

BEST PRACTICE I**TITLE OF THE PRACTICE: NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME**

THE CONTEXT THAT REQUIRED THE INITIATION OF THE PRACTICE: The NSS unit of the college has been active since in inception. It is a part of the government–sponsored programme conducted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs. The college unit engages students in various community services in the local neighbourhood. Over the years various programmes have been conducted to identify the needs of the local community and to address them in an effective way. Its focus has always been on gender and women’s empowerment given the fact that it is a girls’ college.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PRACTICE:

To develop a sense of responsibility towards civic and social community

Develop inter-personal communication skills

Analyse the problems/ needs of the community and offering solutions thus developing problem-solving skills in practical situations

Responsibility sharing and delegating duties for collective –living

Inspiring communal harmony

THE PRACTICE:

Over the years the NSS unit has been actively engaged in various programmes. In the last five years (following past tradition) the unit has organized student-based programmes, special camps, community services..

First Aid Camp

Mosquito- borne disease counselling

Community services include:

- Health check-up and awareness camp for low cost high-calorie food among slum-dwellers of Kanarajabagan area (slum adopted by NSS Unit of the college. BMI tests held. (First week of September 2017-- 50 students participated.
- World Environment Day (05/06/18). Go Green Drive in adjacent areas of the college.
- Thalassemia Awareness and screening Programme held in collaboration with School of Tropical Medicine. Held periodically throughout the year in camps of 60-70 students each.
- The NSS Week Camps involve active engagement with local community.

OBSTACLES FACED IF ANY AND STRATEGIES ADOPTED TO OVERCOME THEM :

Infrastructural:

As this college shares premise with its sister colleges, space constraint come in the way of conducting programmes with larger audience/participants. However, as the college uses the rooms in its annexe building (one of which is a smart room) to conduct its indoor programmes. Support from the college administration and the sister colleges have resolved some of these issues.

General apathy and lack of awareness of the local community:

The local residents do not have access to knowledge about diseases such as Thalassemia. Consequently there is a general reluctance to undergo such tests. Regular parental counselling by the NSS volunteers, teachers and representatives from the School of Tropical Medicine has shown remarkable change in societal attitude.

IMPACT OF THE PRACTICE:

- A deep sense of Institution-Community engagement has evolved in the active participation of all stake holders of the college in all the programmes of the NSS.
- Students have had first hand training of community services
- NSS volunteers have honed their leadership skills; their soft skills have improved in course of their community service
- They have learnt to identify the needs of their community and address them accordingly
- Their interaction with their community has sensitized them to a feeling of common nationhood.
- NSS activities have given female students of the college an exposure to opportunities around them and have instilled a sense of pride and productive engagement

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

Infrastructural resources have scope for improvement. Availability of separate auditorium, electronic devices, and separate facility for storage of documents would improve the quality of the initiative.

BEST PRACTICE II

TITLE OF THE PRACTICE : NATIONAL CADET CORPS

THE CONTEXT THAT REQUIRED THE INITIATION OF THE PRACTICE :

The NCC Unit of Maharani Kasiswari College started functioning from 24th July 2004, under the 19th Bengal Battalion of Eastern Command at the Fort William. Within this period it has shown promise of a full-blown unit with multi-dimensional interests. It is heartening to find cadets, especially female cadets ready to offer voluntary services to the community and greater society.

OBJECTIVES :

- To create a resource pool of organized trained and motivated youth to provide leadership in all walks of life
- To provide a suitable environment to motivate the youth to take up a career in the armed forces
- To develop character comradeship, discipline, leadership secular outlook, spirit of adventure, ideals of selfless service among youth of the country.

THE PRACTICE:

NCC cadets have been engaged in the following activities in 2017-18

- Pinkathon (March 2018)

- Cultural Programme (Jan 2018)
- Participation at Independence Day Parade(Aug 2017)
- Participation in World No Tobacco Day programme (May, 2018)
- CATC (Combined Annual Training Camp)
- LRDC(Local Republic Day Camp)

OBSTACLES FACED :

- Space crunch: The college shares space with two other colleges so NCC cadets are constrained to work within limited spaces
- Infrastructural facilities have room for development

STRATEGIES ADOPTED TO OVERCOME THEM :

- Arrangements have made so that cadets can practice on the college terrace.
- Overhead shades have been constructed for the general convenience of cadets.

IMPACT OF THE PRACTICE:

- Active participation in NCC has resulted in our ex-cadets gaining entry into services under Kolkata Police, Mountaineering Department and Air Services.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Laptops, Cameras required to smoothen the regular activities of the unit.