

## **Best Practices**

Describe at least two institutional best practices (as per NAAC Format)

**Response:**

### **1. Title of the Practice**

## **“Commitment To Environment Conservation”**

### **1. Objectives of the Practice**

The organisation's 'green' goals are a shared responsibility, broadly distributed throughout the campus, from top to bottom and across all institutions.

The mission of the institute includes making the student a finest human being and being environment conscious is the need of the hour.

Hence the objective can enumerated as follows:

1. to create a conscious awareness and sensitivity amongst the staff and students of their responsibility towards environment
2. to take effective measures for developing a green belt around the campus
3. to continue to retain the campus as environmentally sustainable
4. to work towards carbon neutrality
5. To support and implement “Swachh Bharat Aabhiyan”

## **The Context**

Sapkal Knowledge Hub is a tranquil world in itself. Our campus stands unique with its lush green expanse which was once a barren land, colorful plants, replanted trees, herbal plants, chanting birds, gentle breeze flowing from the Anjaneri Hills. Chairman's love for nature has percolated to all staff and students.

Right from the time of designing the campus an effort towards environment consciousness was made. The building is designed by the architect without disturbing the natural hilly and sloping topography of the site and making the buildings environmentally sustainable. Maximum use of natural light and ventilation is done for the classrooms and the library. Skylights have been appropriately used to take maximum advantage of sunlight. The slope of the site had been cleverly used for placing the seminar hall so that the hill need not be cut and the natural topography is retained.

The efforts towards environment conservation continued to be an integral part of the Institute

## **The Practice**

- **Plantation:** Sapkal Knowledge Hub is known as the Green Hub as it has plantations of more than 5000 trees and shrubs throughout the campus. Students actively take part in tree plantations on Independence Day, Republic Day, World Environment Day and Founder's Day. The theme of the 2016 Annual cultural Fest of Sapkal Knowledge Hub "ASTITVA" was Green Environment reflected in our slogan: Plant trees, save trees. Start today Save tomorrow. On 11th June, 2016, students of Sapkal knowledge hub participated in a massive tree plantation at the campus of 1400 trees. We have a dedicated team of more than 50 gardening staff at the campus
- **Replantation:** During the Nashik – Trimbakeshwar highway expansion, many trees were cut down. Sapkal Knowledge hub took the initiative to replant some of them at the campus which has been successful
- **Organic manure:** A well-managed compost pile is made in the campus where all organic waste is collected to make natural manure used for the plants in the campus.
- **Carbon Neutrality:** 80% of the staff and students use the bus facility for coming to the campus, and thus use of private vehicle is minimum. The greenery around the institute helps to neutralize whatever carbon by products that are generated. Majority of the rooms are non AC except for few locations (Director's office, Computer Labs, seminar hall). Hence the carbon by product produced by the air conditioners is minimal. In the rest of the campus too, there is no other source which generates carbon by products
- **Water harvesting and construction of check dam:** We have made efficient use of Rain water harvesting at the campus by collecting rainwater throughout the campus and connecting via pipelines to the water bodies. This water is recycled again and used for irrigating the plants. Moreover the sloping site allows the rain water to be collected and ground water to be percolated in the check dam constructed near the entrance of the campus. We use drip irrigation and sprinklers for watering the plants which saves water. Sapkal Knowledge Hub took the responsibility of de-silting of the Anjaneri dam which is source of water for the campus as well as the nearby villages
- **Energy conservation:** KRSCMS is committed to energy conservation which is reflected in the design of the building. Maximum use sunlight and ventilation is done for every classroom and the library due to which there is minimum use of artificial light or fans. Moreover, only CFL or LED lights and bulbs have been used in the building and Use of light-emitting diode (LED) monitors in the computer labs, thus decreasing the use of electricity.
- **Use of renewable energy:** KRSCMS has installed a windmill and solar panels which effectively produce 2.2 KW electricity. The Administrative office runs on the renewable energy which a conscious step towards our commitment to the environment. Solar heaters are installed at all hostels
- **Swach Bharat:** Active participation of staff and students for Swachhh Bharat Abhiyaan and Goda Swatchta Abhiyaan (cleaning of the river Godavari in nashik) is also commendable.

#### 1.Evidence of Success

- Green audit was conducted where the college initiatives have been appreciated.
- Campus has been awarded the “Vrukshamitra award” for environment conservation in 2015 by government of Maharashtra at the hands of Hon. Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnis and Forest Minister Shri Sudhir Mungantiwar
- “Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vanashree award” in the year 2016 for green campus by Samajik
- Vanikaran Mahasanchalya Van Vibhag, Maharashtra State.

## **Best Practice II**

### **1. Title of the Practice**

Financial assistance and monetary awards to the deserving students.

### **2.Objective Of The Practices:**

Many students seeking admissions come from the rural/tribal areas with low economic background. So financial assistance is extended to deserving students who have not been able to secure government scholarship under the institutional level scholarship scheme.

The monetary reward of Rs 21000 to meritorious students is recognition of their academic achievements. So, the noble objectives of the practice are

- To extend financial aid to the poor students, especially from the rural, to enable them to get admissions
- To support financially all the deserving poor students without any discrimination of caste or creed . To inculcate the values of ‘generosity’ and a ‘sense of social responsibility’ among the students.
- To reward the meritorious students with cash prize as seed money for future endeavours.

### **3 The context**

Through a sincere commitment to all students and their families, we strive to eliminate financial and other barriers to higher education. We make a conscious effort to reach out to those with exceptional economic and educational needs. These funds are provided besides the government scholarships. Government scholarship focuses on reservation categories or EBC category only but sometimes due to want of documents or rigid conditions, many students do not fit the bill. Institutional level scholarship caters to these students with an additional 10 % scholarship to girl students. A reward system is to motivate and award the students who top the academic year. The aim is to reward the performance, hard work and sincere commitment of the students.

#### **4.The Practice:**

Institutional level scholarship is given every year to the needy students based on their past academic performance. Percentage of scholarship depends on marks achieved at the graduation level. Additional 10 % scholarship to girl students is given. Every year during the grand annual cultural fest of 'Astitva' we give cash reward of Rs.21, 000/- to the merit holder of the year in front of all students, their parents and esteemed guests. With this practice we acknowledge and appreciate the performance of the

Years	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
No.of students receiving	7	7	6	5
No. of Students receiving cash	1	1	1	1

meritorious students.

#### **5.Evidence of Success**

#### **6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required**

- It is difficult to provide scholarships to all students. So the past academic performance is kept as criteria.
- The Institute may cater to more students if more resources are made available through various measures.