

## 7.2 Best Practices

Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the institution as per NAAC format provided in the manual.

**Response:**

Two best practices adopted by the institution are:

1. **Promotion towards building a Sustainable and Green-Clean Campus.**
2. **Social initiatives and community outreach.**

### 7.2.1

#### BEST PRACTICES-1

1. **Title: Promotion towards building a Sustainable and Green-Clean Campus.**
2. **Objectives of the Practice:**

We at RGPG College always give utmost importance to environment sustainability and Shift work with an objective to.

- Foster and nurture eco-friendly cultures among the students and staff.
- We aim to build a campus that is plastic free, minimal waste generation, protects Biodiversity, and reduces overall Carbon footprints and sustainable use of natural resources such as water and energy. This is a collective effort of all stakeholders that can be accomplished with the implementation of eco-friendly facilities and practices.
- This initiative by the institution will definitely ensure healthier environment for all of us.

3. **The Context:**

RGPG College traditionally a nature lover, maintaining greenery at its best in its limited open space. Standing right in the heart of the city with a little scope of expansion, the college always thrives to maintain an eco-friendly environment and adopt steps towards reducing carbon footprints and preserve biodiversity. For this the college has implemented mechanisms for waste management, water conservation, compost production and generating solar energy.

4. **The Practice:**

RGPG College is committed towards creating an eco-friendly and sustainable campus. For environmental sustainability several practices are followed in the campus such as:

- Campaign on discouraging single-use plastic. Canteen also uses paper or steel crockery.
- The college uses solar energy and practices rain water recharge system.
- College has a lush green campus in its limited space with good variety of trees and large variety of potted plants.

- A herbal garden, with different species of medicinal plants, air purifying plants and Navgraha plant gallery provides a healthy ambience in the campus.
- A Nutri garden to develop an insight of organic farming and its benefit among the students.
- Several campaigns by NSS, NCC, Vasudha Eco Club and Science departments for creating awareness through social media are conducted.
- Student Volunteers also interact with public to generate awareness and consciousness among them about proper use of natural resources so as conserve them and the environment.
- E-Waste awareness and collection campaigns have been done and waste is collected and disposed off through paper channel with certification.
- Waste paper and newspapers are collected and then sent for recycle through vendors.
- College has developed a **vermicompost unit** in the hostel ground that converts kitchen waste of the Mess and garden into compost for local use.
- To engage larger community of students, industry experts, NGOs, administrators and academicians, the college organises Workshops/seminars/webinars, on various environmental issues and challenges.

#### **5. Evidence of Success:**

- Use of solar lamps from 7PM-6AM in the campus and Solar geyser for the hostel.
- 4 Rainwater recharging systems are functional in the campus.
- Increased use of LED lights in the classrooms replacing the old system of lights.
- E-waste collection of 815 kg and its recycling through proper channel was done.
- Green and Energy audit initiated since last year by Vasudha Eco Club.

#### **6. Problems encountered and Resources Required:**

- Shifting to renewable resources is a costly affair and financial support from the government front is the prerequisite.
- Problems are faced in an efficient maintenance of solar plants due to insufficient recurring funds.
- Higher cost of plastic alternatives and in adequate supply of makes them less popular in the society.

## **7. Notes:**

IQAC for future green initiative aims to encourage students to become agents of change in treasuring the campus environment and their neighbourhood.

- Public needs to be educated and motivated more and more towards environmental sustainability. Continuous efforts for environmental consciousness are required to create a general shift in the mind set of students, staff and public.
- Life style needs to be modified for sustainable living by judicious use of natural resources through rallies, campaigns, competitions and posts on social media.
- Initiatives linked with fast fashion such as recycling and upcycling of clothes with women tailors and designers.

## **BEST PRACTICES -2**

### **1. Title: Social Commitment and Community Outreach.**

#### **2. Objectives of the Practice:**

- The college aims to develop the spirit of social service and commitment in their students through education.
- We aim to generate awareness amongst students toward existing social disparities, empathy towards underprivileged sections of the society, women empowerment, education, safety, health and nutrition.
- We work for the betterment of the marginalised section of the society and help them through various outreach programmes of NCC and NSS.

#### **3. The Context:**

- Social inequalities and lack of means and opportunities in people from low socio-economic background characterises their lives. Therefore, the only way to level these disparities i.e. sustainable livelihood, good education, access to healthcare and hygiene is education which can create awareness among the youth of the country.

