

Best Practices: 2020-21

Best Practice I: Women Empowerment

1. Title of the Practice: Women Empowerment

2. Objectives of the Practice: (100 words)

Every individual deserves equal opportunities to expand his or her full potential in life, but the prevalent gender bias in society hinders the attainment of this objective. The menace of gender discrimination has a very negative impact on the lives of both genders; particularly it is the females that are the most disadvantaged. Considering the pervading gender discrimination in our society regarding the allocation of various facilities and opportunities for self development, our college organizes a number of awareness programmes to enlighten the girl students about their specific rights and opportunities to attain equitable status in all spheres of life.

3. The Context: (150 words)

The origin of gender discrimination can be traced to the patriarchal social system with its underlying prejudice against the female gender whereby the females are assigned a subordinate position in their families and society. This tacit agreement among the male members of a patriarchal society about their superiority often results in an indifferent and callous attitude towards the females leading to various forms of oppressions, violence and injustices against women. It affects various facets of a woman's life comprising the opportunities of attainment of education, health facilities, participative decision making etc. I.G.N. College organizes various women empowerment activities and programmes through its various cells to inculcate among the students gender sensitivity and moral responsibility for each individual, thereby creating an atmosphere of equity and justice for females by providing them equal material, human and intellectual resources for achieving higher standards of living in various spheres of life.

4. The Practice: (400 words)

In order to give a congenial and productive environment to its female employees as well as students I.G.N. College organizes various women empowerment programmes through its various cells like— Anti-Sexual Harassment Cell, Legal Literacy and Women Cell etc. The college considers it its foremost priority to create an environment of equality and impartial justice which is conducive to the holistic development of its stakeholders. The unprecedented situation of pandemic has also given rise to new challenges. Various studies show that cases of domestic violence against females have considerably increased during the pandemic situation which makes it imperative to invest the females with a sense of moral courage to face the emergent crisis. Working in this direction the Women Cell organised a 'Self Defence Training Camp' on 11th January, 2021 to instil a sense of self confidence and security among the girl students. Women Cell and Legal Literacy Cell jointly organised 'Legal Aid Camp' on 15th February, 2021 to create legal awareness among the students and faculty members on various issues. Women Cell organised 'Poster Making Competition' on the theme of corona vaccination on 29th May, 2021 to create awareness about the importance of vaccination among students and clear away their doubts associated with the side effects of vaccination. Women Cell organised an 'Essay Writing Competition' on (i) Black Marketing during Pandemic (ii) Economic Impact

during Pandemic (iii) Stress Management in Covid 19 Pandemic on 29th May, 2021 to enhance understanding of students about various critical issues faced as the aftermath of pandemic. Legal Literacy Cell in collaboration with District Legal Services Authority Kurukshetra organised a webinar on ‘Laws for Girls Safety and Security’ on 9th July, 2021 to create awareness among the young generation about the provisions and laws related to dowry and domestic violence. The chief objective of the programme was to acquaint the girl students with their legal rights which were meant for sustaining their self esteem, physical and psychological security against any kind of domestic violence. Apart from enhancing the awareness of students regarding their legal rights and moral responsibilities, the above-mentioned activities were also intended to develop the stress management skills of students during the pandemic period. The institution wants to make them learn how to sustain the psychological pressures of the unprecedented situation of pandemic crisis without indulging in any unlawful conduct, thereby transforming them into a respectable and responsible citizen.

5. Evidence of Success: (200 words)

The Women Development Cell, Legal Literacy Cell and Anti Sexual Harassment Cell had a thorough discussion with the participants regarding the relevance and value of various activities organized by these cells. It was observed that the execution of such awareness programmes instilled in the students a sense of self confidence and moral courage to confront the challenges of life. An online feedback was taken from 91 participants of various activities related to women empowerment to assess their responses on the efficacy of various programmes and activities like— Self Defence Training Camp; Legal Aid Camp; Poster Making Competition on the theme of corona vaccination; Essay Writing Competition on the drastic aftermath of the pandemic COVID 19; webinar on ‘Laws for Girls Safety and Security’; importance of learning stress management skills and realizing the worth of mutual co-operation in a state of crisis. The feedback received from the students resulted in the following outcome: Most of the students (75% to 88%) agree that they are highly benefitted from the programmes and activities; few students (1% to 5%) express their disagreement whereas some students (11% to 18%) are not sure.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required: (150 words).

During the execution of these programmes the activity in charges faced certain problems. One of the major issues was to make the girl students believe in the actual implementation of these laws, despite all their legal awareness, in a social setup which is still governed by the orthodox conventions of patriarchal psyche. While sharing their personal experiences some of the girl students revealed that in their social setup women are still not granted the right of exercising their freedom of choice and action to take important decisions for themselves and their families. Another problem was the dearth of financial resources. All positive efforts and enthusiastic participation of in-charges of various cells and activities is likely to fail in the absence of requisite financial assistance for the successful completion of such programmes. Timely financial support may enhance the level of their performance.

