

7.2.1 BEST PRACTICE - 01

1. **Title of the Practice -:** Community Engagement through outreach and extension activities.

2. **Objective of the practice -:**

As mentioned in the vision, mission and core values, the college focuses on the holistic development of students. Together with academics, students are trained to touch the life of nearby community with spirit of service. In this way students may contribute towards various sustainable development goals and may lead a life as responsible citizen. The major objectives are given as under:

- To make learner sensitive and socially responsible towards under privileged groups.
- To aware nearby community with contemporary social issues and government initiatives for such issues.
- To help students to initiate extension, outreach and social activities in the community in coordination with public and government authorities.
- To improve students' ability to apply in real life what they have learnt in classrooms.
- To provide opportunities to develop civic engagement, inter-personal skills and selfless service in students and staff of the college.
- To link personal and social development with academic growth.
- To make society realize that higher education institutes are ultimately for the progress of society.

3. **The Context -:**

The higher education institute should be able to touch the life of nearby community. There must be some positive changes in society due to establishment of higher education institute in nearby region in comparison to non-existence of it. In any society, all the citizens are not aware with the way of quality life. In spite of continuously progressing on the path of development, India is stuck in many social stereotype evils. On one hand, gender discrimination, drug addiction, illiteracy, poor practice of sanitation, health and hygiene etc. are well known obstacles in the overall development of the society. On the other hand, new initiatives and plans of government for better life is also need to be discussed with common people in the society. There is a need to make continuous meaningful efforts to remove existing obstacles and to prepare the society for better future. People have to be made aware of science and technology to get rid of conservative thinking.

4. **The Practice -:**

The students participate in outreach and extension activities through various platforms/programs in the college given as under:

- National Service Scheme (NSS)- Through NSS one day camp and special day-night seven days camp, students get opportunity to interact with the people of local community. During such programs, awareness campaigns are organized on cleanliness, sanitation and

hygiene, voter awareness, environment protection, girl education, blood donation, health awareness etc. in association of Gram Pradhan. College has adopted 'Tator' village for outreach activities. Every year a different village is chosen for special NSS camp.

- **Anti-Drug Cell:** This cell has been formed to aware students and community about harmful effects of drug addiction. Time to time outreach programs on de-addiction are organized in form of lecture, nukkad natak, rally, awareness campaigns etc. College offers individual counseling also to students and their family members.
- **Committees formed under Mahatma Gandhi National Council for Rural Education (MGNCRE):** Five different committees have been formed in the college under MGNCRE on sanitation and hygiene, waste management, water conservation, energy conservation and greenery. These committees comprise of teaching and non-teaching staff and students. One or two departments are responsible for maintaining one issue as mentioned above in the campus and in nearby community.
- **Field based assignments:** In all the course work under NEP curriculum, 25 marks are allotted for internal assessment and 75 for end semester exams. In 25 marks, 10 marks are for assignments. Students are given field based (near to their residence) assignments on social and environmental issues related to their own subject. This provides an opportunity for students to interact with community and share their knowledge with local people.
- **Informal Internship with local bodies:** IQAC of the college has taken initiative to arrange informal internship of students for 30 hours with local government bodies during winter vacation. Students are told to choose any local body like primary health centre, police station, gram panchayat, tehsil, etc. near their residence. Students work with them for one week and learn the activities useful for society. While learning, students also help the authority of local body to deal with community. Thus students get an excellent opportunity to engage themselves for community work.

Such activities need extra time along with academic responsibilities. Arranging time is one limitation. Outreach and extension activities can be conducted in community near to college due to transport requirement. The time slot is decided according to the availability of persons in the village.

5. Evidence of Success:-

- Several outreach activities on above mentioned social issues were organized by NSS volunteers in village of special camp and in Nainbagh market. Students and volunteers have actively participated in waste management, environment consciousness and cleanliness drive, as a result of which there has been a huge reduction in the generation of waste in the local village Tator and Nainbagh. Local people have reduced the use of polythene and the practice of reuse of polythene is increasing.
- Through anti-drug cell three families were helped for de-addiction on individual basis. Under the anti-drug campaign, many families in Tator and Masras village were pulled out of drug addiction and awareness about drugs is visible among the local public. Many families of

Tator and Masras village have stopped liquor production. Three success stories were published in Uttarakhand Magazine 'Sankalp' dedicated to de-addiction campaign. Several other activities like nukkad natak, rally, lectures were arranged for community. Chairperson of Mahila Mangal Dal Mrs. Sapna Devi advised the local people to stay away from drugs in which the villagers of Tator village were present.

