

## **7.2 Best Practice 1:**

### **Title: Environment Consciousness and Sustainability (Green, Greener and Greenest)**

**Context:** SSM College campus spreads as a lush green and sprawling oxygen rich and eco friendly seat of quality learning at the outskirts of Dinanagar town just adjacent to foothills bordering J&K and Himachal Pradesh. The natural location advantage to this green campus offers countless opportunities to enhance the eco-friendly practices in the campus. The current global climate crisis imposes the institution to consider the environment consciousness as its paramount duty to develop its high standards for environmental friendliness and applaud the practices that continue to arrange and work on the cutting edge of environmental innovation. The college deems it as its prior responsibility to make society aware of deteriorating environmental parameters and also prodding them to adopt eco-friendly ways through environmental policy advocacy, promoting environmental awareness and local participation in conservation efforts to minimize the threat.

### **Objectives:**

- Inculcate the Green protocol among students and faculties.
- Dissemination of environmental literacy to motivate students, teachers and supporting staff.
- Establishment of an efficient way for waste management and recycling systems.
- Energy optimization for enhancing energy utilization.
- Transformation of the campus into pollution free and environmentally friendly zone.
- Green Campaign initiative focusing students regarding awareness of the benefits for adopting green practices.

**Practice:** The following initiatives have been taken in the campus to contribute to the noble cause of Environmental Consciousness and Sustainability:

**Green Campus Campaign:** The College familiarized green campus campaign to promote sustainable and eco-friendly follows in the campus and to make the earth inhabitable for the living beings which is essential for the profitability of future generation. Regular garden

maintenance is done by gardeners and green campus volunteers take care of highly oxygen friendly flora such as Arica palms, snake plants, spiders and a lot of white lilies to absorb fluoride carbon mono-oxides and other fungal based pollutants.

**Plastic Free Campus:** The programme aims to reduce plastic pollution in the college campus with special focus on the reduction and elimination of plastic bottles, plastic straws, utensils and plastic food packaging. Instead of buying bottled water students are encouraged students to use refillable like stainless steel bottles or glasses instead of plastic bottles.

**Waste Diversion:** The College has executed composting and recycling programmes. Separate dust bins are provided to collect degradable and non-degradable wastes in solid, liquid and e waste forms. The biodegradable waste is put in the Vermi Compost units so that it gets converted into organic manure. The non-degradable waste is given to approve local vendors. E-waste, like mother board etc. is used by the students to retrieve important electronic components for reuse in project works.

**Water Usage:**The rain water harvesting system was established in the campus for the effective management of water. This innovative measure has contributed tremendously towards the alleviation of water shortage. Rain water harvesting and waste diversion was beneficial for drinking water.

**Energy Management:** The College implemented various methods to save energy. The LED bulbs are used in the campus. The Solar Energy system is utilized and a number of CFL bulbs in the college are powered by solar power. The college has installed a solar plant with actual power generation capacity of 12 KW which is a very encouraging step towards using renewable and inexhaustible clean energy source.

**Green Audit, Environment Audit and Energy Audit:** With the initiative of Eco Club, the awareness programmes are conducted on environmental issues. The club also examined the effects of green initiative campaign in campus and a review was conducted at end every academic year.The college conducts Green Audit, Environment Audit and Energy Audit on 17 January 2019.

**Tree Plantation Drive:** The College has organized Tree Plantation Drive on 2 August 2018 in which 220 students have taken part in the college premises. On the recommendations of

the IQAC, The College has decided that 100 trees will be planted in the campus, besides labelling all the plants and the trees in the college for their identification.

**ISO Certification:** The College got ISO Certification on 2 January 2019.

- 9001:2015 (Quality Management System)
- 14001:2015 (Environmental Management System)

**Clubs and Societies:** The College has various societies and fora for implementing various green initiatives like NSS, NCC, YRC Club, Eco Club and Energy Conservation Club to boost up students' engagement and participation in various awareness drives. On the recommendations of the IQAC, these clubs were formed and they organize various programmes in and outside the college on environment related issues drives of the campus, tree plantation, displaying instructions and writing slogans in the campus and outside as well.

**Other Practices:** The Environment Education is a part of our curriculum. Our students understand the value of extras derived from clean and green environment. Energy consumption in the college has been drastically minimized by arranging awareness programmes on the indispensability and compulsion of energy saving besides putting stickers (Switch-off the equipments and lights when not required!) on switch boards and all connected places.

**Impact of the Practice:**

- The concept of green campus campaign and environmental friendly practices in the campus resulted in growing a clean and green campus.
- The workshops and seminars on environmental issues created awareness among the students.
- Proper waste management system for all types of waste produced in the campus. Disposal of non-degradable and degradable wastes into separate dust bins facilitated the waste management more effortlessly.
- Green power generation by using solar panel compact the use of conventional electricity ingestion.
- Use of renewable and sustained energy sources like LED bulb inside the campus.

