

Best Practice : I

1. Title of the Practice: Green Campus Initiative

2. Objectives of the Practice:

An Eco-Friendly environment is one of the most important demands of the situation/time at present. Especially for higher educational institutions (HEI), All the stake holders should well aware about environmental issues and its consequences.

- The objective of the practice is to produce citizen with a concept and mindset that plants and greeneries are soul of the earth for our survival and also for the coming generation in a healthy environment and inculcate the same in the society.
- Moreover, a campus with full of shadows and scenic beauty is every ones expectations which will also create a positive vibes in all the stake holders and visitors towards plantations and maintenance of greeneries which will definitely have a positive impact on the environment.

3. The Context:

The college is situated in a newly formed district and therefore surrounding area of the college is full of environmental issues like air pollution due to huge number of undergoing construction, erosion, deforestation etc. East boundary of the college is sharing inter-state boarder with Meghalaya where lots of stone crushers are there which results in heavy air pollution and erosion due to rain water. In this context, an initiative towards environmental education through hands on example like plantations and their maintenance is utmost important.

4. The Practice:

- ✓ One Seminar and one webinar was organized by the college on the topics related to enviroental issues like environmental degradation, ozone layer depletion and its consequences, Greenhouse gases: their sources and consequences.
- ✓ The college undertook many plantation drives time to time from its inception and many external agencies has also their plantation programs in the college campus but unfortunately very few trees of them are surviving due to different reasons like – flood, lack of boundary wall, lack of knowledge about the importance of trees among the peoples surrounding the college etc. in which effect of flood and water logging in the campus is the most important one which create a havoc each and every year.
- ✓ Few years back, earth feeling in some particular area of the college has been done for survival of further plantation which is up to some extent visible in the campus.
- ✓ A minor project from Assam Science Technology and Environmental Council (ASTEC) Govt. of Assam was requested and sanctioned through College Environment and Climate Cell for plantation and maintenance of them under which 44 trees were survived but next flood destroyed half of them, about 25 trees of that are surviving.

- ✓ Many other plantation drives has been undertaken to make this practice a successful one which are visible in the campus.
- ✓ Flower gardens are prepared and nurtured in the campus from college internal fund which enhanced the scenic beauty of the campus up to many extent.
- ✓ Honours students in some of the departments are asked to plant saplings as a part of their home assignment to make the practice more successful
- ✓ We had a Memorandum of Understanding with Department of Agriculture and forest in this regards and they planted many saplings but unfortunately all of them get destroyed in the very next flood.

Constraints:

Due to lack of fund from the government, it is not possible to undertake a pilot project to make the plantation survival.

5. Evidence of Success:

- About 50 trees of 3 / 4 years of age are surviving within the college campus
- Four flower gardens namely Pobitora, Snigdha, Kaveri and one more are enhancing beauty of the college
- Area of grass land also increased in last few years
- Students started inculcating the habit of plantation in their home as well

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

The main problems encountered in maintaining trees and greeneries within the campus are as follows

- It is a rural college and do not have a boundary wall and as a result the campus is easily accessible for the trespassers (Both animal and man).
- Flood from overflow of mighty Brahmaputra immerse the campus every year
- Peoples of the surrounding area are not at all aware about the environmental issues and importance of plants and greeneries.

N.B: Earth filling in the college campus above the flood level is required and a boundary wall is utmost important for the college for many other reason including this issue.



Best Practice : 2

2. Title of the Practice: Women Empowerment: An initiative for better tomorrow

1. Objectives of the Practice:

- Hatsingimari College believes in the simultaneous development and progress of all the genders: male, female as well as third gender, which is of utmost importance for inclusiveness and the overall development of the institute as well as the society.
- Women Empowerment is the manifestation of women's autonomy in decision making, freedom of expression & control, and to equip women to meet the complex challenges in the current scenario.
- Also to facilitate equal access and opportunity to all the stakeholders irrespective of their gender in learning and exposure to develop individually as well as socially in order to contribute to the nation building.

