

Role of Best Practices in Higher Education

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ABSTRACT

Education has become an important aspect of human development and personality and also for educational institutions especially higher educational institutions. Higher education plays a vital role in career building of students. There are continuous changes in culture and skills of students. So there is an urgent need to think about the quality, standard and output of higher education. Different institutes implement different quality levels for imparting higher education. Present paper contains some of the best practices having visible impact on growth and development of students as well as society. NAAC advocates the IQAC of colleges and universities to record and establish at least one best practice every year. The establishing of best practice is a way towards means of quality improvements. In the present paper an attempt has been made to describe best practices implemented in our own college i.e. Government College, Chhachhrauli (Yamuna Nagar).

Key Words: Human Development, Higher Education, NAAC, Best practice, NSS, Aatam Nirbhar

Introduction:

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

- Nelson Mandela

Higher education plays a vital role in career building of students. So there is an urgent need to think about quality, standards and output of higher education. Different quality levels must be therefore implied in imparting of higher education. Different institutes apply and develop different best practices as far as the purpose of NAAC is concerned. Best practices generally inculcate the qualities how one should live and interact in society. NAAC advocates the IQAC of colleges and universities to record and establish one best practice every year. The establishing of best practices is a way towards means of quality improvement. Best practices are those which add value to human life and support the main cause of institutions. So identification of best practices is really an important step for IQAC for the development of any institutions as a source or means or platform of social responsibility. After identification of best practices comes the step of implementation of best practices. At this step it is important to remove any hurdle which comes in the way of implementation of best practices. After implementation of best practices falls the importance of creating an atmosphere in the institution for the institutionalization of best practices. After institutionalization of best practices falls the importance of dissemination of best practices or the development of platform to provide best practices. An ideal platform will definitely enhance and boost the influence of best practices in the institution. In our

institution two committee members of NSS and Beti Bacho and Beti Padhao work full potential to give proper shape to the best practices planned. Different activities are organized in both these schemes and clubs to make the youth responsible for the society. In our College, we plan the co-curricular activities of National Service Scheme to make the students social.

Best Practices :

The National Service Scheme was launched in 1969, the birth centenary year of the Father of Nation, by the Government of India. The NSS (National Service Scheme) is part of our academic, social and personal growth as it is important dimension of education system. It allows the student to actively contribute their service for the cause of community and nation, helping them to develop their personality and attain the traits of a leader of the nation. As such, NSS is the right platform where the student, youth of the nation get involve with real life social activities and thereby become responsible citizen of India.

Our college has one NSS unit which starts its activities in beginning of the academic session with the full support of NSS volunteers under the leadership of Programme officer. After looking into the students' caliber we find students who are very interested to involve themselves with some activities that eventually make them happy during their stay in the College as students.

NSS unit of this college starts best practices for overall development of students. NSS unit of the College implements regular activities prepared in advance like special camps in rural areas to develop overall personality of the volunteers.

Apart from this, NSS unit also spreads awareness among youth about blood donation, hygiene and prevention from various diseases like cancer, AIDS, Malaria, and Diarrhea as epidemics. NSS volunteers conduct a wide range of activities like cleanliness programme, special camp, surveys, observance of important days awareness campaigns, tree plantation etc.

In last few years our College had implemented various welfare, upliftment schemes and awareness programme for the rural people through NSS.

In 2016-17 the NSS unit converted a village named Urjani of district Yamuna Nagar digital through digital India campaign. NSS volunteers worked with villagers and also built a wall of the school which was accidentally damaged. NSS Programme Officer Dr. Ramesh Kumar utilized the energy of volunteers and inculcated national integration and social harmony practices among volunteers.

Apart from this one of the main programmes of NSS organized in our College is Blood Donation. NSS unit of the college develops the habit of donating blood in many blood donation camps. Many volunteers named Rajesh, Deepak, Aniket, Mohit, and Bhupinder have donated blood several times. These volunteers also organized blood donation camps in their villages for the social service of the society.

Tree plantation is also carried out every year through the NSS unit. Our NSS unit has planted approximately 600 plants/saplings and volunteers take care of plants. Our college is lush green due to many plantation campaign driven by NSS unit of the College. Under the leadership of NSS Programme officer many other social activities were also organized to aware volunteers for various campaigns of the Government like Road Safety awareness programme, Blood Donation Rallies, Nukkad Natak on various social issues, Poshan Pakhwara , Voter Day, Jal Shakti Abhiyaan, Swachta Pakhwara, Plastic free Campaign etc.

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao is a campaign of the government of India that aims to generate awareness and improve the efficiency of welfare services intended for girls in India. Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the citizens of his adopted village Jayapur said, "Let us celebrate the birth of the girl child. We should be equally proud of our daughters. I urge you to sow five plants when your daughter is born to celebrate this occasion." As far as implementation of this scheme in our institute is concerned, various programmes are organized to achieve factual results. The objective of this scheme is to achieve the outcomes of ending female infanticide and foeticide in India. This scheme ensures that girl child deprived of access to education finds a path way to education. With access to education comes a transformation in decision making. Various activities in our college are organized by concentrating on the following themes of Beti Bacho and Beti Padheo:

- To help remove gender based discrimination and elimination.
- To protect the girl child
- To provide the girl child education and enable her participation in all spheres of life.

By conducting various activities and campaigns the girl students specially of B.A. 1st year are motivated to spread the message of this scheme in the society. Rallies are also conducted to initiate the spread of the objective of the scheme. Our college is trying to stand to the philosophy that women with adequate skills and knowledge have the power to bring socio-economic change for the welfare of all. At present our college is promoting the importance of girls' education widely in nearby rural areas.

Apart from these two best Practices, one of the best practice which has come in our mind is of "Aatam nirbhar Bharat" which has strike in our mind after attending a meeting at Guru Nanak Khalsa College, Yamuna Nagar regarding "Aatam nirbhar Haryana" The vice chancellor of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra (KUK), Professor Somnath Sachdeva, Controller of Examinations Dr. Ankeshwar Prakash were present in the meeting who welcomed views of principal and nodal officers of the schemes regarding Aatam nirbhar Haryana.

Really this is a very good initiative and adopting this as one of best practice cannot be compared with any best practices. We should plan in advance how we can guide our students to become "Aatam nirbhar" through the project "Aatam nirbhar Bharat" abhiyaan of the government, we can make the mind of our youth to think of their own caliber .After identification of the caliber students and youth can think of using the caliber as the source of earning with the help and support of the institution specially higher education institutes. This vision of the government will definitely lead the way to 'self- reliant India' or "self- sufficient India". Government of India is taking several steps or initiatives to ensure that people of India are well prepared to face the challenges and threats posed by COVID -19.The exemplary role played by India in global fight against COVID -19 has been recognized and appreciated widely. Resources of our country are really prosperous. Even in an epidemic like corona virus our country did not ask for help to any country during the lockdown. Our country is capable enough that even in an emergency situation, the Indian government has given life to millions of people.

Conclusion:

In higher education with little efforts of staff we can make students to become self- reliant. So making our institutions self – reliant is really an appreciable step towards best practices. Higher institutions can also think of Aatam nirbhar Bharat as one of the best practices which will be very good initiatives to be different from other institutions. There are a large number of best practices to be adopted by higher

education institutions but it depends on the team of the institutions to choose and apply few of them. In our opinion students' opinions may also be called regarding implementation of best practices through which they can work like a team with the staff to implement best practices successfully.

References:

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