



Criterion 7 - Institution Values and Best Practices

Key Indicator - Best Practices

QLM 7.2.1 - Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per NAAC format provided in the Manual.

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Best practice 1

Title: Carbon Neutral Bharat

Objective:

To support India's mission of achieving carbon neutrality by 2070 by creating a sustainable, eco-friendly campus at Thakur Ramnarayan College of Arts and Commerce. This initiative aims to reduce the institution's carbon footprint, foster environmental awareness and responsibility among students, and promote practices that contribute to a cleaner, healthier planet.

Context:

In response to the urgent need for sustainable development, Thakur Ramnarayan College of Arts and Commerce launched the "Carbon Neutral Bharat" initiative. Recognizing the impact of environmental degradation, the college has committed to implementing practices that align with India's vision for a carbon-neutral future. Spearheaded by the college's Nature Club, this initiative includes creating green spaces, promoting biodiversity, reducing waste, and fostering a sense of environmental stewardship among students and staff.

Key activities include establishing a butterfly garden and organic vegetable bed on campus, providing students with hands-on learning experiences in sustainable agriculture and ecosystem preservation. Additionally, the college has launched e-waste collection and plastic minimization drives, emphasizing the importance of responsible waste disposal and the reduction of single-use plastics within the campus community.

The Practice:

1. Butterfly Garden:

- Created to promote biodiversity by attracting pollinators, this garden serves as a natural habitat for butterflies and other insects.
- Students care for the garden, learning about plant-pollinator relationships and ecosystem balance.

2. Organic Vegetable Bed:

- Provides practical exposure to sustainable agriculture techniques such as terrace gardening, promoting an alternative to chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- Students maintain the garden, which also supports food sustainability and healthy eating practices.

3. E-waste Collection Drives

- Regular collection and responsible disposal of e-waste reduce environmental hazards and encourage sustainable waste management practices.
- The college collaborates with certified e-waste recyclers to safely process electronic waste.

4. Plastic Minimization Campaign:

- Aims to eliminate single-use plastics within the campus.
- Awareness campaigns and reusable alternatives are promoted to instill eco-friendly habits.

Evidence of Success:

1. Increased Student Participation

- Growing involvement in the Nature Club's activities and maintenance of the butterfly garden and vegetable bed highlights students' interest in sustainable practices.

2. Biodiversity Growth:

- The butterfly garden has attracted a noticeable increase in local butterfly populations, contributing to the biodiversity of the campus.

3. Reduction in E-waste and Plastic Usage:

- E-waste collection drives have prevented substantial quantities of harmful chemicals from entering the environment.

- Reduction in single-use plastics usage across the campus, with many students and faculty adopting reusable alternatives.

4. Environmental Awareness

- Students have become more knowledgeable and proactive about environmental issues, reflecting in their personal habits and choices beyond campus.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

- Training and Awareness programme for faculty and students required.
- More financial assistance is needed.

Best Practice - 2

Title of the Practice - Employability Skill Enhancement Training Model for Students

Objectives:

- Equip students with the necessary competencies, including communication, problem solving, teamwork, and adaptability, to enhance their employability.
- Offer training and education tailored to the needs and demands of various industries, ensuring that students gain relevant expertise.
- Prepare students for the workforce by imparting practical knowledge, professional etiquette, and the ability to navigate the job market effectively.
- Create opportunities for students to connect with potential employers, secure internships, and access career placement services.

The Context

The training model at Thakur Ramnarayan College of Arts & Commerce equips students with key competencies like communication, problem-solving, teamwork, and adaptability to enhance their employability. Tailored to the evolving demands of various industries, the program bridges the gap between academic knowledge and practical application, ensuring students gain relevant expertise.

The Practice

Structured in three phases, the program spans the entire academic journey:

1. Student Development Programme (First Year): Focuses on personality development, decision-making, self-confidence, and communication skills. Faculty conduct sessions every Saturday, incorporating professional ethics and aptitude training.
2. Pre-placement Training Programme (Second Year): Provides practical training on employability skills, particularly aptitude. Industry experts lead the sessions, integrated into the class schedule, with a total of 50 hours of training.
3. Employability Skill Enhancement Programme (Third Year): Delivers customized training to match company-specific requirements. Faculty-led sessions every Saturday blend technical and soft skills to prepare students for employment.

While the model effectively prepares students for the job market, time limitations and the need for additional infrastructure and faculty involvement present challenges to full implementation. Despite these constraints, the program fosters career readiness, enhances professionalism, and connects students with potential employers, internships, and placement services.

Evidence of Success

It was observed that both students and faculty members felt a significant increase in the number of internships and placements secured. The model circulated proved to be an ideal guideline on the approach and methodology to be pursued. Since the pedagogy was majorly activity oriented, it encouraged maximum student participation as they felt highly involved in the entire process. In the academic year 2023-24 the total number of internships were 423 and placements were 181. Students from the Arts department secured their internship and got placed in the area of content writing, videography, photography, digital marketing, counseling, and human resources. Similarly, from the Commerce department students were able to get placed in companies in the field of Finance, Marketing, management, accounting, operations, logistics, and human resources. Students from Information Technology and Computer Science were able to get internships and got placed in the fields of Product Development, Networking, Service management, Database management.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Limitation in available time impedes the training of students.
- More infrastructure and faculty involvement are required for the implementation of the training model.