- Under MGNCRE, several outreach activities were conducted in Tator village.
 - i. Ayurvedic Doctor of Primary Health Department Mr. Vineet Rohila and Regional Supervisor Mr. Harbhajan Singh addressed the villagers about the health and hygiene.
 - ii. In order to encourage water conservation and waste management among the local public, Km. Sonika from Nainbagh's Jal Sansthan provided many important information including rain water harvesting.
 - iii. Energy conservation, use of solar panels and Uttarakhand start up policy was also discussed with community people with the help of expert from HYDEL, Nainbagh.
- Students have successfully completed their allotted assignments and internship within their local community near to their residence.
- Such programs strengthen the dialogue bridge between the local public and the college. People develop positive thinking towards higher education.
- The involvement of several local government bodies and organizations in conducting such outreach activities have resulted in a positive atmosphere in local community towards college. Several local bodies have given 'Letter of Appreciation'/'Letter of Reward' to our college.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Financial assistance is required to run the above programs. Financial support is needed for transport and refreshment of students. Due to lack of transport facility, such activities are organized in community near to college. If a place far from college is selected for such activities, number of participating students becomes less.
- Effective public awareness campaign is possible only in collaboration with various government and non-government organizations. The date and time of such programs is decided with consent of experts.
- Outreach programs are organized in addition to all academic responsibilities. To manage time for such activities is somewhat tricky. As students are available in college hours, while villagers are busy in their routine work in day time. Hence, consent of villagers and prior information of program to villagers are also necessary. Therefore, sometimes beneficiaries' busy schedule also becomes a challenge.
- The extreme weather of hilly area in rainy and winter season also plays a role of obstacle in conducting such activities. Hence, the institute sometimes faces challenges of fixing the schedule for social service programme due to the climatic changes, pandemic and compact academic calendar.

7. Notes: The mentoring of students for self-conducting programs is necessary. The activities of NSS and Anti-drug cell are performed by their program/nodal officer. For organizing MGNCRE programs successfully, we have allotted one program to one or two departments. Several national and international days of celebrations have been allotted to a particular department and have been mentioned in college annual activity calendar. Students complete their field based assignments under guidance of their course teacher. For internship program, mentors (teachers) have been allotted to a whole class. Mentors communicate online with students of the class allotted to them in winter vacation and guide them for pursuing internship and help them in preparing the report. In outreach activities of college, not only students and concerned teacher participate, instead non-teaching staff and other teachers also participate with full enthusiasm. We always try to associate an expert person other than our college and representatives of local communities during conduction of such programs.

7.2 Best practice- 02

1. Title of the Practice -: Use of ICT in Teaching and Learning

2. Objective of the Practice-: To make the classroom more attractive, interactive and live, modern tools of pedagogy are required. Modern ICT tools are not only beneficial inside the classrooms; instead they provide the facility to make connection between teachers and students outside the classroom through online modes. The objectives are underlined here:

- Digitally empower the students of the college.
- To introduce the students with modern equipments.
- To get the faculty members of the college acquainted with ICT tools.
- To enhance the communication skills of the students through ICT.
- To promote technical education among the students.
- To provided information about Seminars, Orientation programs and counselling etc. to the students through ICT.
- To conduct online teaching together with offline mode through ICT.

3. The Context-: At present time, digital literacy has become an essential part of mankind. It is necessary for educational institution to use state of the art technology for communication among students. This will uplift the quality of teaching-learning in normal situation along with peculiar circumstances like COVID epidemic. ICT has all the features of quality education like, access, equity and excellence. After COVID, teaching-learning process has got new definitions. It has crossed the boundary of classrooms with boundation of time table. Several new features are added to modern pedagogy tools day by day to make it learner centric. ICT tools have opened the door for students to study anytime and many times as per their convenience.

