7.2 Best Practices

Describe at least two institutional best practices

Upload details of two best practices successfully implemented by the institution as per NAAC format in your institution website, provide the link

Title of the Practice: Vermicomposting

Objectives of the Practice:

- To sensitize the students about need of waste management.

- Create an organic waste management model for the households in cities.

- Make the students aware of the value of waste.

- To protect the biodiversity.

The Context: Our College is always in the forefront in sensitising the students about social problems and finding solution to the problems. Way back in 2008 we started vermicomposting project as a solution to organic waste management in cities.

The Practice: "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle" is the slogan we strictly follow to deal with waste. Our Vermicomposting Project is a step towards Clean and Green city.NSS unit and Nature Club of our college started the project in 2008 in a simplex tank. A vermicomposting shed of 2.30×1×0.4 cubic m with 6 working composting pits was constructed. The harvested compost is used in Butterfly garden and other green areas of the campus.

On 9th January, 2019 members of Nature Club harvested the compost from vermicomposting pits and reactivated the plant. They added organic waste and earthworms. Slurry of cow dung was sprayed on it. Then waste was covered with green leaves. Regular monitoring of the vermicomposting was done by the volunteers. After four months the compost was ready to use. On 6th February, 2019, sale of compost was organized. The objective of the sale was to spread the message among the students and teachers of 'the value of waste'. The staff and students wholeheartedly participated in the sale. An amount of Rs.900 was collected from the sale. In addition to this the members continued to maintain the Butterfly Garden to protect different types of butterflies. New nectar plants were planted in the garden.

Evidence of Success: The College is composting the garden waste and canteen waste. We harvest around 1000 kg of compost every year. Our vermicomposting project was appreciated in the newspaper. Members of Nature Club also helped to start vermicomposting in housing society. Our students also helped in starting a vermicomposting project at Ambika Yoga Kutir main center at Kelve.

Practice 2

Title of the Practice: Solar Energy Project
Objectives of the Practice:

- To reduce the dependency on fossil fuel energy.

- To become a model to other institutes and housing societies in the suburban areas to switch on to renewable and green energy technologies.

- To make the students aware of the benefits of solar energy.

- To protect environment.

The Context: The College incurred bills of Rs. 345640 and Rs. 81660 for its two meter nos. 7665757 and 7764931 respectively in the year 2017. To reduce the electricity bills and as a step towards reducing carbon footprint, the college decided to go for Solar Energy Project.

The Practice: The initial investment of the project was Rs. 23,00,000/-. The project life is 25 years. The cost recovery period was calculated as 2 years 10 months. Saving after recovery period was estimated as Rs. 3,90,000/- per year for seven years. The maintenance is free for first 5 years and will be chargeable @Rs. 15000/- per year for next 5 years. After considering all the technical details the quotation of the M/s Saur Engineers and consultants was finalised. The total expenses incurred on installing the Solar Panels on the open terrace on fifth floor were Rs. 19,89,750/- including 5% GST. A subsidy of Rs. 549000 was approved in principle subject to inspection. After the inspection the project was inaugurated on 31st March 2018.

Evidence of Success: From June 2018 to May 2019, 25873 KWH energy was generated. It cost to Rs. 258730/- @Rs. 10 per unit. College was able to save Rs. 258730/- by the inception of solar panels. More than that the environmental benefit of the project is beyond measurable. The College also received subsidy from the Government of Rs. 549000/-.