

Best Practices

Best Practice No. 1

1. Title of the Practice: Presenting a Book in place of Bouquet

2. Objectives of the Practice:

1. Develop reading culture among students
2. Avoid environmental imbalance and conserve it
3. Save Money, Time and Energy
4. Motivate others for taking up such practices

3. The Context:

The usual practice followed in the college was to welcome and greet guests and dignitaries with Shawl, Coconut, a garland with flowers or a bouquet for every function. When the institution organized a National Seminar on Indian Science Literature on 21-22 December, 2012, the same practice was followed which the Resource Persons did not appreciate. They drew our attention to wastage of time, money and the damage it does to the environment. We thought over it and the Management supported saying it was not only wastage of time and money but also of energy. It automatically created a mental pressure on the minds of the concerned committee members due to non-availability of the flowers in the locality. As a result, the college had to send a person to bring it from a nearby city. Eventually, in order to get rid of this, it was decided to replace this practice with a book

4. The Practice:

Since 2012, the institution is following the practice of presenting a book in place of bouquet to guests, speakers who visit the institution for every function. As the practice goes, the guests or the speakers are greeted with a book and rose flower only regardless of his /her political, academic or social status and power. That is to say, we treated all guests equally from Chairman of the Governing Body to the Key-note speaker of a National Conference who visited the institution. Again, we take care to present book which is either a biography, an autobiography of a national hero, a social reformer or great thinkers and philosophers. Some of the books which are in our list are written on or by Chh. Shivaji Maharaj, Chh. Shahu Maharaj, Swami Vivekanand, Mahatama Gandhi, A. P. J. Abdul Kalam etc. We also take care to present English or Hindi Books to non-Marathi guests as the case may be. The books are kept in the library and a separate record is kept by the Librarian. The concerned committee takes the required number

of copies of books from the library and the practice is followed. The practice is not only confined to guests but also to all stakeholders of the institution, be it a Chairman of the Managing Council, Principal, Teacher, Parent or a Student. Whosoever he or she may be, an ideal student, an Alumnus or a teacher who is honoured or awarded a degree also receives the same kind of greeting in the institution.

5. Evidence of Success:

8 years after introduction of the best practice, we have received appreciation from all guests and stakeholders. They are now familiar with this and are encouraging us to continue it in future. Some students have also confessed that this practice has inculcated reading interest in them and now every day they read something.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

Initially, when the practice was implemented first in 2012, majority of the teachers thought it inconvenient and unacceptable as they were afraid of what the Guests or Resource Persons would say or feel about it. To some extent they proved right. Some guests even did not like the new practice and some others gave a negative and harsh comment on it. They took it to be their insulting and humiliating experience. Even some made fun of the practice saying that the institution was making a meaningless and funny attempt to save money. Still, we stucked to our policy and continued to follow the same practice in spite of adverse comments from visitors. The second obstacle which came in the way was making selection of books. Teachers used to suggest names of books of their choice and interest but it did not work properly for reading interests differ from person to person. Finally, it was decided to buy books written on national heroes, leaders and social reformers including their biographies, autobiographies. To avoid eleventh hour rush, it was decided to purchase the books in bulk so that any time it could be made available in the function. Funds and availability of good books, rose flower and above all pro-environment and pollution free perspective of the guests.

Best Practice No. 2

1. Title of the Practice: Girl Adoption Scheme

2. Objectives of the Practice:

1. Provide financial, educational help to poor and promising girl student
2. Offer consultation to student and her parents
3. Encourage adopted students to go for P.G. studies
4. Provide them text books, reference books on personal account
5. Awaken them of their rights and gender equity

3. The Context:

Since its inception in June 1983, the institution has been trying hard to bring girl students to higher education. Fortunately, during the last five years, it has succeeded in it and now after every 100 students 60 students are girl students. However, majority of them come of poor and economically backward families. As a result, they could not come to college because of their domestic and financial problems. The institution then thought over it and decided to provide some help for the poor and promising students among them. The Principal then appealed every teacher to adopt one girl student every year. The faculty agreed to it and each teacher adopted a girl student every year and shouldered her responsibility throughout the year.

4. The Practice:

First of all, the teacher selects the needy, poor and promising girl under the scheme and explains her about the scheme. Usually, he/she adopts a girl student who belongs to department or who opts his subject at Part I or II. Sometimes he may adopt a girl from any faculty or from any class. Then he talks to the parents of the adopted girl and if needed. Once she joins the scheme, the teacher then asks her to fill in the required form in which she is asked to write down her personal and family details along with her family and financial problems if any. The teacher then helps her financially and educationally as and when she needs. Normally, her Admission fees, State Transport Monthly Bus Fare, Examination Fees, Tour and travelling expenses are paid by the teacher. Besides, she is given financial help as she demands. In addition to this, she is helped educationally. The teacher provides her all-possible help with regard to counselling and guidance. As and when, she makes a demand for books; the teacher gives her on his account.

5. Evidence of Success:

The practice proved to be very beneficial to girls and their family. One of the reasons for growth in girl students lies in the fact that girl students make mouth publicity and many girls have sought admission in the college

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

No problems encountered. Resources required such as Admit form, funds, extra time for counselling adopted girl and her parents.