

BEST PRACTICES – 2021-22

Best Practice 1:

Title: Green Campus Initiatives

1. Objectives of the Practice

SR&BGNR Govt Arts and Science College, Khammam initiates eco-friendly practices and environmentally sustainable activities. The college aims to build a campus that produces minimum waste, protects biodiversity, conserves energy and saves the natural resources. With the help of NSS and NCC units, the staff and students are striving towards the clean and green campus to make it the largest urban greenery in the fastest growing city of Telangana.

2. The Context

Khammam is one of the growing cities in Telangana state and our college is located in the heart of the city, on either side of which two major roads with heavy vehicular traffic pass. The college has a campus sprawling in an area of 33 acres. Since the establishment, the college has been trying to make its premises green and clean. In the due course of time there is an increase in the building activity and expansion of roads to facilitate transport in the city. As the urbanization increases there is felling of trees and loss of green cover, which in turn led to poor air quality and increase the temperature. Khammam also has granite quarries and sizing units on its outskirts, which further worsen the situation. Presently the college green campus is acting as a lung space in the crowded heart of the city with its huge lush green trees.

3. The Practice

- The college initiated its afforestation program by establishing an arboretum under the title “Stambadri vrikshasthali” by planting 259 kinds of tree species and 150 types of medicinal plants in an area of six acres, in its premises 25 years back. Since then there is an increase in the green cover by plantation drives and establishment of different gardens.
- Use of plastic is banned in college campus. Students are made aware of the situation by conducting “Plastic Free Drives” in the middle of every semester.
- Automobiles are allowed up to the parking area only. Barricades were arranged at suitable places to restrict the movement of vehicles in the campus.
- The college has good landscaping and different types of saplings are planted every year in special programs like “Telangana ku Haritha Haram” (Green Garland to Telangana) during every monsoon season.
- Well grown teakwood plantation covers about 2-acres on both sides of the main building .
- Bamboo and Coconut plants in the college have grown up to a good size.
- Flower garden is being maintained by the department of Botany.
- Trees like Mango, Neem, Indian Gooseberry, Almond, Java Plum, Kanuga, Mahua, Jack Fruit etc. are spreading green cover in the campus.
- Green & Environment audit is conducted every year in the college with the involvement of Botany, Physics, Chemistry and Computer Science departments. The college is certified with A+ by the department of Environmental Sciences, Osmania University, Hyderabad.
- Energy audits are done every year to minimize the usage of energy. All the stakeholders are periodically educated on the importance of minimizing the usage of electrical energy and water. Relevant signage is displayed at suitable places.
- The college is using solar energy and darkness sensor based rechargeable LED lighting systems to illuminate outdoor areas during late hours.
- All the lighting sources used in the college are energy efficient LED lights. All the fans in the college are replaced with energy efficient and remote controlled BLDC technology fans.

- The solid wastes generated in the campus are disposed of in a systematic way. Dustbins are placed at necessary places in the campus to collect the wastes. The institution had an agreement with Khammam Municipal Corporation (KMC) in regard to the solid waste management. KMC teams periodically visit the college to collect solid waste accumulated in the campus. Three compost pits were established in the campus. The biodegradable waste and leaves of trees are dumped into the pits for decomposition. The manures produced from this process are used for the plants in the college garden. Other non-biodegradable and non-recyclable wastes are disposed of with the help of municipal authorities.
- Liquid waste generated in the campus is disposed of in a systematic way through a proper drainage system.
- Students and teachers are sensitized about the adverse effects of e-wastes. Source reduction is achieved through minor repairs of devices by the lab assistants and major repairs by technician and reused. Commissioner of Collegiate Education, Telangana State, Hyderabad (CCE-TS, HYD) periodically issues orders to remove e-wastes accumulated in the colleges in the state. Accordingly, a committee is formed to identify and dispose of the e-waste accumulated in the departments.
- In the chemistry department, a fume hood is installed to pump out the fumes released in the lab. Exhaust fans are installed at necessary places. The hazardous chemical wastes in the laboratories are also reduced by adopting semi-micro/micro-techniques.
- The experiments involving toxic chemicals are changed as demonstration experiments. The experiments involving carcinogenic solvents are replaced with computational modelling. The disposal of hazardous solutions is done after dilution.
- One course each is offered related to sustainability by the Dept. of Chemistry, Microbiology and Biotechnology. The PG projects are undertaken giving due emphasis to more green, involving lesser chemicals, solvents and using alternative techniques like solvent free, microwave and ultrasonic techniques. Experiments Related to radioactive substances were replaced with virtual lab models.
- Rain water harvesting pits are constructed at suitable places to recharge the groundwater levels.
- Waste water from the RO plant is channelized to plants in the campus
- Water resources and distribution systems are periodically checked and maintained by the administrative wing to minimize wastage and continuous functioning. The expenditure is met from the available funds.
- A bicycle day is observed once in a month, on which no automobiles are allowed into the campus.
- The Save soil campaign is conducted every year.
- Three NSS units, Eco-club and all the departments initiates awareness programmes on Earth day, Ozone Day, World Environment Day etc.,
- The department of Botany initiated QR Coding to all the plant species in the college premises.

