7.2.1. Presentation of Best Practices 2022-23

Best Practice 1:

1. Title of the Practice

Environmental Awareness and Cleanliness Initiatives: A zero-waste producing campus, CLEAN and GREEN MISSION

2. Objectives of the Practice (150 words)

The main goals of the clean and green mission are:

- To make the college campus, a zero-waste facility
- To increase the green covers in campus
- To transform waste materials into beautiful and useful products.
- To generate income from waste on campus

Its basic principle is to ensure that everyone has access to:

- Sanitary facilities including toilets, solid and liquid waste disposal systems.
- Safe and sufficient drinking water supply.

3. The Context (in about 150 words)

'Clean India', also known as 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan', aims to improve sanitation and the "Green India Mission" focuses on growing the forest sector.

The biggest challenges were as follows:

- The biggest challenge was the commitment of students and staff, because in practice it is difficult for everyone to get into the habit of not creating waste on campus. The hardest task was getting the students to clean up all the trash they produced on campus.
- Another big challenge was the correct handling of solid and liquid waste. The
 Waste to Wealth concept became a solution for both biodegradable and nonbiodegradable waste.
- To provide a forum for administration, academic staff, and students to meet and discuss environmental issues. So, the Eco-Club theme acts as a forum.
- Enhance campus learning by developing student confidence and citizenship through participation.

4. The Practice (in about 400 words)

- The college progressed in 2022–2023 by implementing environmental awareness and cleanliness initiatives (Training Cum Workshop Programme), which was held on 03.02.2023 in cooperation with Eco-Prabandhan. This encouraged the college to get towards to becoming a clean and green campus.
- On February 6-7, 2023, faculty, and staff participated with students in a mass awareness initiative on waste management (Shramdan and cleanliness drives) as part of an Eco-Prabandhan collaboration between the EVS department and Eco Club. Different types of dustbins (for dry and wet garbage) have been installed separately at different locations on the college campus area to facilitate the source segregation of biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste. creation of few dumpsites on campus to produce vermi-compost, or pure organic manure.
- **Zero Waste Campus:** In December 2022, the college campus was declared a Zero Waste Producers campus by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. Proper handling, sorting and disposal of waste is one of the most important environmental goals of the college. The college has been working towards this goal for several years. It is extremely proud with the help of administration, students and faculty college has achieved this goal.

 Lakshmibai College is one of the faw colleges of Delhi University to achieve this visible.
 - Lakshmibai College is one of the few colleges of Delhi University to achieve this visible honor and register among the selected institution working tirelessly in sustainable management of conservation of natural resources.
- **Butterfly Conservatory:** In June 2023, the college established the Butterfly Conservatory. It is one of a kind that encourages the butterfly population by providing them with a suitable host plant.
 - More than 100 host plants were obtained from the university and planted under the guidance of trained botanists and scientists. The purpose of the conservatory is to make students and faculties aware of the important role of butterflies in pollination, agricultural production and in food security. New technology and increasing pollution have had a huge impact on the pollution of butterfly species. This greenhouse is an attempt to restore their population and raise awareness.
- Planet and Constellation Garden: This unique garden was established at the university in June 2023. The whole philosophy of the garden is to combine conservation standards with our normal practices. It is an attempt to connect the young generation with the ancient wisdom of India by planting trees according to the placement of planets and constellations. According to the ancient text, each planet has its own tree, another traditional way of ecological restoration and protection.
- The biggest challenge was the involvement of students and staff, because in practice it is difficult for everyone to design the campus so as not to generate waste. The hardest part was getting the students to clean up all the trash they produced on campus.
- Another big challenge was the correct handling of solid and liquid waste. The Waste to

Wonder concept became a solution for both biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste. Liquid sewage project work was outlined and proposed to produce biofertilizers and biodiesel using algae species.

- In the green initiative, the college added one step. In 2020-21, the EVS department launched the "Grassland Ecosystem Model and Commercial Applications as Ecosystem Services" project. The project involves growing mushrooms for commercial purposes. Therefore, a two-room laboratory is built on the campus. The laboratory has one inoculation chamber and another seed chamber.
- EVS society "Sanrakshan" has taken the initiative to create a rural model town called "Mera Gavn". The whole place is called GOKUL. Gokul connects students and staff with nature and himself.
- The basic concept is taken from our ancestral knowledge, practices and Indian ethics. The most attractive part of the village is the very good "cow". There are three cows Nandini, Surabhi and Yamuna in the cow-shed of the campus. The released cow dung is used for sterilization and composting in the yard and walls. This village model has an orchard, a herb garden, a typical garden based on non-concrete soil and cow dung, usually with some women from economically weaker sections and college students volunteering to make products from waste products such as cellulose. wood parts, leaves. etc. as products of small and cottage industries. The area also has a mushroom cultivation laboratory where compost generated on campus is used to produce mushrooms. Mera Gaun "GOKUL" also provides facilities for various businesses directly related to the countryside such as manure cake formation, pulp products, cane products, organic farming, etc.
- Beekeeping is another attempt to generate income from the production of honey and other by-products and to enrich the natural diversity of the campus.
- A pond ecosystem is established which not only increase a scenic beauty but also serves the purpose to teach the students practically the model pond ecosystem and recharge the ground water table of campus and Ashok Vihar area.
- **Aerobin** is installed in the year 2022 dedicated to wet waste disposal of Canteen and formation of Compost and liquid compost.
- NSS and Sanrakshan volunteers use eco-brick molding to eliminate plastic waste.

5. Evidence of Success (about 200 words)

A mushroom cultivation laboratory is established, and cultivation begins. The trial production of oyster service was successful. This will continue extensively in 2022-2023. Two apiaries will be installed, and the first honey harvest is expected in February 2023. Some of the pulp baskets are ready and some are in the production phase. All campus gardens benefit from compost produced on campus. Flowers are blooming. The waste generated on the campus is removed and cleanliness is increased. In 2022, one new Aerobini unit will be installed,

dedicated to the disposal of canteen wet waste and the creation of compost and liquid compost. The following images are attached.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required (in about 150 words)

The most significant issue was the availability of human resources necessary for the town's comprehensive development, budget allocation, and other essential resources. New gardeners appointed by Principal, proved as a helping hand. These gardeners were the main executers under the supervision of Principal, and the faculty members of the department of EVS. Even old gardeners also started to work promptly and honestly after motivating them. Student volunteers always seem ready to work for the environment. College provided the funded the project.

7. Notes (Optional) (in about 150 words).

The college collaborates with people associated with major institutions like IIT Delhi, MCD Keshavpuram (Delhi) and Yamuna Biodiversity Park who seek expert help in our various projects to follow environmental best practices to make the college campus waste free and productive. some income for the campus itself. We try to use existing experts in universities and other important organizations. Our continual efforts to separate dry and wet garbage, as well as our attempts to properly implement the ban on single-use plastics on college campuses, have allowed us to receive the Zero Waste Institute credential on 9th February 2023.

Note: Supporting photographs as evidence of accomplishment are attached.

Clean and Green Initiatives:







Sharamdan & Clealiness Drives Waste Collection & Segregation Drives









Planet and Constellation Garden

Plantation Drives of Plantation





Solar Energy



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Aerobin



