

## **Best Practice-1**

### **Title of the Practice- “Book Bank Scheme”**

#### **Objectives of the Practice:**

- ❖ To make academic books easily available throughout the year
- ❖ To provide free access of books to the students,
- ❖ To provide service to the needy students to successfully complete their educational Pursuit.

#### **The context:**

As the college is located in rural and hilly area, academic books are not available in the nearby market and our college library lends only one books for one week. Consequently, the students do not get easy access of the books. So the college decided to run a book bank scheme through the college central library for the students.

**The Practice:** The college central library circulated a notice about the book bank scheme and invited applications from the students at the beginning of the every academic year. The Text books sets were distributed for one year free usage to the students from all the three faculties on the ‘first come first serve’ basis.

**Evidence of Success:** Every year large number of the needy students took benefit of the scheme. No. of beneficiaries was 86 in 2017-18, 76 in 2018-19.

**Problems Encountered and Resources Required:** Every year there was need of a big amount of money to buy the books. Shree Siddhivinayak Ganapati Temple Trust, Mumbai made the books available for free of cost.

## **Best Practice-2**

**Title of the Practice:** 'Malikarjun Green Hill Project'.

**Goal:** Restoration of green vegetation on Malikarjun Hill.

**3. The Context:** Malikarjun Hill is a historical place in the history of Goregaon which is mentioned in Raigad District Gazetteer. A temple is situated at the top of the hill named as "Mallikarjun Temple" - Lord Shiva. This hill was regarded as a place of devotion and prayer as it was surrounded with large number of sky touching trees. In earlier years, some of the eminent persons of Goregaon constructed steps for the convenience of villagers through public contribution under the leadership of Shri. R. P. Doshi (Doshi Vakil). The villagers of surrounding vicinity were visiting temple frequently along with their children as it was a place of attraction. But the cyclone named as 'Fayan' ruined everything by destroying giant trees, medicinal plants and fauna on the hill. It was reported by the forest department that more than 2000 trees were collapsed. This has resulted in converting the green hill into barren hill. In the year 2016-2017, the survey was undertaken by the institution on the Mallikarjun hill and decided to restore the hill by organizing tree plantation through NSS, NCC and Nature Club. This project is named as "Mallikarjun Green Hill Project", which will be continued till the entire hill gets restored with most of the traditional trees.

**4. The Practice:** The project – "Mallikarjun Green Hill Project" has been conducted by NSS, NCC and Nature Club in the following manner:

1. Meetings with Students: The departments organise meetings of volunteers, cadets, and the members of nature club. The objectives and aims of project are explained to the students. The students are grouped and duties are assigned to plant and conserve trees.
2. Meeting with Villagers and Forest Department Officers: On discussing the preliminary plan with students, the plan is kept before the villagers and forest department to seek their support. In last several meetings, the villagers were convinced to take care of trees along with students. For this purpose, the forest department has been extending cooperation by all means.
3. Survey of Plantation Area: The Principal, staff members and students undertake survey of the hill in the month of April to select the area.
4. Digging of Pits: On surveying and selection of plantation area, the Forest Department is informed accordingly and the institution communicates the date to undertake digging of pits work in the month of May every year. The Forest Department officials help in drawing pits design. The students undertake digging work with cooperation to each other. The maximum number of pits is dig by considering land softness. The pits kept open as the heat of Sun make the pits bacteria free.
5. Rally for tree Plantation: One day prior to the actual tree plantation, a rally is organized by carrying plants, posters and pluck cards to pursue awareness of tree plantation and conservation.

6. Tree plantation Programme: From the month of June to August, the tree plantation programme is conducted in different phases with the help of Forest Department Officials. The eminent persons are called to deliver lecture on environmental issues and tree plantation drive wherein the programme is inaugurated by them.

7. Protection of Plants from Forest Fire: Our students take efforts by digging a long border around the area where trees are planted. This work is undertaken in the month of September. Forest fire is a big hurdle for the growth of trees. The forest officer and Ex-Forest Rangers Shri Mangesh Pethe extends his expertise in this context.

8. Conservation of Trees: The NSS, NCC and Nature Club assign duties to the students to pour water to the plants in hot session of October and March to June. The groups of students under the control of faculty members take care of plants allotted to them.

**Evidence of Success:**

- Till the date, about 1500 plants are planted on 15000 Sqm. area of Mallikarjun Hill.
- About 70% of the trees are grown fully resulting in restoring the beauty of hill.
- Beautiful greenery attracts every passer-by.
- The continuous access of students to Mallikarjun Hill has generated environmental awareness and sense of environmental responsibilities among villagers.
- The note of this project is taken by Forest Department & Samajik Vanikaran Vibhag of Government of Maharashtra.
- The students of Botany Department have collected and taken photographs of 60 plus species of medicinal plants and about 80 plus species of wild trees, which are recorded and compiled.
- The local newspaper has taken notice of it and published photographs and news.

**Problems Encountered and Resources Required:**

- Every year there was need of a big amount of money to buy the Plants.
- The Forest fire is a big hurdle for the growth of trees