Best Practice II: Value inculcation and Environmental Protection Initiatives

1. Title of the Practice: Value inculcation and Environmental Protection Initiatives.

2. Objectives of the Practice (100 words):

The main objective of the practice is to inculcate among the students the values of equality, mutual respect, tolerance, non-violence and a sense of national integrity and universal brotherhood. The college also aims at enlightening the students about the importance of a clean, green and sustainable environment for present and future generations. The college intends to make its students responsible human beings, thereby creating a congenial environment for a healthy, hygienic and positive life. Therefore, it is highly imperative to inculcate among college students social and ethical values as well as a sense of responsibility for environmental protection.

3. The Context: (150 words)

One of the purposes of education is to indoctrinate human values for sustainable growth of humanity. Unfortunately, we are living in an era of economic, industrial and technological growth and a simultaneous degradation of human values and environmental sensibilities. Therefore, it becomes essential for leading a balanced life to acquaint our young generation about the environmental sustainability and ethical human values. We cannot overlook the continual degradation of human values as well as environmental concerns. In the present era of globalization, multicultural, multi-racial society and neo-colonialism, it is very important to prepare the youth to comprehend the importance and relevance of environmental preservation and ethical human values for human existence and survival. Keeping in view the aforesaid concerns, HEI can play a pivotal role to sensitize the students for these important issues.

4. The Practice: (400 words)

In order to create an atmosphere of equity and justice for each individual irrespective of caste, creed and religion, the college endeavours to give an inclusive environment to all its stake holders. The college teaching staff strives hard to inculcate these values among the students. The institute takes various environmental protection initiatives through a variety of programs. The institute conducted the following programs to inculcate values among its students:

- The college organized *Van Mahotsav* in college premises on 24-07-2020. Forest Cabinet Minister of Haryana graced the function as chief guest. Various kinds of saplings were planted by management, staff members, students and the local people from surrounding village.
- The college performed a *Hawan Ceremony* at the beginning of the academic session on 20-8-2020. Maharaj BrahmswaroopBrahamchari ji, learnedacademician and social reformer, graced the occasion as chief guest. He motivated the students to keep their moral values high and cope up with the challenging environmental concerns.
- A Blood Donation camp was organized on the occasion of Foundation Day of the college on 24-01-21. The main objective of this camp was to make young people aware of their moral responsibility for saving the lives of other people. A one-week Tree Plantation Drive was also launched on this occasion to inculcate among students the ethical human and environment protection sensibility.

- Keeping in view the menace of drug addiction among the youth of India, a One Day De-Addiction Seminar on the theme of Anti-Drug Addiction was organized in collaboration with Red Cross Society Kurukshetra on 10-02-2021. The Resource persons motivated the students to abstain from drug addiction.
- A slogan writing and poster making competition on theme of ‘anti-tobacco’ was organized on 31-05-2021 to aware the students about the ill effects of use of tobacco.
- A national level online quiz contest was organized on World Environment Day on 05-06-2021. The main objective of this programme was to make the students aware about the various environmental concerns.
- Department of History and Environment Cell of the college celebrated Teachers’ Day on 4-09-2021. A number of saplings of fruits and saplings of medicinal values were planted in the college premises and Botanical Garden.
- NCC Unit of the college organised a Tree Plantation Drive on the occasion of Teachers’Day on 05-09-2021 in the college premises. The NCC cadets of the college gave enthusiastic participation in the drive.
- The NSS Unit of Indira Gandhi National College, Ladwa in collaboration with Markanda National College, Sahabad Markanda organized an awareness campaign about the ill effects of the single use plastic goods and polythene in village Mathana on 25-09-2021. Sixty-two volunteers of both the colleges participated in the event. The volunteers conducted a door-to-door awareness campaign in the village.
- As an environment protection initiative, the college charges no parking fee from students who commute to the college by bicycles.
- College has installed leaf collectors at various places in the college campus to keep it neat and clean.

College is looking forward to engage in more such practices to inculcate moral values among its students and motivate them to save and protect the environment.

5. Evidence of Success: (200 words)

Structured feedback from the students was taken at the end of the year about the abovementioned activities and programs conducted during the year. The outcome of the feedback is as follows:

- More than ninety six percent students agreed that programs organized for the awareness of environmental protection in the college increase their knowledge related to environmental issues.
- More than ninety five percent students agreed that the cleanliness programs enlightened their awareness about cleanliness and hygiene.
- Eighty seven percent students agreed that they became aware about the side effects and severity of drug abuse after attending the workshop on the theme of drug addiction.
- More than Eighty eight percent students agreed that the information received through programs such as environmental protection, cleanliness and drug addiction etc. have been shared by participants among friends, family members and society.
- More than ninety one percent students agreed that the programs organized on the personality and work of the national leaders of our country inspired and motivated them.

- More than eighty four percent students agreed that the program on Value inculcation and Environmental Protection Initiatives need to be organized regularly.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required: (150 words)

It was difficult to organize a number of scheduled programs for value inculcation and environmental protection initiatives due to COVID-19 protocol. However, the college devotes its time and energy to sensitize the students towards these important issues but due to financial constraints and lack of facilities on the part of the students, the college faces certain limitations to run such awareness drives at mass level. Moreover, organizing such activities along with the tight academic schedule is a challenge in itself. Sometimes, It becomes very difficult to involve a good number of students in these activities. Being a rural college, majority of our students belong to weaker section of society and use public transport with fixed timings. Therefore, they are not allowed by their parents to remain in the college after academic hours.