

# **SAPATGRAM COLLEGE**

**SAPATGRAM, ASSAM**

**BEST PRACTICES**



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# **Best Practice 01**

## **1. Title: Career Counseling Guidance**

Sapatgram College invites IAS, IPS officers and academic and professional experts on Career Counseling from different parts of India as career guide on all aspects of career planning, job opportunities and options of post-graduate studies for students to help them choose the right career path based on their interests and capabilities. The institution works towards enhancing the individual and institutional culture to better turn out graduating students with appropriate attitude, capability and temperament to serve the needs of an ever-changing and dynamic need of the community.

## **2. Objectives of the Practice**

The practice of continuous and improved career guidance serves to achieve the following objectives,

- To broadly explore various career options. The practice helps the students to think of various forms of careers that can be taken up by them after completing the graduation
- To enable students to select appropriate higher education program after completing the undergraduate program
- To identify and facilitate the students (with a desire to explore entrepreneurship) in making them aware of the necessary resources (Process, Technology and Enterprises) needed to explore entrepreneurship as a career path.
- To impart oral and written communication skills and knowledge essential to successfully navigate the placement process.
- To provide a platform for gaining knowledge on various aspects relating to civil services examinations along with Interaction with some already successful candidates.

## **3. The Context**

Every department has taken active part in enhancing the College students, who are entering into Graduation, LLB and about to appear in competitive exams like SSC, CGL, CLAT, AILET, LASAT, NID Entrance Exam, NIFT Entrance Exam, NCHMCT JEE, IIMC Entrance Exam, JMI Entrance Exam etc . Graduation students are under guidance of the teachers who regularly take extra classes to make them prepared for MA Entrance, NET, SLET and different Competitive exams like Banking/ TET/ UPSC/ APSC etc. (both in Offline and Online) through Google Meet, Google, Classroom, Google Form and YouTube.

This is in addition to the universal facet of varying Socio-Economic, Educational and Gender factors. Thus it is very challenging to develop a sense of leveling and level playing field to all students by the time they graduate, post graduate and get better opportunity. Thus continuous career guidance and counseling would enhance the clarity in the minds of students to make well informed decisions about their career.

#### **4. Problems and Challenges Encountered**

The major challenges we faced and had to be addressed in designing and implementation are,

- Career guidance activities had to be meticulously planned as a part of Academic calendar, which put additional pressure to reliably conform to Academic Calendar. This had to be successfully met.
- Getting the students through In-house faculty members to emphasize the importance of attending the career guidance programs so that they are regular in attending placement training programs and career guidance sessions.
- Getting the faculty members to be aware of multiple career options for Engineering in general and Branch specifics was also needed.
- Continuous Alumni feedback and interactions were needed and was very much important in delivering the practical aspects of career planning including supplementary (formal/non formal) activities to bolster the formal curriculum.
- Identifying appropriate resource persons for providing career counselling consumes much time and effort and had to be balanced with regular curriculum work. This sometimes projects as an intervention to formal courses.
- The management members, head of the institution and heads of various branches also had to improve on their Perception and Awareness on increasing diversity, challenges and implications of these important career guidance activities. This also imposed extra resources (Financial, Infrastructure, Academic Space) to be provisioned.

#### **5. The Practice**

These goals are achieved by the various departments such as English, History, Education, Political Science, and Assamese under the supervision of Career and Counseling Cell with IQAC. Some Supplementary and Complementary activities were also taken up by the Departments.

- Career Guidance training programs are conducted for students to help them explore various career options starting at the beginning of the program.
- Students are trained on communication skills, soft skills, personality development, aptitude skills and technical skills in order to make them confident to face the challenges of the future
- Resource persons from premier Institutions, Research Center's and Industries are invited to deliver technical talks and to create awareness about the opportunities in various sectors
- Students are encouraged to participate in technical contests, carry out project work, undergo internships and also organize various technical activities to enhance their knowledge through experience
- Seminars highlighting the importance of higher education and Institution's & Universities of Higher Learning for admission are conducted.
- Awareness program on civil service is conducted to encourage students to prepare for civil service exams and other national level exams.
- Career Guidance activities are not just a routine program but a highly focused activity. It has desirable feature of continuous improvement, based on regular feedback from the stake holders such as employers and alumni. The college management and administration has strong supported it at all times.

## **6. Evidence of Success**

There are many improvements have been observed since the very inception of the Career and Guidance Cell is actively working. The following evidences of success have been pointed out.

