyanam Param Dheyam** knowledge is the ultimate aim. The practice focuses on developing India as knowledge society. Most of the students are the first generation learners so they must be attracted and retained in higher education and this practice is useful for this reason

#### **The Practice**

The college has started the practice form the inception of the college in 1997. The practice is aimed at to provide access to rural students in higher education and to increase the enrollment of economically weak and backward communities in the college. The college has formed groups of teachers and allotted 2 villages for a group of two teachers for the propagation and extension of higher education in rural area in college periphery .

The team of teachers visits the allotted village and conducts corner meetings with parents, students and the villagers. The teachers have prepared the lists of alumni of the college, who resides in the village and take their help in the implementation of the practice. The team submits the detailed report of the visits to the principal. The database in prepared on the basis of reports received from the teachers and used for further contact and admission. The team of teachers visits the feeding junior colleges where the prospective students are available and arrange a guidance lecture for students highlighting importance of higher education .The team prepares the lists of 12<sup>th</sup> passed students in various streams like Arts, Commerce, Science etc. and visit door to door to contact with the students and parents.

The team of teachers gives information to the students about importance of higher education, the courses available in the college, the information about various government schemes and scholarships and concessions available to the students belonging to SC, ST, OBC, NT. SBC and

economically weaker section of the society and differently-abled persons. The faculty members guide students to choose the stream and subject combination as per the student's interest.

**Evidence of success**

The practice has proved useful to improve the educational status of the people who live in the college periphery. The enrollment of students from SC, ST, OBC, NT, SBC and specially women have increased notably in last five years. The awareness about higher education has increased in the parent and the parent personally taking lead in the education of girls.

**Problems encountered and resources required:**

The college has encountered the following problems while implementing the practice.

- The mindset of the villagers about women education is negative.
- The most of the students can't afford higher education so they prefer work for wages to education.
- The means of transportation from village to college are limited.
- The early marriages of girls stop their higher education

## **Best Practice – 2**

### **Title of the Practice:**

#### **Financial Assistance to Economically Weak Students.**

#### **Goal:**

- To help the economically weak students.
- To reduce the dropout rate of the students.
- To bring the low-income group student in main stream of education.
- To provide opportunity of higher education to rural students.
- To provide financial assistance to students coming from rural areas.
- To make education available to all irrespective of their social and economic status.

#### **The context:**

The college is situated in rural area most of the students are from low income group so rural youth have generally been left behind the mainstream of higher education. The college faculty members have noticed that lack of money is the main reason of high dropout rate. Before receiving degree most of the students leave college. As they decide to earn money by working full time than pursuing unaffordable degree. It is found that half of the student, who left college have annual income under Rs.1 lakh. The lack of parent support and financial support result in dropouts.

The college is located in drought prone zone. The people from this region are always in search of work and wages. The parents are either farmers or sugar factory laborers. The students have to work in their farm. This practice is initiated to bring economically weak students in the main stream of education. The college provides financial assistance to poor and deserving student's through contribution from faculty and alumni.

#### **The Practice :**

The practice was proposed by the Principal and considered in the meeting of the alumni and the decision was taken to raise funds and help the economically weak students by the joint venture of the college staff members and the Alumni Association. The college has started the scheme of financial assistance to the students of the college belonging to the economically weaker sections of the society. The college has evolved an objective and transparent mechanism for the disbursement of financial assistance. The Principal has formed a joint committee of the faculty members and the alumni members. The fund is raised through the monthly pigmy contribution of faculty members and the alumni. The collected amount is deposited in the joint account of the principal and the alumni association.

The scheme is open to all the students of the college .However, the faculty members assess the economic condition/financial requirement of the students , taking into account factors like the livelihood pattern of the family, the locality of habitation of the family, the nature and number of

dependents, the socioeconomic status of the family, the financial needs of the students and academic performance in previous examination and other relevant parameters .The faculty members interact with the parents and relatives of the students. In certain cases, the committee may recommend physical inspection of the home and living standard of the family to assess the economic condition. The faculty members recommend the names of needy students to the principal.

The previous academic performance is taken into account to grant the financial assistance. The recommendation letter of the counseling committee is attached along with application from .The list of applicants who are approved financial assistance is displayed on the notice board of the college. The Differently abled students are given preference in financial assistance In case of “Single girl child, applicants the committee considers it kindly and appropriately for financial assistance to promote the overall gender justice and women empowerment in the society.

### **Evidence of success:**

The practice is in relevance with the institutional goal **Dnyanam Param Dhayam**. The ultimate aim is to spread knowledge in the society. The practice helps the college to strengthen the social relationship and ensures the social commitment of the college towards the student. The college has taken this initiative from last two years 2014-15, 2015-16.

Ten students have been benefited by this innovative scheme of the college. The practice proved as a blessing to the students form low income group .The students who were leaving higher education due to monetary reasons have remained in the main stream of education due the financial support given by the faculty and the alumni. The dropout rate of the girl students has reduced. This practice is appreciated by the parent, students, and the alumni. The practice has encouraged alumni to contribute to the college and society. The alumni share an experience of sensitivity and social responsibility. The performance of the students who have received assistance is improved in curricular and extra-curricular activities

### **Problems Encountered and Resource Required**

The college encountered following problems during the implementation of practice. The applicants are more and the fund is not sufficient so the fund should be raised. The maximum students in our college are form economically weak section of the society only few are benefited. The counseling of the parents of the girl students was challenging and difficult. The same students are applying for the next academic year. It is difficult to select the needy students because the demand is greater and the fund isn't sufficient as compared to the strength of the economically weak and needy students

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