

GAYATRI COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & MANAGEMENT

(Affiliated to Dr.B.R.AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY), Accredited by NAAC & ISO Munasabpeta, SRIKAKULAM - 532401(A.P.)

DR. P. SRINIVASA RAO, M.A., Ph.D., Principal

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Best Practice-I

Title of the practice:

Artificial Ground-water Recharging

Objectives of practice: Though the area where the colleges are situated get good supply of rain, the water storage capacity of the soil is very low. The practice therefore should aim to build up groundwater resources and to reduce surface run off.

Context: Most of the colleges are located in a geographical area where the soil is hard and rocky. This often leads to surface run off of rain water resulting in low groundwater resources so that soon after the rainy season the soil becomes rather dry. Since the institution gives utmost importance to protect its greenery, so it is imperative to build up water table resources.

The Practice: Simple form of groundwater recharge practice which can help to store water naturally in earth can be adopted. For this rain pits are dug in the college campus. These pits are then back filled with gravel and coarse sand. The root rain water is collected and collected in these pits.

Evidence of Success: The outcome of the practice can be very heartening as most of the saplings that will be planted can be vigorously survive the offensive heat of summer. The benefit shared by the local: their wells will not dry up and sufficient underground water can prevent green depletion of the area. This can provide the NSS students and staff much encouragement as a lot of requests for continuing the practice can come up from the local people.

Problems can be Encountered: Since the ground is too rocky in many place, the students can find it difficult to dig through the rocks, in such cases, Plastic containers or cemented container can be used.

Best Practice-II

Title of the practice:

Women Empowerment

Objectives of practice:

- To develop a spirit of gender sensitization.
- To empower girls with physical and emotional strength.
- To create awareness among the girls about their civic rights.
- To enable the students develop a sense of culture, ethics, morality and social responsibilities.
- To develop self esteem and self confidence in girls.

The Context:

"There is no chance for welfare of the world, unless the condition of the women is improved"; believing in these words of Swami Vivekananda, the college focuses on the activities related to women empowerment. Student Welfare Committee in association with the college committees, NGOs and various organizations have organized activities like self-defense techniques; lecture series on health and hygiene, legal awareness; workshop on home management and hospitality management etc. All these activities have made the students believe that women are the nurturers, custodians and bearers of social tradition.

The Practice:

Discrimination against women even in the 21st century is a devastating reality. That is why 'gender inequality' has been a matter of serious concern across the globe and within the countries. India still has a long way to go before achieving gender equity and empowerment of women. Especially, the rural areas are ravaged by the miserable conditions of abject poverty, illiteracy, ill-health and superstition.

The majority of these girls belong to the weaker sections including scheduled caste, scheduled tribes, other backward classes and minorities without proper access to education, health and other productive resources. Therefore, they remain largely as the marginalized poor and socially excluded. Joining a degree college in the town and acquiring higher education involve money and higher things. So the poverty-stricken and tradition-bound parents reluctantly admit their daughters to colleges. Being the most vibrant and dynamic segment, the youth including girls, is our most valuable human resource. We cannot afford to neglect our female force to be the victims of discrimination, exploitation and segregation. So the college resolved to empower female students to face the vicissitudes of life boldly and successfully for a life of peace, harmony and dignity.

To achieve the aim, the college established a Women Empowerment Cell (WEC) with a senior woman teacher as its Coordinator and three other senior teachers as its members. All female students are eligible to take membership of the Cell irrespective of their status. There are two hundred girl student members in the unit. The Coordinator and the members of the unit decide the conduct of awareness sessions during leisure hours sensitizing the girls to know why and how they are given subservient role in spite of their equal or even more abilities than their counterparts. They also draw an annual action plan for organizing various awareness programmes / seminars /workshops and interactive sessions. The Principal along with the Coordinator monitors the implementation of the plan.

The Women Empowerment Cell is working for the protection of women's rights and actively empowers women creating conditions for gaining confidence in their abilities. It aims at curbing the social evils like eve-teasing, ragging and dowry system providing necessary counselling and guidance by professional women counsellors, social and rights activists, enlightened academics and professional psychologists, so that the women students become aware of unjust gender discrimination, the human rights, the legal provisions available for their protection, importance of higher education for higher enlightenment, mental and physical fitness, for supporting and guiding girls the institution has a girls mentoring cell. The College has organized several productive programmes so far extensively utilizing the services of the widespread network of NGOs which have a strong grass-root level presence with deep insight into women's concerns contributing to the inspiring initiatives for the empowerment of women. The faculty not only in institution but outside the institution also find their responsibility of protecting underprivileged women of society by helping them in providing facilities, training them for economic independence, organizing health checkup camps, distributing healthy nutritive edibles to poor tribal ladies admitted in government hospitals and having counseling sessions with them for giving importance to their own wellbeing, health and hygiene along with their families as it has often seen that such underprivileged and economically deprived group of society ignore their own health and hence catch many diseases. Most of them were found anemic and hence blood testing camp were organized. All these activities were done with the help of NGO.

Evidence of success: The activities have a positive effect on the students especially girls. Programs on legal awareness, physical training, self-defense, special training on home management, hospitality management and cooking help in developing personal, social and professional skills needed by girls. The modest and diffident students were reluctant to cross their academic borders affecting the successful conduct of awareness programmes. Active participation of girls in women cell activities for enhancing creativity and thought process for women empowerment is the outcome of the efforts of faculty and student leaders.

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Problems Encountered: Organizing various programmers during working hours, sometimes, has led to sacrificing the class work. Implementation of the annual plan and its monitoring has become a tough task in view of tight academic schedule. In some activities there is a limitation on the intake of student participants which poses as a hindrance owing to the enthusiasm of the students.

IQAC COORDINATOR

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