

TWO INSTITUTIONAL BEST PRACTICES

(2020-21)

PRACTICE - I

TITLE

NATIONAL CADET CORPS

OBJECTIVES:

- To develop character, discipline and comradeship among cadets.
- To enable NCC to grow into an integral part of the society through the various activities organized within the college and beyond it.
- To train young students of the college to network with the larger youth population beyond the college in order to serve the nation and maintain its integrity.
- To infuse among the women students a sense of tremendous self-confidence through systematic physical training in self-defence.

THE CONTEXT:

The NCC Unit of Maharani Kasiswari College started functioning on 24th of July 2004 under the 19th Battalion of the Eastern Command at Fort William. It has created a context for creating resource pool of young women who have been systemically trained to serve the larger society and nation.

THE PRACTICE:

EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS:

- **The NCC Unit of MKC is now headed by LT. Shukla Sarkar who has been instrumental in motivating many young cadets to participate in various activities and strengthening the college units steadily over the years.**
- Even during the difficult pandemic times and strict lockdown phase in 2020-2021, the NCC UNIT of MKC and Lt.Shukla Sarkar signed a bond stating that they would be available for any kind of social work required of them.
- Blood Donation Camp on 22nd November 2020 with 2 Cadets.
- Showcasing of cultural panorama on 7th January with three Cadets.
- Participate in the Special class at Clubhouse for “B”, 20th January 2021 onwards with 14 cadets.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED:

- A major issue was that the physical space of the college, required for drills and practice was not available for statutory closure orders of the State authority.
- During the pandemic it was not possible to assemble cadets for physical drills because of strict prohibition on physical gathering.
- It was difficult to access the storage facilities as the campus remained closed by order.
- The pandemic led to prohibition of public transport. This made it very difficult to travel to regular camps (10 days duration and daily). Cadets found it difficult to appear for their 'C' certificate (NCC) examinations. Likewise, Lt. Sarkar faced the

same problem as she was the contingent commander of the same group, invigilator of the above mentioned examination. They had to book cabs to reach their destination.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Demo Rifles, Relevant Maps
- NCC BOOKS
- Weighing Machines
- Blood pressure monitor.

PRACTICE - II

TITLE

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

THE CONTEXT: 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 neighborhood. 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
- To Develop inter-personal communication skills
- To Analyse the problems/ needs of the community and offering solutions thus developing problem-solving skills in practical situations
- To share & delegate responsibility and duties for collective –living
- To inspire communal harmony.

THE PRACTICE: Over the years the NSS unit has been actively engaged in various programmes. like women health, tests for thalassemia, distribution of mosquito nets and coils during dengue season to the nearby slum, distribution of plants etc. However due to Covid during lock down, when face-to-face interaction was not possible, these regular programmes could not be held. However, in these trying times the following programmes were conducted along with the Cultural Committee to boost the morale of the students and staff:

- Sanskritik Mancha, organized by Cultural Committee of College (Face book Page) on 3rd Sept.2020.
- Virtual Sharad Utsav organized by Cultural Committee of MKC on 17th Sept.2020
- Celebration of **Netaji’s Birthday on 23rd January 2021.**
- **Celebration of Aantarjatik Matribhasa Divas on 21st February 2021.**
- **Satyajit Ray Birthday Celebration on 2nd May 2021.**
- 21st June 2020, Online Celebration of world Yoga Day.

EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS:

Unlike other years, where a large number of community-based programmes have always been arranged, only few online cultural programmes could be arranged during the pandemic year with the sole focus on mental wellness and creativity of the students. Moreover, the NSS students who had been active in the prior years graduated and new students could not be inducted due to lack of direct contact. Hopefully it will be possible to again revive the team once college opens in its full capacity.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED:

- A major issue was that the physical space of the college, required for mobilizing students, conducting meetings and organizing programmes was not available for statutory closure orders of the State authority.
- During the pandemic it was not possible to assemble students involved with NSS for the Annual Special Camp because of strict prohibition on physical gathering.
- Since all NSS programmes require huge man and resource management as well as close face to face interaction with students and all stake holders, it was not possible to hold the various community-based programmes and only the online platform could be used to reach out to the students and faculty.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

- A separate room for conducting all activities of the NSS
- Storage facilities.
- Adequate financial support.