

## **BEST PRACTICES IN MY INSTITUTION - I**

**1. Title of the practice:** Promoting awareness on bio-diversity and importance of environmental resources through activities of CANOPY, the Nature Club of the college.

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

Growing menace of environmental pollution accompanied and often even caused by mindless destruction of natural resources has become a serious threat to life on this planet. Over the last few decades the environmental issues have come to be recognized as matters of grave concern having an all-round global import. Responding to this world-wide threat to the order and sustaining power in nature, Canopy, the nature club of the college, is carrying out an environmental awareness programme both inside and outside the college premises. In this context it requires pointing out that the college is located in a rural area which offers ample scope to all its stakeholders to enjoy a wide range of exposure to a variety of flora and fauna. This is an opportunity which is exploited by Canopy to promote a general awareness on environment.

**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)

A butterfly garden was groomed up in the college campus. A wilderness patch, “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 trophic level for maintaining ecological balance. A nature trail to Sandakfu was conducted by Canopy members involving both teachers and students of the college.

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

The introduction of CBCS has imposed some sort constrain upon students with regard to their participation 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)**

Members of the Nature Club have succeeded in creating a green zone inside the college campus including a properly nurtured pond 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 Mahavidyalya**

ii. Year of Accreditation: **2015 (Second Cycle)**

iii. Address: P.O.- **Itachuna, Dist.-Hooghly, West Bengal**

iv. Grade awarded by NAAC: **B**

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## **BEST PRACTICES IN MY INSTITUTION-II**

**1. Title of the practice:** Mentorship Programme for students

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

Mentor-mentee concept, as proposed by NAAC, covers a whole range of area pertaining to the teaching-learning process, and even goes beyond that to take into account the problems and possibilities of individual students on the basis of a study of the socio-economic background of these students. Our college, being located in a rural area, finds a large number of students from economically and academically backward families who need additional support, encouragement and guidance from the teachers. The mentorship programme is one that provides the room for this exchange between the mentor and mentee to take place, so that it becomes easier for mentees to discuss their problems with the mentor, and for the teachers to offer useful suggestion to the mentee at an inter-personal level.

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

- To discover the possibilities and problems of the students.
- To help them overcoming their problems and discovering their strength.
- To offer them guidance in the academic field.
- To track their academic performance and devise plans for monitoring the mentees accordingly.
- To motivate the mentees to become self-reliant and guide them in choosing their career.

**4. The Practice** (250 – 300 words)

- The mentor maintains a diary to record the personal details of the mentees.
- Holds meetings with mentees at regular interval and discusses their problems.
- Encourages students to improve their academic performance and develop their competence.
- Keeps in touch with the parents of the mentees and receive feedback from them.
- Tracks the progress of the students.
- Motivate the students for building a professional career and becoming self-reliant.

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

- There were inhibitions on the part of the students against sharing their personal problems with the mentors. To ensure that they are comfortable while conversing, the mentors talk with them individually instead of holding a group meeting.

- To overcome any inhibition regarding talking about any problems the students face in their respective academic departments, it is ensured that the mentor of a particular student is from a different department than the one to which the student belongs.
- The female students are often discouraged from continuing their studies (and are married off at an early age) by their parents. The mentors kept in touch with the parents of such students and made them aware of the importance of education and self-reliance for female students.
- Students from the backward sections often face economic hardships, and are not always aware of the various scholarships (in state and national level) offered to them. The mentors regularly keep them updated about the scholarships and other financial helps offered them, and sometimes help them regarding the technicalities of the application procedure (which the students often find complicated).
- Since the CBCS curriculum is vast, the mentors often find it difficult to find a slot devoted to mentor meetings unless it is fixed beforehand. To address this, master routine has been modified to make room for such meetings.

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

Mentorship programme has not only visibly motivated the students, but it is also playing a significant part in addressing the issues faced by the students at an individual level. Students have been encouraged to utilize the online grievance portal (in the college website) regarding the general problems they face. The number of applicants for different scholarships have increased as they are now updated about the different schemes. Many personal problems (including social and economic) have been addressed through mentor meetings. Students have been encouraged to hone creative pursuits and to join the various clubs, NCC, NSS, Integrated Personality Development programme etc. in the college.

**7. Resources required:** The success of the mentorship programme depends on the individual care and time mentorship allotted for each student. Naturally, it is important that a mentor is not assigned too many mentees. Since the number of students in the general courses is rather large, the college is thinking of ways to make the mentee grouping in a more efficient manner.

## 8. About the Institution:

- Name of the Institution: **Bejoy Narayan Mahvidyalya**

ii. Year of Accreditation: 2015 (Second cycle)

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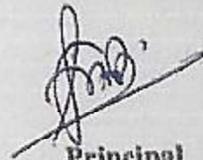
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