4. Evidence of Success:

- The green and clean campus is now an abode for the morning walk for the urban dwellers.
- The sounds of singing birds are evident that the college premises have become a hub for many local fauna especially avian species.
- One can experience the coolness in the premises especially during the summer season due to reduction in temperature by green cover.
- Many school and college students of the vicinity visit the campus to take a look at different tree species because of its tree diversity.
- The institution is graded with A+ for the last two years by the Green Audit and Environmental Audit done by the department of Environmental Studies, Osmania University, Hyderabad.
- It was awarded with 'Best Eco-Friendly Campus' by the Pollution Control Board.
- The campus is clean and green, records at least two degrees of less temperature compared with the rest of Khammam City.
- The Arboretum maintained by the department of Botany with more than 259-varieties of medicinal plants, is useful for many students of Botanical research.

5. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

- It is very difficult to protect the Green Cover during hot summer as the temperature of the city crosses 50 degrees Celsius.

- In Spite of several precautions and care, the flower garden and small plants could not be sustained during COVID-19 lock down. Hence the plantation of saplings was delayed.
- In Spite of several campaigns, 'Zero plastic' campus cannot be achieved due to the visitors and others arriving for writing the competitive exams and attending web counseling sessions conducted by the Telangana State Council of Higher Education (TSCHE).

<http://ccets.cgg.gov.in/Uploads/files/buttonDetails/72440.pdf>

Best Practice 2:

1. TITLE OF THE PRACTICE:

BOOK READERS CLUB (Read to Lead - Lead to Read)

The college has been running the Readers Club for many years to foster the reading culture among the students. It was given a significant structure after its inauguration by Sri. Nama Nageshwar Rao, honorable Member of

Parliament, honourable Minister Sri. Puvvada Ajay Kumar, honorable Member of Legislative Council Balasani Lakshmi Narayana, Dr. Papa Lal, Chairman, Khammam Municipal Corporation and Sri. R. V. Karnan, District collector, Khammam on 14th November 2019. It was started with the slogan "READ TO LEAD, LEAD TO READ" with hundred students. The minister Sri. Puvvada Ajay Kumar, an alumnus of the college, inaugurated a poster of 'International Intellectuals' and gave some reference books to the students.

2. OBJECTIVES:

- To promote reading culture among the students.
- To provide citizenship education through
- To develop empathy

3. CONTEXT:

As the negative side of technology influences the students a lot, they are going far away from reading culture. To change the behavior and attitude of students, our institution tries to change the habits of students. So the college decided to inculcate the good habit of reading on a regular basis and started Book Readers Club.

4. THE PRACTICE:

The student members of Readers Club initiated a unique programme named "Aavishkarana" where the students on their own select a book to be reviewed. One student will be the chief guest and the other student will introduce and review the book to the audience (students). This programme is intended to unveil the innate talents of students in public speaking, reading and reviewing the books. This Programme declares the critical thinking and analysing power of the students. So far, 50 books have been read in the club.

BOOKS READ BY THE READERS CLUB

Around 100 books were read during 2019-2022. Names of some of the books:

1. Totto Chan: A Little Girl at the Window
2. Railu Badi
3. Ammaku Adivaram Leda
4. Roots
5. Edutaraalu

6. Prem Chand's Gaban
7. Jack London's The Wolf
8. Stories of O. Henry
9. P B. Shelley Quotes
10. Bandipotlu feminist poem.
11. Stories of Leo Tolstoy
12. Ikigai: The Japanese Secret to a Long and Happy Life
13. Wings of Fire by APJ Abdul Kalam
14. Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre
15. Train to Pakistan by Khushwant Singh
16. The Guide by R.K. Narayan
17. The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy
18. A Suitable Boy by Vikram Seth
19. Nectar in a Sieve by Kamala Markandaya
20. White Tiger by Arvind Adiga
21. Malgudi Days by RK Narayan
22. Ravi Shastri Kathalu
23. Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
24. The Happy Prince by Oscar Wilde
25. Kotavatigati Kutumbarao's Chaduvu

5. EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS

- It has been observed that the students have shown a keen interest in reading the books even in the online mode during lockdown period.
- Many of the students have willingly participated in readers club activities which have given them an opportunity to envision actions embossed with quality.
- It became student-centric and students started managing the sessions on their own.
- Seminars Organised by students: Motivated by the Book Readers club, students started to conduct seminars by themselves.

6. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED

- No separate room for Readers Club. We approached the Municipal Commissioner of Khammam for the construction of a Reading Hut and the process is going on.
- Separate books are needed for Readers Club and received around 1000 books from donors.

THE ANNIVERSARY

The students started participating very actively in this activity since its inception. Readers Club celebrated its first anniversary online due to the covid- 19 lockdown in 2020. Prof. Banna Ilaiyah, a senior professor at Kakatiya University and Principal of Arts and Science College, Hanmakonda appreciated the faculty and students for their efforts and encouraged the members of the Readers Club to continue their activities. Dr. S. Raghu, a poet and Professor of Telugu from University College for Women, Koti, Hyderabad and Dr. Koyi Koteswarrao, Assistant Professor of Telugu, GDC(W), Nalgonda motivated the students by delivering inspiring messages.

Readers Club has continued its activities even during the pandemic period through online mode.

Online workshop on the occasion of World Language Day was conducted on 24.04.2022. Its Caption is "You are a Reader - Let's Read"
