



Criterion 7: Institutional Values and Best Practices ***Key Indicator - 7.2 Best Practices***

Metric 7.2.1(QIM): Two Best Practices ***successfully implemented by the Institution***

Best Practice No. 1

Title of the practice: "Women Empowerment through Skill Development"

Objectives:

Besant Women's College has embraced Annie Besant's mission in accordance with her 1903 speech to the Theosophical Society of India and the pamphlet titled "The Education of Indian Girls," both of which stressed the importance of continued effort towards women empowerment. It aims:

- To empower young women socially, economically and legally
- To improve employability skills and cultivate entrepreneurial skills

The Context:

In keeping with the Mission of the college to mould women to be competent enough in the service of the family and society, it is paramount to increase their access to fully realize their capabilities as well as gain control over varied life choices. Gaining new skills increases one's sense of self-worth and opens doors to opportunities and resources that help one become self-reliant.

The Practice:

By empowering young women, the college has set up a platform to improve their employability abilities and entrepreneurial skills through training programmes in order to achieve economic and social independence.

- The activities include, training to write competitive exams, Training on Soft Skills, Interview Skills, Group Discussion, Resume writing, Computer Based Skills, Certificate course on Banking, Finance and Insurance, Corporate Skills, etc.
- To enhance entrepreneurial skills the Women's Cell and EDP Cell conduct workshops on preparing chocolates, biscuits, artificial jewelry, bags etc.

- The college conducts a Certificate course in Tailoring and Beautician which helps economically backward students to earn while learning.
- The Institution trains the students on various Home Management skills like diet and nutritional food preparation, flower arrangement, storytelling techniques etc. which are essential for girls.

Evidence of Success:

- The various entrepreneurial skill development training programmes motivated the students to take up self-employment.
- The Leadership training programme conducted by the HRD Cell empowers the student union leaders to succeed and boost their confidence.
- The accomplishment of numerous college programmes and the organization of the intercollegiate fest "BEQUEST" are examples of well-honed leadership abilities.
- Students of the "BENAKA" theatre drama team demonstrated exceptional theatrical talent at the performances in and outside campus.
- The college hosts an exhibition and sale of the clothing, food and other handicrafts made by the students, demonstrating entrepreneurial aptitude.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

The rural background of the students initially made them apprehensive about their own capabilities and potentials. With proper guidance from the faculty, students could assuage their trepidations and actively involve in all the programmes and attain the required skills and acuity.

- Problems due to financial limitations.
- Inconvenience to the students coming from far-off places to stay back late in the evening, when the activities are conducted after class hours.

Best Practice No. 2

Title of the Practice:

“Inculcation of Social Responsibility through ‘Namma Mane Namma Mara’- Green Initiative Programme”

Objectives:

Besant Women's College is aware of its duty to educate the youth on the importance of conserving the environment. It is the social responsibility of the institution to uplift our locality into a satisfied society.

- To inculcate in the students, responsibility towards environmental protection
- To foster volunteerism and develop an eco-friendly attitude towards nature
- To bring awareness on 3 R's -Reduce, Recycle and Reuse

The Context:

It is necessary for the institution to involve the students in community outreach-based activities which can create enduring partnerships between institutions and communities. The focus behind green initiative programmes is to ensure the sustainability of sufficient water, materials and other resources for our future generation. To promote environmental consciousness and understand the social responsibility various activities like planting saplings, campaigning, street plays etc. are conducted.

The Practice:

The college conducts plantation drives with a theme 'Namma Mane Namma Mara' (Our House our Tree) since 2016, by planting saplings in houses of selected areas. The series of activities like placard making competition with slogans, presentations, street plays and best photography competitions are conducted under this banner in association with Voluntary clubs, Banks, City Corporation, Environmentalists, Forest Department and Social workers. The Department of Secretarial Practice, Student Union Council, Rangers, NSS, Youth Red Cross, Outreach Cell and Environment Club actively participate in this programme.

Cloth bags are distributed to the general public to promote awareness on plastic ban. The students also explain to the public the procedure of waste management and ensure that they keep their compounds clean. Medicinal plants, fruits and flower plants are planted in and around Mangalore City. During the last five years Mannagudda, Urwa, Ullala and Carstreet wards were selected for the plantation drive.

The inauguration takes place by symbolically planting a sapling in any house. Public representatives and Commissioners take part in this programme. The members of Management appreciated this initiative. The oath is taken on environmental protection, wherein it is pledged to follow 3 R's-Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

Evidence of Success:

Implementing the Policy Document on Environment and Energy Usage, the college conducts plantation drives with a theme 'Namma Mane Namma Mara' (Our House our Tree) by planting saplings in more than 50 houses and distributing cloth bags in and around Mangalore city to bring an awareness on banning the use of plastic among the people. In 2018, campaigning was done in and around Ullala Municipal area in association with various clubs, banks, and NGOs. In 2019, the programme was conducted at Mannagudda. The students performed an awareness skit based on the theme environmental protection. Karnataka Devadiaga Association, Hangyo Ice Cream and Lions Club joined hands in this initiative. The students covered around

50 houses in the plantation drive. In 2022, Car Street ward was selected for the campaign. Street play was performed by the students in front of the temple.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

- Maintenance of proper infrastructure for the green practices.
- Financial constraint
- Most of the houses have limited outdoor areas.
- Follow-up action is difficult due to various reasons

Notes:

It is necessary for all the educational institutions to motivate the students to keep environment safe and green. We need to be aware of the consequences of our actions if we want to protect our environment.



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