

## **BEST PRACTICES FOR 2017-18**

### **BEST PRACTICE NO.1**

**Title:- Scholarships for disadvantaged students**

**Objectives of the Practice :-**

1. The scholarships aim to support the needy and poor students in Akole taluka.
2. The scholarships will enable these students to continue their education and complete their degree.
3. This will also help to reduce the drop out rate of the students in the college who might have stop their education due to poor financial condition.
4. These students will become financially independent after completing their degrees.

**The Context :-** The college is located in hilly and rural area. The maximum number of students belongs to SC, ST, NT and OBC categories. Moreover the number of women students is very high in the college. This is basically a disadvantage class of the student because all of them come from socio economically weaker section of society. It is in this context that scholarships can help these students to complete their higher education.

**The Practice:-** The college tries to create awareness about the different kinds of scholarships for the disadvantaged students through prospectus, notice board and students counseling. The students are made aware of different kinds of scholarships given to them by the state government, the SPP University and non government organization.

The facility for online submission of the scholarship form has been made available to the students by the college. We have taken special efforts to contact and convince the HPCL authorities about need for the scholarship on the part of our students. We persuaded them to grant scholarship to reserve category students.

Savitribai Phule Pune University also grants different kinds of scholarships to talented students on the basis of their merit. We motivate the students to take benefit of these scholarships. There are various scholarships given by State Government through online process. We motivate the students to complete online process and get the benefits of these scholarships.

**Evidence of Success:-** The success of these scholarship schemes is very evident from the following table giving the details of the number of students and amounts of various scholarships.

Agency	No. of students benefited	Amount in Rupees
Hindusthan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mumbai	261	14,56,000/-
Savitribai Phule Pune University	29	3,54,100/-
Maharashtra State Government	2216	2,25,11,990/-

All these students were able to complete their education only because of scholarships granted to them. Otherwise they will have dropped out from the courses. Most of the students are now employed in public and private sector undertaking and supporting their family financially. A Socio economically weaker student has got maximum benefits from the scholarship schemes.

**Problems Encountered and Resources Required:-** Despite of our best efforts some time there are technical difficulties in the submission of online applications and on the part of Government also there is delay in disbursing the scholarships in time.

For the effective implantation of scholarship schemes we require computer, scanner and internet facility. We also required trained human resources to guide the students to complete online formalities.

## **BEST PRACTICE NO.2**

**Title:- Best practices in the Library**

**Objectives of the Practice:-**

1. For simplifying the process the books and journals to the students and staff.
2. Informing the students and staff about e-books and e-journals and making them available for their use.
3. Making the reprographic/Xerox facilities to the students and staff.
4. Making the library services available to the stakeholders and increasing introduction with them.
5. Using bar-coding software for updating library facilities.
6. To presence rare and old books in the archives of the library and making them available to students and staff.

**The Context:-** The library is operating in the larger rural and tribal social context. Most of the staff and students were not teacher friendly but created literary and awareness about the technology used in the library and convince them about the usefulness of the technology. The use of software in the library has facilitated the searching and issuing of the books and journals to the students and staff.

Information literacy programme was organized by the library for the benefit of the students. Frequent interaction with students and staff created awareness about the availability of e-sources and motivated them to use it to achieve their academic targets.

**The Practice:-** For making the library services to all the stakeholders and making it user friendly following steps have been taken by the library.

- Library housekeeping operations are automated using SOUL 2.0 library management software.
- Bar-coding of all books is produced by library staff only, not outsourced from any vendor.
- Library has social media accounts (page) on which new arrivals are displayed library services promoted.
- On the occasion of A.P.J.Abdul Kalam's birth anniversary, library has been organizing books fair every year.
- Orientation and information literacy programmes are conducted every year for newly admitted students and faculty members.

- Identity cards prepared by vendors are processed by library staff for making database of users.
- On the occasions of annual social function of college, books exhibition is arranged by library.
- For digital resource management library is using D-Space (Repository Software) in which old question papers, Ph.D thesis of faculty members, Research students were kept.
- Library has archival collection of old text books.
- Library is providing newspapers clipping service to all users.
- Library is providing display service for events/news/function/photographs/instructions on big TV display for users.
- The staff is free to recommend and purchase reference books and new books required by their department.

**Evidence of Success:-** The library has been successful in achieving the targets and benchmarks. The result of the best practices is that the number of students using library facilities has gone up. There is greater awareness about the latest e-sources of learning. The process of issuing the books has become easier for library staff. The new arrivals are displayed and this motivates them to use these books for updating their knowledge. There is greater interaction between library and stakeholders.

Two steps taken by library have affected the books of students study and now some of them feel confident enough to express themselves through writing articles in college magazines. The use of bar-coding and software has made it easy to find the relevant books and this has helped to minimize the manpower.

**Problems Encountered and Resources Required:-** Most of the teachers and non-teaching staff was not quite technology friendly in the beginning but we took approximate steps to sensitize them about the library using technology through various awareness raising programmes.

There were certain financial constraints in updating the library facilities. We approached the management and the management agreed to share the financial burden.