RGPG College develops social responsibilities and sensibilities among the students through several committees and societies which addresses social issues such as to:

- Guide and provide education to socio-economically weaker section.
- Awareness about health and hygiene.
- Banking and saving schemes and benefits.
- Counselling about job opportunities and entrepreneurship through skilled courses.
- Making them aware against alcoholism, drug abuse, begging etc.
- Financial aid and help.
- Sharing and caring the downtrodden.

#### **4. The Practice:**

RGPG College creates a symbiosis between the community and extension work and its outreach platforms such as NCC, NSS, Rangers, Community development Cell, Eco Club, Alumni Association, Home Science & Science departments, teaching and non-teaching staff thus creating a multivalued conclave. To sensitize the young girls towards the development and upliftment of the under privileged the college organises several programmes throughout the year.

- College has adopted a village, Datawali, where the NSS volunteers and members of Home Science department visit regularly to make them aware about health, hygiene, importance of education and sports. They teach the young children and distribute books and stationery to them. During plantation drive, trees were planted in barren lands in the village.
- Teachers and students pay for formal and informal education of children of rural areas through Gyanoday and other non-government organization.

- Volunteers from the college regularly visit Vaishya children Orphanage, Old Age home, Khusht Ashram, Vaani School, Deaf and Dumb Centre, Slums etc. for awareness programme and financial help in cash and kind.
- People living on footpath are also supported with food and clothes distribution.
- Blood donation camps are organised in the campus.
- Task force for awareness programmes on Covid-19 protocol and benefit of Vaccine was formed in Association with Medical Aid Committee, NSS, NCC and CDC.
- NCC Cadets go and meet the family members of Shaheeds of Meerut and felicitate them.
- Awareness about various skill development courses are given by our students by interacting with them and helping them on how they can become self reliant.
- Sanitary pad use and distribution is done in slum areas. Making them from old clothes hygienically and how to use them was taught.
- Awareness about protecting the environment is done by eco-club, NSS and NCC. Issues such as organic farming, e-waste management procedures, more use of renewable resources, cleanliness, plastic free community to reduce carbon footprints are taken up.
- Gender sensitization programmes to create a gender just society are addressed regularly. Resource persons from various communities are invited to give guest lectures in seminars/webinars on the challenges that the women face in security and safety and how to tackle them boldly and fearlessly.

#### **5. Evidence of Success:**

- Rallies, Nukkad Nataks, visit to slums, Orphanage, Ashrams, blind Schools, adopted village, Datawali etc. are regular feature of volunteers of NSS and NCC.
- Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic the volunteers and cadets worked for the awareness and control of this pandemic through offline and online modes.
- Community development and women development cell organised skilled courses like stitching, beautician, computer basics, cooking best out of waste, pickles, preservation etc. with the help of NGOs and alumni under various government schemes. They are motivated to become entrepreneurs or self-employed.
- Children from the slums are enrolled in formal schools by the efforts of student and faculty volunteers.
- A R Prayas run by the Faculty of the college helps the children in getting free basic education in formal schools.
- Students have become observant and sensitive towards the requirement of homeless people on roadside and they show empathy by initiating food and clothes distribution drives.
- NSS and NCC volunteers have been able to make aware and reduce drug abuse and addiction in the underprivileged societies.
- Security and safety training courses are organised in the college so that students learn them and spread these techniques in their neighbourhood.

- Techniques of vermicompost and horticulture is taught to the girls under green initiatives for sustainable environment. This will sensitize them and society in turn.

College has made continuous efforts to make whatever little difference it can bring in the lives of underprivileged people through its extension and outreach activities.

**Problems encountered and resources required:**

- The mindset of the local slum inhabitants needs to be gradually changed by the NSS and NCC volunteers and faculty advisors through their sustained efforts as they show resistance towards change. This is a gradual process and volunteers need to eventually convince them of their well-being.
- Illiteracy is another deep rooted problem of our society and it goes hand in hand with poverty. Convincing these people to send their children to school for education instead of sending work in an uphill task. This needs a consistent and continuous efforts.

Girls students volunteers find it difficult to convince young men in their neighbourhood not to take alcohol or other drugs and save their and familiars future. Alcoholism aggravates domestic violence and it is a widespread problem in the society.

- Cost and funding is a major issues in planning these efforts to uplift the underprivileged. For example, planning a visit to the adopted village or destitute homes requires hiring a bus that costs RS 4000-6000 per trip depending on the site or location. So, for regular efforts or visits a large amount of funding is required. For such comprehensive ventures more financial resources and understanding with local partners are required.