- The number of students attending the career guidance programs willingly has increased over the years.
- Alumni feedback indicates that the students who have undergone life skills training programs are really helpful in balancing their work and life.
- Star-up activities are initiated by incubation center where the students are facilitated in putting ideas into practice
- The students have progressively gained confidence in managing the placement interviews better.
- The success rate of students in getting placed (who opt for placements) has improved continuously and even well during downturn years.

- A few of the students have become successful in selecting and getting through civil services examinations.
- Some students have become successful entrepreneurs also.

### **7. Problems Encountered and Resources Required**

A lot of background work had to be done before, during and after organizing career guidance activities. These included identifying appropriate topics, Features or Skill needed to be imparted. This led to appropriate resource person to be identified to handle this, followed by Technical, Financial and Physical resources needed to conduct the activity. Qualitative assessment of Feedback from such activities had to be done to Scale up, Modify or even drop such activities in future. This demanded Space and Time in various departments, additional Laboratory tools/ equipment's, dedicated additional time from faculty in related specialization, additional funds and logistics which was met by the college. Developing industry linkage was essential for developing and delivering the training programs on a customized basis. The experts from the industry having a good network with other organizations were a critical factor in enhancing the placement opportunities for students.

## **Best Practice 02**

### **1. Title: Green Audit**

### **2. The Context that required the initiation of the Practice**

Green Audit can be defined as systematic identification, quantification, recording, reporting and analysis of components of environmental diversity. The 'Green Audit' aims to analyze environmental practices within and outside the college campus, which will have an impact on the eco-friendly ambience. The rapid urbanization and economic development at local, regional and global level has led to several environmental and ecological crises. On this background it becomes essential to adopt the system of the Green Campus for the institute which will lead for sustainable development. Waste minimization plans for the educational institute are now mandatory to maintain the cleanliness of the campus. To find out the environmental performance of the educational institutions and to analyze the possible solutions for converting the educational campus as eco-campus the conduction of Green Auditing of institution is essential. The green auditing of Sapatgram College, Sapatgram, enables to assess the life style, action and its impact on the environment.

### **3. Objectives of the Practice**

The main objectives of this green audit are to assess the environmental quality and the management strategies being implemented in Sapatgram College. The specific objectives are:

- To assess the quality of the water and soil in the Sapatgram College campus
- To examine the energy consumption pattern of the college
- To quantify the liquid and solid waste generation and management plans in the campus.
- To impart environment management plans to the college
- Providing a database for corrective actions and future plans.
- To assess whether extracurricular activities of the Institution support the collection, recovery, reuse and recycling of solid wastes.
- To identify the gap areas and suggest recommendations to improve the Green Campus status of the Sapatgram College.

#### **4. The Practice**

The present campus is spread over a little more than 25 Bighas of land. The campus is beautifully interspersed with gardens and different plants. The campus is eco-friendly with a great scenic beauty. The College has been taking continuous efforts to the Tree Plantation Programs and Environmental Awareness Programs in order to make the common public aware about the importance of environmental sustainability. In the different environment related programs many environmentalists were invited as guests to deliver lecture on different environmental issues and make the people aware.

The College primarily emphasizes on the issue of the air pollution through the use of the fossil fuel. Many awareness programs have been initiated regarding the evil impact of the use of fossil fuel on the environment. The College takes initiative for the boycott of fossil fuel used vehicles in the College campus on every fourth Saturday of the month to create awareness among the students and the common people as well.

#### **5. Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them**

To achieve the above objectives a detailed study of the area was undertaken in 5km radius around proposed mine area. The different strategies adopted were as follows:

- Generation of primary data by undertaking systematic ecological studies in the area.
- Discussion with local people so as to elicit information about local plants, animals and birds.

The primary data was generated through.

- Preparing a general checklist of all plants encountered in the study area. This would indicate the diversity for plants.
- Determining the bird population of migratory and local birds by taking 10 random readings at every Location.

- Observing mammals, amphibians and reptiles, noting their calls, droppings, burrows, pugmarks and other signs.

## **6. Evidence of Success**

The College has waste management plan and system. The College contributes to reduce plastic waste and sanitary waste by separating them in order to dump them so that the College campus can be made clean and hygiene. The disposable wastes which can be converted into fertilizer are dump separately in a large compost bin constructed in the College campus. The bin was constructed in a place of 200 metre distant of the academic blocks so that it cannot affect the healthy atmosphere of the campus. The bin was constructed in an open space so that it could get plenty of sunlight through the day as heat is essential for the decomposing process. The single used plastic wastes are collected and stored in a separate bin constructed in the Campus and one the bins got filled with wastes are safely transported to some other places from where it could be recycled.