2. The Context:

- Globalization has mobilized changes in the educational system owing to the introduction and exercise of technological & communicational development. It is important to recognize that women representation is not the only factor; rather, it is crucial entity for the development of inclusive, responsive and transparent democracies.
- Females are lagging behind in education in the region. The female literacy rate of the district is very low (35.7%) in comparison with the national (70.3%) and state rate (66.27%) (Census 2011). The higher education institutions in the region face impediments to increase Female Enrollment in the region. In view of the current situation of the district, the college tries to provide every opportunity to all the genders in the campus.
- In the context of the prevailing feeling of insecurity and discrimination in the society and the workplaces by genders, especially the Females and Transgender, the college

endeavors to set examples by its positive actions and gestures in the campus rather than to show repentance and condemnation only for any such social biasness and injustice.

3. The Practice:

- Hatsingimari College is open for all genders and thus offering options to all the Genders (Male/Female/Transgender) in the students' Admission form.
- The college has a Gender Sensitization Action Plan to guide in implementing the gender equity practice in every stratum in the campus.
- Constitution and active working of social units of the college namely, Women Forum, WomenCell of HSMCTA for taking up "Gender Equity" and "Right to Life with Dignity and Equal Opportunity" promotional programmes and awareness through various programmes on the cross-cutting issues.
- Constitution and active working of Anti Sexual Harassment Committee, Anti Ragging Committee, and Grievance Redressal Cell to ensure the campus environment is free from violence and discrimination.
- Signing MoU with Counselor for undertaking counseling sessions and for mitigating mental issues; appointing lady doctor to address the female related health consultation.
- To ensure equal opportunity to all irrespective of gender in the college campus, encouragement to live with dignity and contribute to the institute as well as in the nation building in a broad sense, the college organizes yearlong continuity of awareness programmes on gender equity and women empowerment in the campus and beyond.
- Ensuring infrastructural facilities, safety and security, menstrual hygiene by sanitary napkin auto vending facility inside the campus.
- The women forum of the college conducts periodic audit of Female Safety in the campus by way of Students survey, analyze it to recommend appropriate measure to the Governing Authority.

- The college has active Memorandums of Understanding with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Mahila Samata Society, Samagra Shiksha, Dhubri, Assam, Pathikrit-an NGO, Assam to jointly carry out activities related to social problems like Child Marriage, Sexual Harassment, Domestic Violence, Dowry Process etc.
- Undertakes Gender audit every 5 years to identify and understand gender patterns within their composition, structures, processes and appropriate planning to design and deliver policies and services thereto.
- Besides dealing with the gender related cross cutting issues incorporated in the Affiliating University Syllabus, the college offers Add on courses on “Human Rights” and “Women in Leadership” to sensitize and practice gender equality among the students (Doc Add on course).
- To extend the concept of Gender equity in the community, Hatsingimari College undertook ‘Women Literacy Programme’ in one of the adopted villages.

Constraints:

- The college being a Government Provincialized institution, it is bound to follow the government rules and regulations in the process of admission and appointments, where preference to a particular gender is not applicable. However, the institution has the ‘Gender Sensitization Action Plan’ authorizing the administration to confer leadership duty to the students as well as staffs irrespective of their gender.

4. Evidence of Success:

- Female student enrolment data of last five years show gradual increase in female enrolment as below

Academic session	Male	Female
2017-2018	55.87%	44.13%
2022-2023	52.25%	47.74%

- Staff position (Teaching staff), last five years show gradual increase in female appointment.

Academic session	Male	Female
2017-2018	94.6%	5.40%
2021-2022	92.10%	7.89%

- Staff position (non-Teaching staff), last five years show gradual increase in female appointment.

Academic session	Male	Female
2017-2018	94.73%	5.27%
2021-2022	90%	10%

- The female student enrolment increased from the session 2017-2018 to session 2021-2022 in the college NCC Platoon. Similar trend of achievement is observed in NSS enrolment, where number of female enrolment is gradually increased as below:-

Academic session	Male	Female
2017-2018	36.84%	63.16%
2021-2022	28.26%	71.74%

- Our students are highly conscious and take initiatives to aware their peers in Anti-Sexual Harassment and Anti-ragging activities by wall paintings

5. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

- Female staff position cannot be increased due to limitations in appointment guideline. The placement guideline does not permit preference of appointment on the basis of gender.
- Admission process of the college is strictly on merit and does not have any criteria of female preference or reservation.

- shortage of Resources to increase the number of hostel accommodations for both the genders in the college