

Shailabala Women's Autonomous College, Cuttack

Accredited with 'A' grade by N.A.A.C. (U.G.C.) (2006 & 2017)

सत्यमेव जयते नानृत सत्येन पन्था विततो देवयानः।

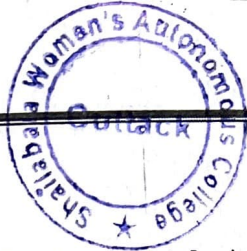
"Oldest Women's College of Odisha!"

BEST PRACTICE #1

1. Title of The Practice: **Social outreach- commitment to the grassroots.**
2. **Objectives of The Practice:** In keeping with the moral belief of an educational institution for its Institutional Social Responsibility, the college aims at the holistic development of students. It is helping them to become women saturated with a spirit of excellence and an abiding concern for others. The institution believes in a strong sense of connectedness with the society where from a bulk of its primary stakeholders come. The objective is to work along with the adopted society to achieve development.
3. **The Context:** Higher education and the institutions where it is imparted have a significant role to play in the tangible and intangible transformation of society. The institution has always striven for realizing this purpose. The activities of our college are planned systematically with an objective of addressing solutions to problems of our society by creating Social Consciousness. The college maintains its social cohesiveness through extended activities in the community to sensitize students about social issues, empower individuals to handle common issues for a better living, and contribute for nourishment. The institution has concern to promote learning beyond class-room by active participation in extension and community outreach programmes.
4. **The practice:** Taking the role of social responsibility a step ahead, the college has started the practice of extension activities in the nearby slums. The institution has accepted two suburban localities (Sutahat-Pattapole and *Harijanbasti*, kaflabazar) to frequently assess the situation. A cross sectional view of all the activities and its services that are extended to the society on the whole brings to the face the importance the college has attributed in fostering the areas.

Educational: Teaching in schools by BEd and other students, fostering learning through play in the Anganwadis, thereby enhancing the cognitive, physical, and aesthetic development of children and improving the enrolment of children in primary and further educations.

Health and sensitization: Awareness on community diseases like Dengue, Malaria and Cholera, awareness on health and nutrition by Home Science student, sensitisation on Covid-19, distribution of medical kits by YRC volunteers.



Environmental Awareness and Activities: Swachh Bharat Programme by NSS volunteers, sensitisation on use of power saving equipment and awareness on regular cleaning of sewage.

Other Activities: Socio-economic survey by students, counselling programmes, voter awareness and enumeration, promoting Institutional child birth etc.

All the outreach activities had huge number of students as volunteers, and active participation was seen.


5. **Evidence of Success:** Remarkable lifestyle changes have been observed among the people of the Sutahat-Pattapole and Harijanbasti of kafla bazar of Cuttack. Increase in the gross enrollment ratio of the children in primary education, increasing recourse to institutional child birth, the voter's assertiveness in the pre and post-poll phase, frugal use of common resources like water are some of the visible positive signs. Maximum students are groomed and motivated to work for society. The students are trained and prepared to encounter and solve social issues and some of them served as volunteers during the elections, community festivals and fair. The testimonials from the President, General Secretaries of the slum committees speak the success of this best practice.

6. **Problems Encountered And Resources Required:** Any outside intervention is presumed by people useless if no material gain is associated. Continuous efforts by the students and staff have prompted them to realise that change in mentality is more important than receiving purposive doles. Some other constrained are reported as:

- Connecting with the slum population especially females
- Lack of incentives for the volunteers
- People expect quick desired results


Co-ordinator
IQAC

24/07/23


Principal
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