

## Best Practices for the Session 2019-20

### Institutional Best practice-1

**Title of the practice:** Social service through NSS and YRC activities.

#### Objectives of the practice:

- ✓ To undertake philanthropic activities and inculcate the spirit of service to mankind.
- ✓ To provide help in natural and man-made disasters by providing food, clothing and first-aid to disaster victims.
- ✓ To abide by the motto of 'Service to Society'.
- ✓ To contribute towards environmental awareness and maintenance of a green and eco-friendly campus through plantation and cleanliness drives.
- ✓ To instill self-discipline and a sense of responsibility, dedication and commitment among the students.
- ✓ Preparing the students to be caring citizens so that they have an opportunity to touch the lives of the needy and the helpless.

#### The Context:

The objective of an institution of Higher Education is not only the attainment of academic excellence but also the inculcation of moral, ethical and humanitarian values in the youth for a holistic development of human personality. We live in an increasingly violence-prone world where the degeneration of human values has become the order of the day and one witnesses an upward trend in crime rates, anti-social activities, corruption, dishonesty, indiscipline, intolerance, moral degradation, lack of compassion and fellow feeling in the society.

In this context, the role of the NSS and YRC assumes crucial importance in educational institutions to enable the young students to imbibe the spirit of social service and develop into well rounded personalities in the larger interest of the society and the nation at large.

#### The practice:

Govt. College, Sundagarh has quite active and vibrant units of NSS and YRC. These units are engaged in several philanthropic activities. All these units are run under the leadership and supervision of very able and efficient officers of the teaching faculty.

In the academic session 2019-20, the NSS volunteers undertook several activities as the following:

- ✓ International Yoga day was observed on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2019 to highlight the importance of yoga in daily life for physical and mental wellbeing. The event was attended by 46 students along with the NSS volunteers and staff members of the institution.
- ✓ The NSS volunteers organised plantation drives on 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2019, 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 and 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 to create awareness among the students regarding the role and responsibility towards ecological sustainability by planting trees.

- ✓ A one day Vanmahotsav was organised on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 to inspire students to spread awareness about conservation and maintenance of greenery inside the campus.
- ✓ A 'Vigilance Awareness Week' was observed from 31<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 by the NSS and NCC units of the College to generate awareness about the student ill effects of corruption.
- ✓ A First-Aid training programme was organised by the YRC unit regarding how to prevent the life of the injured from getting worse.

#### **Evidence of success:**

The activities of the NSS and YRC units have been successfully conducted due to the active involvement of volunteers, students and staff members of the institution. The students have been participating in these activities with a great deal of enthusiasm. More girl students have enrolled themselves in these activities than earlier. There is more awareness among the students about the need and importance of social service and humanitarian acts like blood donation as well as healthy habits and practices such as cleanliness.

#### **Problems encountered and resources required:**

- Paucity of adequate funds for NSS and other activities.
- Lack of dedicated and highly motivated volunteers to carry out the extension activities.
- Many students hesitate to volunteer for blood donation due to misconceptions and fear.

#### **International Yoga day was observed on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2019**



The NSS volunteers organised plantation drives on 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2019



A 'Vigilance Awareness Week' was observed from 31<sup>th</sup> October, 2019



A First-Aid training programme was organised by the YRC



## Best Practice -2

**Title of the Practice:** Preservation of Cultural Heritage through 'Khuel Jatra'

### Objectives:

- ✓ To develop and promote the rich diversity and uniqueness of traditional culture and practices of Western Odisha.
- ✓ To lay emphasis on the folk and tribal arts and generate awareness about the preservation and strengthening of the vanishing art forms.
- ✓ To acquaint the students and the public with the rich tribal culture, music and dance forms that have remained obscure and on the verge of extinction.
- ✓ To revive interest in the dying art forms, artefacts, cuisine, dress and music of Western Odisha and the tribal communities of Sundargarh district.
- ✓ To bring forth the hidden talents and skills that may lie unexplored among the students.

### The context:

Culture and tradition are an integral part of any society. They provide a sense of identity to individuals and help define a particular group or community.

Western Odisha is a tribal dominated region which is enriched with a distinct cultural identity with its unique songs, dance forms, language and festivals. This distinctiveness arises from the strong association of the tribal and folk communities that have co-existed for centuries.

The tribal culture in the district of Sundargarh is replete with a plethora of folk dances and songs that are generally associated with a function or the worship of a deity. However, in the modern technological age, traditional practices and customs are losing their appeal among the masses. Hence, it is imperative that efforts should be made to connect the young generation with our culture and heritage.

### The Practice:

The 'Khuel Jatra' got underway in Government College, Sundargarh on 12th January 2019 to celebrate the 'National Youth Day'. It was an eventful road show in front of the college. The colourful event generated tremendous excitement and enthusiasm among the students as well as the general public. The event was inaugurated by the Collector and District Magistrate of Sundargarh in the



presence of the Principal of the college Dr KK Das who has been instrumental in the conceptualization and execution of this event.

The cultural fest got off to a rousing start with delightful and entertaining group dances that included Sambalpuri, Sadri and other tribal folk dances performed by the students apart from Sambalpuri and Sadri songs sung beautifully by some talented singers of the institution. Besides, the students displayed a variety of tribal art and artefacts as well as traditional cuisine. A group of painters displayed their artistic skills by drawing pictures and making portrait paintings on the spot. Different traditional herbal medicines used mainly by the rural folk were also displayed by the students. A highly popular dance form called 'Pala' as well as 'Kirtan' were performed by a group of students. Besides, traditional musical instruments popularly used in Western Odisha such as Dhol, Nisan, Jhanj and Muhuri that enjoy a special status in Sambalpuri music were displayed and also played for the entertainment of the audience. Dalkhai and Rasarkeli song and dance numbers were presented by a group of performers.

The girl students drew some wonderfully crafted jhotis with intricate and colourful patterns on the floor. Sand art was also on display. Traditional bridal dress and bridal songs along with some wedding rites and rituals were presented by the students to provide a wholesome entertainment to the audience present on the occasion. Traditional tribal attire and weapons like bows, arrows and clubs were also displayed before the audience.

On the whole, the Khuel Jatra was a spectacular success and drew a huge crowd to the event.

#### **Evidence of Success:**

The 'Khuel Jatra' is a unique initiative undertaken by the College Administration and this event has generated a huge degree of excitement and enthusiasm among the students, the staff as well as the general public of Sundargarh. The College Administration has received appreciation and praise from various quarters for this novel idea. The young students in particular, have been exposed to many traditional customs, practices, art forms and artefacts, song and dance etc that are gradually dying out due to the advancement of modern civilization.

The 'Khuel Jatra' has been an ideal platform to showcase the versatile talents of the students. The event has drawn a positive response from all stakeholders and the motto of the institution to provide holistic and inclusive education for all has been well served by this event.

#### **Problems encountered and Resources Required:**

- Lack of adequate resources to make the event bigger.

- Time constraints for the conduct of the programme.
- The lack of a tribal museum in the institution hampers the necessary arrangements.
- Lack of interest among many students in ancient and outdated traditions and practices.