Best Practice 1

Title of the Practice: Outcome Based Education

Objectives of the Practice

The present-day education is worldwide experiencing a paradigm shift from the input-output based education to the outcome-based education. The student-centric teaching learning process is essentially required in the present scenario. How much the students learn is important rather than how much we teach to them. The institution has therefore taken initiatives to implement the teaching-learning strategies from the students' point of view and how it will help them in their further studies/jobs. A number of the students of this institution progress to higher studies or appear for competitive examinations, relative to the minimal percentage availing the job opportunities. Thus, keeping pace with the modern-day higher education is intended from this practice.

The context

Outcome based education has arrived with its own challenges for the higher education sector of India, especially when the gross enrolment ratio in higher education is less compared to other countries. Our teachers had to equip themselves on the use of ICT for teaching-learning process by attending training programmes, workshops, watching online videos, practicing the use of online platforms and fixing the related issues by discussions.

The Practice

The first step of student-centric teaching-learning process involved assessing the learning levels of the students and accordingly designing the teaching process. This was done through interactive sessions, question-answer sessions during classes, formative assessments and academic counselling by the mentors. The slow learners were given specific attention through remedial classes and assistance beyond class hours, while the advanced learners were encouraged to participate in competitions, creative writing and processing of their research-oriented thoughts in different dimensions.

A classroom has been converted to smart classrooms. The feedback on the curricular aspects by the IQAC was taken from students and forwarded to the university with suggestions. Students were asked several questions, which were addressed accordingly such as whether the learning outcomes were discussed with them by the departments, whether the curriculum is need based and complies with their expected outcome, whether the curriculum makes them job ready, whether the computer-aided methods of teaching were used by the teachers, whether the internal assessments were discussed with them etc. Handling the issues through an effective mentoring mechanism is also an integral part of this mechanism. The student mentoring system was implemented formally in the institution from the academic session. Mentors organized

interactive sessions and kept contact with their mentees to guide them and address their problems as and when required,

Evidence of Success

1) Students placed for higher studies in universities.
2) Some students cracked different competitive exams.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

1) The institution faces the problems of funding for conversion of more classrooms into the smart classroom and the administration aimed at for renovation and upgradation of labs and classrooms.
2) Procurement of more computers is required to improve the student.

Best Practice 2

Title of the practice – Special initiatives for Rural students

Objective of the Practice:

The college identifies students according to their learning ability during the first year of their learning stay in the college. There may be students who are advanced learners and some are slow learners. It is responsibility of our college to cater to the needs of these students. The college has a unique programme conducted with a view to impart knowledge and encourage students for excelling in different domains. Many students who are enrolled from rural environment face a different ambience in a college. The students from rural have to face some additional socio-cultural challenges compared to urban students while moving into urban colleges, So, to identify the challenges that rural students face when enrol for their education in the college and to provide student-specific solution are the prime objectives of our programme. To share suggestions, opinion and problems at personnel or professional front are the centre stage of this programme.

The context:

The students who are admitted to the under graduate course come with various backgrounds have diverse capabilities and challenges. As most of the students in the College hail from rural background. They are inexperienced and have misconceptions for urban area. Most of the rural students have lack of access to advance learning tools such as digital learning, computer education, and non- academic books. Unfortunately, in rural schools, proper sports coaching and equipment's are not available. This leads to the lack of opportunities for students to play games and be physically active. The situation becomes grimmer for girls students from rural area due to some social and cultural issues. In urban areas, post School times, students are engaged in music, dance classes, language classes where as non-availability of post school

activity centre in rural areas is a key challenge for rural students. Many students may feel self conscious about their academic ability and rural students are most likely to "under match" themselves when applying to college girls students from rural background have to face lacking in facilities like residence, transportation, monthly expenditure, healthy outdoor recreation and communications barriers. So, students need to be handled individually by setting reasonable goals according to their confidence level.

The practice (Its uniqueness in the context of higher education) :

The mentor-mentee interaction helps in identifying the under performers and an advanced performer. Through tutorial period, teachers try to help the students to achieve their path by providing them guidance and mental support. This program also helps to promote their mental and emotional health. In this programme, they are encouraged to discuss their problems openly that provides for free environment for discussion. Extra coaching is also given to each one of them. A system is followed where students are divided into teams. All students have been divided into groups and a team comprises of 20 students that are from all classes and streams with whom weekly interaction is arranged with their mentors. Teachers motivate them in friendlier atmosphere and comfort them to learn and show their personal problems. The profile of each student is maintained that includes student physical, academic, economic, social and medical status. The positive and negative traits of each student is recorded, and at the same time, the attitude, and aptitude of the student, her hobbies, interests, weaknesses, carrier objectives, the problems faced by the students in their ordinary life, the accomplishments, her objectives or carrier goals in life are recorded and analysed and measures are suggested for each student. Each student is assigned a mentor from each course, who initiates one to one interaction, and understand the difficulties faced by the students and remedial classes are conducted to improve the performance of the students.

The performance of the students is conveyed to parents through parents' teachers meet. Students are encouraged to participate in various extracurricular activities organized at college district, or state level. The progress of each student is observed in the case of every activity when student enters at the next level. **The National Education Association said that the lowest performing youth are in public rural school.** So, it is a necessity that students' problems should be upheld on priority bases and more required facilities should be provided to our youth to overcome national crisis.

To cater the needs of rural students, Wi-Fi connectivity is provided so that students can have access to Gmail, or Google for easy access of the study material, and knowledge for competitive exams. To solve the transportation problems of rural students, a special project has been initiated to improve students' safety while reaching to college. The concerns of stakeholders are incorporated into planning operations to accord due respect to their roles. Situational analysis is undertaken to understand problems of students in regard to transport facilities. All stakeholders are thus, interviewed, to understand the issues and challenges regarding transport, and then steps are undertaken by college to address these issues. Sensitization of drivers and conductors of private vehicles on gender and women safety is undertaking in a close connection and coordination with parents, villagers and villages head which aim to help drivers to understand and identify various types of harassment, to increase their awareness about existing laws with regard to women's rights, to improve their interaction with girls students and increasing their personal commitment to prevent harassment of girls, college is helping in to arrange safe transport facilities in coordination with village sarpanch to monitor and ensure safety of students .

Evidence of success:

The college is undertaking outcome-based practices since beginning. In providing evidence of effective practice, college has documented a range of areas using both qualitative and quantitative information. The number of students who got selected for higher education has increased. Students with poor attendance have shown interest and are reaching the class and the number of students with hundred percent attendance has increased.

Students have shown enthusiasm to participate in cultural activities. Many students from rural background came forward to act as organizers for talent hunt, fest, sports activities and cultural programmes. The students who didn't possess any special talent or past experience in sports, dance or speech express keen interest to participate in many activities and clinched rolling shield.

Problem encountered and resources required:

Majority of a student come from economically weak family that have to face financial deprivation and facilities crunch. They have to undertake menial work and part time jobs to support their family and it affect students' attendance negatively. Sometimes, it becomes difficult for students to maintain balance between work and study. Given the poor reading habit among students, regular motivation is required to make student to use library resources to their optimum level. Few problems related to adjustment in time table were emerged while implementing this program as extra time is required is required for individual counselling.