ICT is useful not only for learners, but also for teachers. Now teachers have facility to record their lectures, to upload their lectures on you tube channel very conveniently. In this way, teachers also get more students besides the students of their own college. It is also noteworthy that once the e-content is created it remains forever and may be used always.

Digital empowerment has become indispensable for smooth functioning of life, especially to the persons in age of their career building. to get acquainted with ICT tools are not only about curriculum, it has ability to introduce students with the world of knowledge. Online teaching mode has come out as strong medium of interaction/communication/meeting in off hours or during vacations. One may participate in seminars/conferences easily via online mode. It saves the time and money both.

Students should be digitally aware to face the challenges of future. Nowadays most of the official work is done through online mode. All the applications are invited through online mode.

4. The Practice-

- College has four smart classrooms with projector, laptop and smart board.
- The seminar hall has projector and screen for display.
- Earlier college had EDUSAT facility up to 2021-22. TV is available for educational channel of DTH.
- There is a computer lab consisting of 12 computers for students.
- Every teacher has computer/laptop in their department.
- In 2022-23, all the students were distributed tablets for adopting ICT tools.
- College library is digitalized using e-Granthalaya software.
- Teachers take their classes in smart classrooms through writing/drawing on smart board/power point presentation/discussing notes etc.
- Few teachers have made their you tube channel and uploaded the videos.
- In COVID period online classes were taken by teachers through Google meet/Zoom platform. At present time also few classes are conducted through online medium.
- Google classroom and blog writing is also used for sharing knowledge.
- Workshops were organized for teachers and students to empower them digitally and get acquainted with ICT tools.
- Study materials in form of video, audio, PDF, pictures, PPT are shared with students through whatsapp group.
- Students' and teachers' whatsapp group is used for sharing notices and other information also.
- Online seminars/workshops are conducted in the college. College staffs participate in online seminars/faculty development programs/workshops/trainings/meetings frequently.
- Quiz is conducted through Google form.
- Value added certificate course has been started on 'Basics of computer'.
- The access of library is available 24X7 through mobile app of e-Granthalaya.
- College staffs and students have membership of National Digital Library of India.
- College staffs and students are encouraged to take advantage of well established online learning platforms like NPTEL, SWAYAM, TV Channels etc.

Constraints/limitation-

- Nainbagh is remote hilly area. There is no vendor to provide internet access to college. Therefore college has no active internet plan of high speed. Although college has wi fi system with installed necessary equipments, but officially college has no high speed internet connection.
- Presently internet is used through personal mobile data. Sometimes personal mobile also faces network problems.

- Most of the students studying in the college are from poor families. They don't have smart phones, computer and laptops. Students have less mobile data, so they hesitate with online mode.
- There is lack of capable technician and equipments at the local level in case of any repairing in installed ICT equipments.

5. Evidence of Success –

- Due to continuous encouragement and guidance all the teaching staffs take the classes through smart board. They share study materials in form of e-content.
- You tube channels have been developed for uploading videos based on curriculum.
- Soft skills development program, Digital Literacy Training Program, digital awareness workshop was conducted in the college for students.
- ICT promotion workshop was conducted in the college for teachers.
- Students participate in online quiz, feedback collection through Google form. The students of the college have been exposed to the use of ICT tools and their digital literacy has increased.
- 25 students had enrolled in 2022-23 for value added course on 'Basics of Computer' and 19 students passed the exam.
- College has organized many online seminars/lectures/workshops at various levels.
- Teaching staffs have participated in online seminars/FDP/workshops etc.
- The students have become more aware and their interest is gradually increasing towards ICT tools.

6. Problem Encountered and Resources Required

- Lack of proper network remains a problem in the college.
- Due to the location of the college in a remote area, natural calamities keep happening, as a result of which the internet connection keeps getting affected.
- Students studying in the college come from economically weak families who are unable to purchase expensive equipments and heavy mobile data, so the use of ICT is availed by few students and most of the students are deprived of it.
- 4G/5G Internet and Wi-Fi service is not yet available with the college, due to which there is a problem in online teaching learning process.
- According to the number of students and faculty, there is a lack of ICT equipment in the college.
- College needs high speed internet facility.
- At present college has no recording room for creating quality video lectures.
- All the required internet data is used by staffs at their own expenses most often.