

## Best Practice No 1

### Environment Protection and Conservation

#### Objectives:

- To create Eco- friendly campus.
- To create consciousness regarding environment protection and conservation among students and society.
- To keep college premises clean and plastic free.
- To improve biodiversity.
- Optimize utilization of resources.

**Context:** We are all aware of activities for environment protection and conservation of resources done by NGOs, other organizations or individuals. The college is however inspired to make continuous, focused efforts in this regard. Only collective efforts will be able to bring about positive changes. The soil on the college premises is *Murrum* - gravel type. We plan to keep the premises green, conserve water and make optimum use of available resources.

**Practice:** The environment committee of the college plans and oversees activities and initiatives for environmental conservation. Many environment friendly activities are implemented on and off the campus. The college nursery provided hundreds of saplings for distribution. Gram Panchayats and NGOs approached the college to procure free saplings for plantation drives. The trees in the college premises flourished with a myriad variety of birds making it their home. Conservation of biodiversity in the area improved with potting new varieties of flowering plants and placing feeder and water pots for birds under the shady trees. Initiatives for providing information and encouraging students for environmental protection and conservation is a regular feature of the college. Two trolleys full of flowers and leaves etc. collected by city Nagar Parishad during *sarvajanic* Ganesh festival is deposited in the campus. This is treated to make organic manure. This year, packets were sold to citizens in Khamgaon.

### **Evidence of Success:**

- The college premises are green and cooler, abuzz with birds and butterflies. Nests on trees in the college are a pleasing sight. Many different birds come here to roost.
- Students have been inspired to take up green initiatives in their villages.
- Green audit certification.
- The college has received the prestigious University 'Environment Award' for 2020.
  - Awareness regarding generation of and proper management of flowers etc. during Ganesh festival was created among citizens during sale of organic manure.
  - A few customers regularly buy the organic manure from the college, which proves they are happy with the effectiveness of the manure.

**Problems Encountered and Resources Required:** Due to pandemic, many activities could not be arranged. Students were encouraged to plant trees in the nursery of the college by distributing the saplings to the students in the college premises as well as to a number of organizations and citizens working for environmental conservation in the suburbs. College students were provided with saplings to plant trees in their backyards and on farms. The trees in the college premises were protected and nurtured.

