

Best Practices of GDC Banjar (2021-22)

Best Practice 1:

1. Title of the Practice: Active participation in community service and awareness activities towards democratic citizenship.

2. Objectives of the Practice: Govt. Degree College Banjar envisions an equitable society through the inculcation of human values among students. The college aims to foster these values by integrating knowledge with social responsibilities. We strive to make the students understand and appreciate diversity in our society and to familiarize them with a wide range of issues like globalization, human rights, gender and caste discrimination, promotion of girl-child education and women empowerment, health and hygiene, environmental protection, drug abuse and rehabilitation, etc. so that students can gain insights into these issues and take steps towards resolving them.

3. The context: One of the notable best practices of Govt. Degree College Banjar has been its service toward the community through various awareness, extension and outreach programs. In the rural areas where there are people belonging to diverse groups and communities – having many prejudices and facing issues like unawareness regarding health, hygiene and gender, class and caste divides – our students strive to act as agents of social change. The extension services undertaken by them in the nearby villages are seen to improve the quality of life among the rural population by influencing appropriate behavioral changes in them.

4. The practice: A number of clubs and societies (such as NSS, NCC, Rovers & Rangers, Red Ribbon Club, Women's Cell, Literary Society, Eco and Eco-energy Club) have been actively functioning in the college to enhance the social consciousness of the students. The volunteers from these clubs and societies conducted a number of awareness campaigns to enlighten the students as well as rural communities on themes like 'Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao', safety and security of women, menstruation hygiene, sanitization, environmental hazards, girls' education, women empowerment, drug abuse and legal rights.

In collaboration with the police department of sub-division Banjar, with DSP Charu Sharma as the resource person, a lecture was organized on burning social issues which highly impact the youth as well as society at large, such as women empowerment and rights, domestic violence and drug abuse.

Swachhata Week under Swachhata Abhiyaan to achieve universal sanitation coverage was conducted. Constitution Day was also celebrated to familiarize the students with their rights and duties as per the Constitution of India. During the seven-day annual NSS camp, the volunteers adopted a nearby village named Balagarh where activities such as cleanliness and tree-plantation drives, conservation of natural water bodies and beautification of the area were conducted. During this camp, a seminar on the importance of nature and bio-diversity was also organized with the help of officers from the Great Himalayan National Park.

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Women's Cell organized a program in which medical officers Dr. Satyavrat Vaidya and Dr. Reena Ghai from district regional hospital Kullu delivered lectures on mental health and drug rehabilitation. A health check-up camp for the students was also conducted in the college on the same day.

Various awareness programs and competitions were organized on issues like health, education and rights of girl-child on National Girl-child Day.

As part of the celebration of 'Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' as well as the golden jubilee of Himachal Pradesh's statehood, various events and competitions were organized on themes such as 'Glorious history of the Freedom Struggle', history of Himachal Pradesh and its cultural heritage and 'Beti hai Anmol'. 'Fit India Freedom Run' (5 km through nearby villages) was also conducted to mark the occasion and emphasize the importance of physical fitness among the surrounding villages. The run was flagged off by Subedar Surender Kumar from 2 Bn NCC Mandi.

A workshop on maintaining physical efficiency and mental balance through Yoga during COVID times was conducted by the Physical Education department with Yogacharya Shri Bhuvnesh Kumar from Yoga Kendra Sainj (district Kullu) as the resource person.

Road-safety Club also organized awareness programs and competitions on road safety, where SHO Banjar Ram Lal Thakur shared important information on the subject. This was followed by an awareness rally through Banjar town.

5. Evidence of success: The evidence of success can be seen from the active participation of the volunteers/students in the various social extension, awareness and outreach activities. A higher number of enrollment of girls in comparison to boys in the college may be seen as the result of such awareness drives. These programs helped the students to realize their potential and constructively channelize it, whereby they could also spread their acquired awareness and skills among their surroundings. Such activities also help in creating positive social impact as well as fostering a sense of mutual co-existence which is integral to social survival and harmony.

weblink:

<https://gdcbanjar.edu.in/facilities/nss>

<https://gdcbanjar.edu.in/facilities/ncc>

<https://gdcbanjar.edu.in/facilities/womencell>

<https://gdcbanjar.edu.in/facilities/ebsclub>

<https://gdcbanjar.edu.in/naac/reports>

<https://gdcbanjar.edu.in/naac/magazines>

6. Problems encountered and resources required: Since the college staff and students are well familiarized with the geography and socio-cultural constraints of the area, no notable problems were encountered.

Best Practice: 2

1. Title of the Practice: Strengthening and integration of ICT resources in academics and administrative activities.

2. Objectives of the Practice: i) to equip the students and the faculty with the recent trends of the ICT-enabled teaching-learning process to produce quality human resources for the nation. ii) To develop a fully automated online admission system as well as online financial and office management system.

3. The Context: Government Degree College Banjar is committed to taking utmost care in ensuring efficient and effective student-centric and time-bound teaching by adopting the national and global demands of ICT application in the teaching-learning process as well as routine administrative work like admission process, online fee payment and official management system to promote efficiency and paperless work. As the present scenario also calls for digital and blended learning, the faculty and administrative staff are continuously encouraged to use ICT-enabled technologies and tools for conducting participative training sessions in the college.

4. The Practice: The College has upgraded its IT infrastructure in recent times by purchasing and installing new systems, upgrading software and operating systems, installing interactive panels and digital lecterns for e-learning, digitalization of library along with subscription to INFLIBNET to ensure effective information sharing and knowledge dissemination through universal access to e-resources. A fully-equipped language lab with the relevant softwares has been established to improve the language skills of students. A research centre with four computers has also been set up where faculty as well as students can pursue their research-oriented work. Alumni who are engaged in higher studies are also free to use the research centre for the same. An ICT-enabled GIS lab has also been created to impart and enhance the practical knowledge of students in the field of Geography. The students were also trained to use these applications productively to gain new skills and knowledge.

Wi-fi internet facility is available for teaching, non-teaching staff and students. The faculty have been encouraging the students to take recourse to e-learning modules present in the web space which would make them fit for the diverse and ever-changing job market. The college website has been upgraded with a new domain, integrating a fully automated online admission process, online fee payment gateway and office management system.

Also, a set of interactive panels and associated accessories was provided by the directorate of higher education to strengthen the activities of career guidance and counseling cell, such as through video-conferencing and multimedia sessions.

5. Evidence of Success: The outcomes are visible as the ICT-enabled teaching-learning is being conducted successfully. The students take up online quizzes, submit online assignments and participate in other curricular and co-curricular activities online, including activities of clubs and societies that are also conducted through ICT-enabled tools. Further evidence of success is that the admission process was completed fully through online mode by the applications of these tools.

Web link:

<https://gdcbanjar.edu.in/facilities/ict>

<https://gdcbanjar.highaltdeducation.in/>

<https://gdcbanjar.edu.in/faculties/physics>

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required: The procurement of ICT-enabled devices is a costly affair. During the last academic year, the college received a grant from RUSA and Utkrisht Mahavidyalya Yojana out of which some amount was utilized to support ICT facilities as per the direction of the directorate of higher education.