

Best Practice 1

TOWARDS A GREENER AND CLEANER FUTURE

1. Title of the Practice: Towards a Greener and Cleaner Future

2. Objectives of the Practice: The primary objectives of this practice are to create a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable campus environment. This initiative aims to foster environmental awareness among students and staff, enhance the aesthetic appeal of the college, and contribute to the overall well-being of the campus community. The underlying principles are sustainability, community participation, and environmental stewardship.

3. The Context: The college faced a significant challenge with a lack of greenery and cleanliness on campus. Initially, the campus had very few trees, and there was a need for a cleaner environment to promote a healthy and conducive learning atmosphere. Additionally, the absence of a boundary wall posed a challenge in maintaining the newly planted trees, as local cattle would often enter the campus and damage the plants. Additionally, the rapid growth of parthenium, a noxious weed, also negatively impacted the college's ambience and required immediate attention. The college recognized the importance of addressing these issues to create a more sustainable and attractive campus.

4. The Practice: The Green Campus Initiative involves organizing regular campus cleaning drives and plantation programs. These activities are conducted by the two NSS wings and the Environment and Disaster Management Sub-committee. Over the past two to three years, the college has made significant progress in these efforts. Initially, the campus had very few trees, but now it boasts a number of large trees and numerous smaller plants growing rapidly. The college has focused on making the campus plastic-free and encouraging voluntary participation from students and staffs in maintaining the greenery. To protect the newly planted trees from cattle, small fencings have been arranged around the plants. Students and staff members take turns watering the trees, ensuring their growth and sustainability. To address the problem of parthenium growth, the college implemented several control measures. These included manual removal, regular monitoring. These efforts have been successful, and the college campus is now almost parthenium-free. Despite the lack of a boundary wall, which remains a significant constraint, the college has managed to create a greener and cleaner environment through these collective efforts.



5. Evidence of Success: The evidence of success is visible in the increased number of trees and plants on campus, contributing to a greener and more pleasant environment. The initiative has also fostered a sense of environmental responsibility among students and staffs, as evidenced by their active participation in cleaning and plantation drives. Performance against obstacles is reflected in the improved cleanliness and greenery, making the campus

more attractive and environmentally friendly. These results indicate a positive shift towards sustainability and community involvement, aligning with the college's objectives.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required: One of the main problems encountered is the absence of a boundary wall, making it difficult to protect the newly planted trees from local cattle. This issue has led to several instances of plants being damaged or chewed up by cattle. Additionally, the college faces a lack of substantial resources to construct a boundary wall, which would provide a more permanent solution. Despite these challenges, the college has managed to arrange small fencings around the plants and relies on voluntary efforts from students and staff for maintenance.

7. Notes (Optional): To further enhance the impact of this practice, the college plans to:

- Seek funding and support from local government and NGOs to construct a permanent boundary wall.
- Implement advanced irrigation systems to ensure the sustainability of the planted trees.
- Introduce more diverse plant species to enhance biodiversity on campus.
- Conduct regular workshops and seminars on environmental conservation to keep the campus community engaged and informed.
- Establish a dedicated Eco-club to oversee and manage all green initiatives and ensure continuous improvement.




Principal
Kabitanikan Mukundaram Mahavidyalaya
Keshabpur, Hooghly
Pin - 712413