

BEST PRACTICES IN MY INSTITUTION – I

1. **Title of the practice:** Conservation of bio-diversity and Environmental awareness programme through activities of CANOPY, the Nature Club of the college.

2. **The context that required the initiation of the practice** (100 – 120 words)

Environmental pollution resulting from rampant exhaustions of natural resources has become a deadly threat to life on this planet. In recent times the environmental issues have been identified as matters of grave concern having an all-round global import. In light of this international threat to the order and sustaining power in nature, Canopy, the nature club of the institute, is continuing environmental awareness programmes inside the college premises and also in the vicinity. As the college is located in a rural area, ample scope is there for all students, faculties and other staffs to enjoy a rewarding exposure to a variety of flora and fauna. Canopy exploits this set up to promote a general awareness on environment and to carry out conservational activities regarding the existing bio-diversity.

3. **Objectives of the practice** (50 – 60 words)

The objective of the practice is to promote awareness on the importance of bio-diversity and preservation of natural resources. Canopy, the Nature Club of the college aims at popularizing the conservationist practices and sensitizing people on the vital bond between man and his environment. The activists of the Nature Club try to promote the practice of nature study which in turn leads to the forging of intimacy between the Nature Club activists and the natural environment they inhabit.

4. **The Practice** (250 – 300 words)

Students associated with Canopy developed a natural refrigerator named Vegerator, which won an award at the WWF organized national Summit Echo 2021. A butterfly garden is maintained in the college campus. A wilderness patch called “sacred grove” was set up for creating a green zone. Measures were taken towards maintenance of the pond for protecting and nurturing the lesser whistling teal. Various indigenous species of fish of different tropic level for maintaining ecological balance..

5. **Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them** (150 – 200 words)

The introduction of CBCS and as a consequence, rigorous curriculum leaves less time for students to participate in extra-curricular activities. Besides, there is a general apathy to environmental causes among a large section of students for which it often becomes difficult to motivate them towards activities of Nature club. To address this, the activists arranged awareness programme for students and encouraged them to take part in activities like maintenance of a green zone and anti-plastic drives. Common people’s ignorance of and

indifference to the benefits of a properly maintained ecological order is yet another obstacle encountered by the members of Nature club. In spite of constant monitoring and regular vigilance there were cases of uprooting and damaging the plants planted by the nature club outside the college campus. However, the Nature Club activists are persistently keeping in touch with local villagers and trying to involve them in the maintenance of the plants outside the campus.

6. Impact of the practice (100 – 120 words)

Canopy has participated in the WWF organized national summit Echo 2021, and they have been awarded with the 'Heroes of 2021' award. The patent is in the process. A green zone inside the college campus including a properly nurtured pond is maintained for preservation of indigenous flora and fauna. The activities of the Nature Club over the years have succeeded in captivating attention of different stake-holders of the college and in motivating them towards preservation of bio-diversity in the world around them.

7. Resources required:

Energetic and motivated activists for pursuing the projects taken up by Canopy. Necessary infrastructure for conservation of natural resources.

8. About the Institution:

- i. Name of the Institution: **Bejoy Narayan Mahavidyalaya**
- ii. Year of Accreditation: **2015 (Second Cycle)**
- iii. Address: P.O.- **Itachuna, Dist.-Hooghly, West Bengal**
- iv. Grade awarded by NAAC: **B**
- v. E-Mail: **bnmv2012@yahoo.in**
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BEST PRACTICES IN MY INSTITUTION – II

1. Title of the practice: Arranging seminars and webinars on various topics.

2. The context that required the initiation of the practice (100 – 120 words)

Present academic discourses are growing beyond the conventional learning methods, and it becomes imperative for the students to be initiated into the inter-disciplinary approach. Furthermore, faculty members can update their domain knowledge and nurture their research aptitudes through specific academic talks and meeting with prominent features. This is the context which gave rise to the tradition of organizing regular seminars. In this particular academic year where normal academic routine suffered a setback due to the pandemic, it was necessary not only to spread awareness about health and hygiene but also to keep the morale of the students high and to provide them some creative discussions. So, webinars were organized on various topics.

3. Objectives of the practice (50 – 60 words)

Webinars were organized on several disciplines, but the focus was on the pandemic situation. Webinars gave a way of counselling the students, to help them overcome the stress and other socio-economic problems pertaining to the situation. Additionally, the online mode enabled us to organize international webinars as the cost of logistics was not there, since it is organized virtually.

4. The Practice (250 – 300 words)

18 seminars (including webinars i.e., online seminars) were organized by the Seminar Subcommittee, IQAC and the academic departments of the college. Almost all the seminars featured speakers of national and international repute. The students associated with Canopy organized an interactive session. Departments of English, Mathematics and Zoology organized academic lectures. Some of the seminars were on socially relevant issues like self-motivation, superstitions and modernism. Two seminars on Intellectual Property rights (IPR) and a session on entrepreneurship were held. In continuation of the collaboration with Balagarh Bijoy Krishna Mahavidyalaya, the institute organized five webinars focussing on freedom movement. Again, the academic committee arranged for special seminars for students to discuss the various details of the evolving CBCS system. Recorded talks were uploaded to the official youtube channel of the college for future viewing.

5. Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them (150 – 200 words)

An immediate challenge was to enable more students to attend the webinars. As a large number of the students are from economically and socially backward categories, not all of them could afford smartphones, computers or internet connection in their homes. This was not easily overcome in case of visual webinars, and so some webinars focussed on speech.

Then, the available webinar platforms had a limitation on participant numbers. An updated version of Gsuite was availed of to increase the number of participants in webinars, and in some cases, Youtube live was used.

6. Impact of the practice (100 – 120 words)

Apart from the usual academic benefits of attending colloquia, the webinars provided a window of comfort and creativity for students and teachers alike. The student seminars have inspired fellow-students to actively engage in such activities. Talks on freedom movement and sessions on self-motivation have surely acted as stimuli for the students to become responsible citizens. The lectures introduced the faculty members (and motivated students) to eminent academicians, leading to the possibility of future academic collaborations.

7. Resources required:

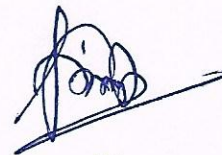
Faculty members who are a part of the Seminar Subcommittee, IQAC and teachers in general took a lot of initiatives to organize these webinars. Enhanced Google subscription, revamped internet connection in the college and related broadcasting instruments including laptops and projectors were needed.

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