Baburao Patil College of Arts and Science Angar

7.2 Best Practices of the College

Practice No. 1.

Title of the Practice: Anyone, Anytime, Anywhere, we are there for you

Objectives of the Practice:

1. The practice aims to reach every student at the college in any situation
2. To solve the problems of the students by helping them

The Context:

In COVID-19 pandemic the practice was started and again introduced in academic year 2021-22 to help students regarding studies, mental health, illness, so that they can get moral support. To tackle such issues College management had decided to initiate the activity in which every teaching and non-teaching staff will reach every student by any means of communication (Mentor-Ward).

The Practice:

1. To initiate the activity, the college office first gathered the data (Contact numbers) of presently admitted students and distributed among the teaching and non-teaching staff.
2. To each staff the 20 students were allotted. The staff member is designated as Mentor while the 20 students allotted to him/her are considered as Ward (Mentor-Ward).
3. To carry on the practice the social media platforms such as Facebook and Whatsapp were used.
4. During the pandemic as well as after the pandemic period every student admitted to the college was in constant touch of the college staff.
5. During this period the students were counselled for their studies, mental health, Covid-19 vaccination, scholarships, online exam related problems, moral support etc.

Evidence of Success:

1. The practice is huge success for problems encountered to students during the University online examinations. Many times, the internet facilities in the villages were down and again the pandemic situation is on the head of the students. In such cases the college staff worked as a connecting link between university and students to tackle such problems.
2. The practice was huge success for getting the government scholarships to the students. As the college was not opened during the pandemic situation the way of communication was limited. In such situation this practice helped the student to overcome the problem to get their scholarships.
3. College has organized the webinar series on Covid vaccination so that majority of the students will get aware regarding Covid 19 vaccination.
4. During the pandemic many of our students lost their parents, which is a huge loss for them. In such condition due to this activity student get benefit of moral support. To motivate them college management had started the "**Loknete Baburao Patil Niradhar Vidyarthi Shishyvrutti Yojana**"; under which total 10 students (5 Girls, 5 Boys) were benefited. Under this scholarship Rupees 19445/- were released for academic year 2021-2022.

Problems Encountered and Resources required:

1. Internet and mobile connectivity through smartphones are the main resources for this activity
2. Lack of Communication due to less mobile towers in village areas
3. During the practice it is noted that Girl students do not possess smartphones with them; due to which conveying of the notices, messages was a real problem
4. It was noted that many students switch their mobile numbers, i.e., mobile number given at the time of admission was not working at the time of practice; in such cases college staff had to communicate with other people of his/her village to get his/her current working contact number.
5. To avoid such delay in future college office noted this switching of mobile numbers among the students and notified the students to keep the same mobile number throughout his/her degree completion.

Practice No. 2.

Title of the Practice: Seed Ball Activity

Objectives of the Practice:

1. College IQAC, NSS and Department of Botany decided to run seed ball activity.
2. In this activity the college students are going to collect germ plasm (seeds) of native plants, dry them and use them for the seed ball activity.
3. The village Angar has forest land and barren pastureland near Kurunwadi. It is then decided to this activity at Kurunwadi. Kurunwadi is located at Latitude 17.8672^0N and Longitude 75.5801^0E of village Angar.
4. IQAC, NSS and Department of Botany decided to this activity for every year and take follow up of the selected area after every 5 years.

The Context:

Seed balls are small bundles of seeds, clay, and soil or compost. Although seed balls have been around since ancient times, they were rediscovered in the 1930s by the Guerilla Gardening movement as a way to covertly introduce vegetation by simply tossing the seed balls (or, on a large scale, dropping them from an airplane). They are still used today to revegetate areas burned by wildfires. On a small scale, seed balls are fun to make and offer an inexpensive way to sow native plants and flower. For the academic year 2020-2021 total five native plant species were selected viz.

1. *Melia azadiracta*
2. *Eugenia jamboloana*
3. *Dolichandrone falcata*
4. *Cassia sianea*
5. *5. Morinda citrifolia.*
6. *Mangifere indica*

Above germ plasms were collected from forest near Angar village, Nannaj Bird Sanctuary, Nannaj and Siddheshwar Forest, Solapur. The germ plasms (seeds) of these plants is collected by students and teachers from the start of academic year 2021-22 and brought to the Department of Botany laboratory. Here the seeds are thoroughly examined, dried, and stored.

The Practice:

1. Moisten clay. Mix clay with water until it is the consistency of yogurt or softserve ice cream.
2. Mix with sifted compost in a 1:1 ratio clay: compost by volume. Cut the clay into the compost like creaming butter and sugar together, then wedge it like clay or dough.

3. Add water so that the matrix is workable enough to make balls hold together, but not sticky. If it is too sticky, mix in some sifted compost until you have the right consistency.
4. Pinch a seed-ball's worth of matrix off of your prepared clump.
5. Add some seeds. If they are easy germinators, 1-2. If they are stubborn, add some more. You do not want 8 germinating seeds in one seed ball. That will stress the seedlings, and none will thrive.
6. Roll into a ball.
7. Air dry at room temperature until the batch is uniformly light color.

After making the seed balls they were dried for entire one day. Total 500 seed balls were prepared from the germ plasms of above plants. On 17th June 2022, the activity was inaugurated with the auspicious hands of Prof. Dr Shankar Nawale Principal of N.B.Nawale Sinhagad College of Engineering, Solapur; Prof. Chandrakant Chavan of Walchand College, Solapur; Prof D.Y. Waydande of Vidya Pratishthan, Baramati who were the members of Academic Accreditation Audit Committee of Punyshlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur.

Evidence of Success:

Since the activity has begun from last year itself evidence of success yet to be discovered.

Problems Encountered and Resources required:

1. Germplasm / Seed Collection
2. Soil
3. Farm manure
4. Rainfed or rain shadow area due to which percentage of germination and survival is minimized
5. Cattel Grazing area due to which percentage of germination and survival is minimized 6. Less awareness among the local people regarding seedball.

Photographs of the activity

Link of the Event:

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02Pgi8jKChdQm4iy28aJN6cmXMMiUvuXDxHLjGCQ3BugdM2uwU9F2161b1qFvVAd3Vl&id=100023246093016&mibextid=Nif5oz