Best Practice - 1

1.   Title of the Practice   -   Students' Welfare Initiatives

2.   Goal

Several Students' Welfare Initiatives have been instituted to look into the welfare of students based on merit and economic status. The Students' Welfare Fund is an initiative to provide financial assistance to poorest students studying in our college. As a government institution, the college is home to many economically underprivileged students. Thus one of the goals of the aforementioned fund is to cater to the needs of such students to tide over their financial problems and continue unhindered study for better prospects in life. Another objective of this best practice is to provide incentives to meritorious students to give their best across the spectrum of courses offered in the college. Various awards have been instituted by individuals and departments to award students for excellence in academics.

3.   The Context

The College has 1149 undergraduate regular students in the current academic session. Each year the college received a good number of students who comes from economically weaker section. Thus, to give financial aid to the deserving students, the Students' Welfare Committee selects a few from amongst the poorest of the poor students especially those without parents, and extend a minimum financial assistance to them. The amount is fixed at Rs.400/- per month per student for 12 months subject to renewal after 1 year.

The funds for the various welfare initiatives are internally generated through the good will gestures and donations from the teaching faculty members and some few individuals. The scheme was envisioned in 2013 and started in 2014 by giving stipend to 8 students followed by 10 students the following year. In the period reported upon from July 2018 to June 2019, 16 students benefited from the scheme.

In addition to the funds to the poor students, the college has instituted two awards for the Topper in Arts Stream and Commerce Stream respectively every year carrying a cash award of Rs. 10,000 and citation. Besides this, various departments in the college has initiated a cash and citation awards to the subject toppers in their respective disciplines.

The greatest challenge for the committee is scarcity of resources as the need is more but the sources of fund is limited. Therefore, the committee is actively involved in locating resources to continue the good work through different sources.

4. The Practice

The idea evolved in the IQAC meeting a few years ago. The house had a thorough discussion and resolved to create a "Students' Welfare initiatives" with a goal to offer minimum financial assistance to a few poor students of the College. The members voluntarily contributed Rs.5000/- each as a Seed Money towards the venture.

The agenda was placed in the following Faculty Meeting informing them that the IQAC members have donated the above amount for the cause. To this the rest of the teachers agreed to contribute an equal amount. The collected amount was handed over to the principal. Following this, the principal appointed a 5 member committee and entrusted them to manage the fund.

The Committee decided to keep the amount in the bank as Seed Money and utilize the interest portion for giving stipend to poor students. In addition, some philanthropist and departments in the college has come forward for the sponsorship of students. Currently 16 students are getting benefit out of this scheme.

For the meritorious students' different awards namely, Dr. Hokishe Sema award for topper in Arts stream from the college, L.T Yepthomi award for topper in Commerce stream

from the college and other subject toppers like English, Economics, History, Political Science, Philosophy and Education are given out on the college foundation day i.e 25th July of every year.

Experts from various fields are invited to the college for career guidance and counselling at regular intervals. Remedial classes are conducted every Wednesday to help weak students cope with the demands of their courses. The Mentoring Committee organises sessions for mentor-mentee interactions. Mentors also meet and stay in touch with their respective mentees and offer advice on personal problems as well as career related matters.

5. Evidence of Success

Initially the fund provided stipends to 8 poor students which went up to 10 the next year and 16 in 2018-19. Community participation is apparent out here as the departments are coming out voluntarily to sponsor more students. It is expected that with more funds coming in, the number of beneficiaries of poor students' stipend will continue to grow.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Such practice requires financial resources and the need is increasing every year. Though the teachers of this College are highly giving in nature and are ever ready to contribute for a good cause yet the students in need of such welfare schemes are also ever increasing. Therefore, garnering enough financial resources to meet the requirement is a continuous challenge.

Best Practice – 2

1. **Title of the second best practice**--------------**Green Campus Project**

2. **Objective**
   The main objective is to make the institution a sustainable and environmental friendly campus. The green campus project as a best practice mirrors the principle of a green college in the city and endeavours to extend teaching and learning process beyond the classroom to develop responsible attitudes and commitment to the environment both in the college campus and to the community at large. Another goal of this best practice is to switch over to eco-friendly energy in the campus.

3. **Context**
   The institution is located in the commercial hub of the state. Of late, the town has been witnessing rapid urban growth and in the process the natural environment and its beauty in and around the college campus has been affected. Thus protecting and preserving our natural environment for the future has become the biggest challenge of this generation. Further, the college has a large area of open space where different species of plants naturally grow. It is pertinent to save what we already have in the campus and also plant more trees. The green campus initiative identifies the whole campus as a community and it places significant importance on the inclusion of all the stakeholders to take active steps towards sustainable environmental practices. Therefore, to further promote environmental awareness and inculcate greater participation towards environmental protection, a cleaner campus and conservation, the Green Campus Project has been adopted as a best practice.

4. **The Green Practices**
   The college, through its green campus initiative, tries to identify the various environmental issues and take necessary steps to achieve the goal. Through its various cells like the Eco and beautification club, the Students Council, DGC RUSA Monitoring Cell (DRMC), the NCC and NSS, regular tree plantation is carried out. The area for tree plantation and maintenance is divided into segments and each segment is assigned to different departments. In addition, different species of medicinal and herbal plants are planted and identified in the college campus.

   To keep up its tag as one of the cleanest government colleges in the state of Nagaland, the college conducts regular social work and cleanliness drives in and around the college campus where all the college community participate.

   To create a healthy living condition and spread awareness on health issues, the college campus is declared as tobacco and also plastic free zone. Keeping in tune with this declaration, proper information has been disseminated to all students and use of single-use plastics and tobacco products are strictly prohibited to make this commitment a reality.

   The college also has a nursery cum park under floriculture and ornamental pond which is maintained by DRMC.

The institution has also shifted from conventional energy to use of LED bulbs and solar street lighting in and around the college campus.

The power to the administrative block is supplied by the 20 KV solar power which was installed in the college.

To replenish the green fields of the college campus, rainwater harvesting is practice.

Beautification of college campus is regularly monitored by Eco and Beautification cell of the college.

5. **Evidence of success**
   The use of solar power has solved the problem of energy shortage in the college campus to a large extend. There has been a substantial increase of green coverage in the college campus with the addition of new varieties of trees and other ornamental plants. The positive and active participation of all the stakeholders, particularly the students' community, indicates that they have become more conscious about sustainable environment.

   The green campus project is a work in progress and will be a sustainable practice for all stakeholders even in the days to come.