

BEST PRACTICES OF NEWMAN COLLEGE, THODUPUZHA



2019-2020

BEST PRACTICE 1: Social Development and sustainable environment

BEST PRACTICE 2: Value based Education and Strengthening Global Competency



BEST PRACTICE 1

Title: *Social Development and sustainable environment*

1. Objective of the practice

- To create social consciousness among students.
- To help the rural folk achieve better opportunities in academic and vocational fields.
- To contribute to the well-being of the community
- To inculcate eco-friendly attitude in an environmentally vulnerable situation.

2. Context

The college being the first higher education institution of the high ranges it can never limit its scope to the academic matters alone. The community expects the intervention of the college in many aspects. The institution being the social and cultural capital of Idukki district, it can't be blind to the cultural and other social needs of the people alongside with its primary motive of providing quality education to all. The college also has the responsibility of protecting the needs of the agrarian community since most of the inhabitants find their livelihood from agriculture. The ecological sensitivity of the high ranges from where a considerable number of our students come, poses great threat to their educational, economic and cultural life. This bestows in us the responsibility of imbining a sense of sustainable development of the community flavoured by ecological consciousness.

3. The Practice

- To achieve the above objectives, the institution organizes several programmes. Through the programme "Share a bread, Home for the Homeless" around 500 food packets are provided to the poor people in Thodupuzha Municipality. Under this scheme a house was constructed by the students for a homeless person. There is also a charity fund under this scheme. The fund is used for providing financial help for charity organizations.
- The college never misses a chance to inculcate awareness among the public regarding social evils like child labour that destroy the harmony of any society.

The students organize group run, flash mobs, street plays etc. to easily disseminate powerful ideas to the society. In the light of increasing number of road accidents, a rally is organized to increase road safety awareness among the public. As part of Independence Day another rally is organized to vocalize patriotic spirit and to uphold constitutional values.

- The relief activities conducted at the affected spot of Kavalappara, a place affected by land sliding, in Wyanad district, Vaniampuzha, road construction to Iruttukuthi, a flood affected area, counselling support services for people affected by natural calamities, compost pit construction at Kumbalpara are some programmes that help the society during hazardous situations.
- Several programmes are organised to maintain the public health of the locality. As a preventive measure against prospective outbreak of monsoon related diseases in the locality a cleaning programme is undertaken by the students in the surrounding locality. Monsoon diseases prevention camp is also organized.
- The institution also gives special consideration for the vocational needs of the community. By arranging placement drives for the students and public, it helps in the upward social mobility of many families. Students also undertake activities that directly help the public. The traffic policing by the NCC cadets of the college in front of the Taluk hospital helps many patients and aged people cross the roads easily.
- To build eco-friendly attitude that ensures sustainable development of the community the college organizes different programmes. A swachatha rally upholding the motto of Swach Bharath Abhiyan is conducted to create awareness about cleanliness. Initiatives like Yuva Haritha Bhoomi Project that promotes organic farming inculcate eco- friendly attitude among the students. As part of this project 1.5 acres of arid land is turned to cultivatable land. The yearly agricultural fest hosted by the college and the well maintained greenery of the college showcase the ecological consciousness of the institution. As part of the ten day agricultural fest several seminars, exhibitions and cultural events are organized. All initiatives are taken to avoid the usage of plastics in the campus. The campus also

has a plastic shredding unit which recycles plastic wastes if any within the campus itself.

4. Evidence of Success

The initiative taken to achieve the objectives are successful to the maximum extent. Students themselves take the responsibility of taking up different projects. The active participation in organic farming, blood donation camps, relief activities during natural calamities etc., shows how the college molds students as socially committed citizens.

5. Problems Encountered

- Hectic academic schedule sometimes hinder the conduct of community oriented programmes
- The geographical peculiarities of the district sometimes make it difficult for the students to access some of the areas for community oriented services.

BEST PRACTICE 2

Title: *Value based Education and Strengthening of Global Competency*

1. Objective of the programme

- Inculcate moral and ethical consciousness among students
- To enable the students to reflect and act upon moral issues in the society
- To help students achieve global standards in all activities
- Increasing the chance of employability

2. The context

In the rapidly developing society characterized by technological advancement, social harmony and humanitarian values are out of place. But many of the social issues can be tackled if people have strong ethical and moral values. So the coming generation should possess such values for the formation of a better society. This is the necessity of having value based education.

In the changing global scenario, having a job that help a decent life is the dream of all. In the immensely competitive world education should be structured so as to build global competency in students to equip them to top the list in job interviews. Here comes the relevance of activities that build global competencies. .

3. The practice

- With the aim of triggering discussions over ethical problems and to give insights on practical measures for addressing them, separate time is given for value education classes every week. Materials are provided and exams are conducted. The winners are awarded prizes also. On a practical level students engage in activities like blood donation camps, midday meal schemes, anti-drug campaigns, women empowerment programmes, and observation of various days in commemoration of great personalities who upheld human values.
- The placement cell of the college pays meticulous attention in rendering quality training for competitive exams. Many of our students are placed in reputed companies. The language lab offers training in communication skills. PG departments offer coaching for NET/JRF in respective subjects. The research

centres of the college promote research that meets global standards. Our faculty members and research scholars publish in national and international journals. The voluminous electronic resources in the library open the door to an extravagant world of books and journals across the world. Newman College is one among the top institutions that received funding for the UGC-STRIDE programme. The programmes organized under this scheme help the students transcend their level from good to the best.

- Several agency funded projects are also undertaken focusing towards meeting global competency in the students and faculty. 5 KSCSTE student project and one DST SERB projects are running currently.
- Healthy bodies create healthy mind. Healthy people build healthy society. Sports and games help to build a healthy body and mind. Newman College has an extensive outdoor stadium and indoor stadium to help build the sportive activities of the students. The stadiums host several national, state level and university level events.
- We have three reputed journals and Programs like ASAP, Walk with a Scholar, Student support Programmes and collaboration with reputed institutes like IUCAA also work towards achieving global competency.

4. Evidence of success

The number of placements, university ranks and NET-JRF winners bear testimony to the success of this practice. Four PG ranks and 12 UG ranks were received. Seven of our students got placed in Air force and Army. Thirty five students got placed in several institutions during this academic year. Sixteen prizes were received in sports and games. Twenty two university youth festival prizes also form part of the list.

5. Problems Encountered

- Lack of proper syllabus by the university regarding value education.
- Lack of time for practical and activity oriented sessions for value education
- Delayed publication of results by the university threatens the placement
- Lack of adequate time for special training programmes due to the hectic semester system.