- The Eco-Club and Energy Conservation Club have succeeded in fostering an energy conservation culture and attitude among students, staff and masses in nearby areas.
- Neatness programs conducted by NSS and NCC time to time. Maintenance of garden and various play grounds by NSS in charge, and Sport in charge respectively.
- Encourage to students and teachers for save electricity, save papers, save waters, use of dust beans etc.
- Environmental awareness program (single use of plastics awareness) conducted by NSS unit of the college.
- “Vermi Compost” uses to prepare inside the college campus and use it as organic fertilizers.
- Availability of different sports ground, large cricket ground, football ground, basketball ground etc.
- Local people use college campus for running, walking, and playground for sports every day.

**Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to Overcome:** Sometimes it becomes difficult to convince people including students and staff regarding the existence degradable environment practices and their dreaded consequences. The awareness programmes and carrying out door- to- door campaigns will help to overcome the obstacles.

**Resources Required:** The financial resources are always needed to secure success in organizing these programs. The coordination from external agencies is required to put theory in practice. The programme with external agencies should be organized to let people of the area understand the importance of environment cleanliness and up gradation.

### **About the institution**

**Name of the Institution:** Swami Swatantranand Memorial College

**Year of Accreditation:** Cycle-II, 2016

**Address:** Swami Swatantranand Memorial College

G.T Road, Dinanagar

Distt. Gurdaspur (Punjab), India

Pin: 143531

**Grade awarded by NAAC:** 'A' Grade with CGPA- 3.04/4.00

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## **Best Practice 2**

### **Title:Upliftmentof the Students from Rural Backward and Border-belt areathrough Quality Education**

**Context:**SSM College, Dinanagar is a co-educational institution affiliated to Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. The College envisages the dream of socio-economic uplifting of the rural masses and their overall development through quality education. It has successfulbeen marching ahead and taking efforts endlessly for the betterment of socio-economically and educationally backward section of the society.The majority of students in the College belong to socially, economically and educationally backward section of the society. The College was in the purview of Math's splendid aphorism to educate the children of farmers, laborers and other workers of Dinanagar area.The Students in the College belong to socio-economically weaker section of the society. They need guidance to cope up with the rapidly changing perspectives of the education at global level.

### **Objectives:**

- To empower the students from rural, backward and border-belt area through quality education.
- To encourage students toadopt employment cum income generation courses.
- To provide fee concession and scholarships to the deserving students.
- To improvethe performance of the students in academic and co- curricular activities.
- To provide a quality education under the supervision of experienced and qualified faculty members.

**Practice:**The institution has taken multifarious initiatives for the socio-economic upliftitment of the area by providing quality education to the students.The College has well defined mechanism to provide financial support in form of fee concession, scholarships and free ships to poor, needy and deserving students.It provides free admission to all SC students as per the direction of the university. The College also helps girl students by providing fee concession.Twelve quality MOUs have been signed with reputed organizations and industries to give studentsbetter exposure, trainings, internships, industrial visits and placement opportunity.There is a provision of need based courses and training Programmesas four B.Voc courses have been started to impart vocational education to enable students to take up employment cum income generation courses. Three Diploma Courses namely Diploma in Dress Designing and Tailoring, Diploma in Food and Beverage Production and Diploma in

Office Automation and Tally have been started keeping in mind the demand and need of the area. These diploma courses have been started to impart knowledge regarding the new market trends and technology. Twenty-One Certificate/ Add-On/ Value Added courses are successfully running to give students diverse range of option to choose the programmes as per their interest. The Career and Guidance Cell of the College shoulders the responsibility of equipping students of this area with knowledge, practice, attitude necessary job market skills to earn appropriate employment or become entrepreneurs. The institution has made remarkable growth over the years in its infrastructure and facilities to cope with the changing scenario of higher education and modern demands in the context of globalization. The campus is fully Wi-Fi with internet bandwidth 4 mbps. The digitalization of six classrooms with the latest technology gadgets has been done. New desktops Core i3/4GB RAM/1TB HDD/Windows 10 have been added to the IT Infrastructure. The old monitors have been replaced with new LEDs. The College also has e-library facility in which there is a separate enclosure for students to work on computers for accessing e-resources. Additionally, the library has access to e-resources through a programme entitled National Library and Information Services infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST). The College has taken the membership of DELNET. The water purifiers, neat and clean toilets, green and clean ambience, waste management are few initiatives taken by the College to provide hygiene environment to students. The College has a proper student mentoring system which has been working very efficiently since last many years. Each teacher is prearranged a batch of 25 students as their wards. Mentors conduct regular meetings with their mentees to attend their problems and issues. The hostel facility is another helping hand for those students who come from far off places and cannot afford day to day travelling. The seminars, workshops, conferences and extension activities are also put in schedule to give students a great opportunity to hone and polish their personality through valuable interaction with the community. The placement cell organizes job fair for the students of final year. There is a provision of various schemes to be implemented to support students from rural backward area as Earn and Learn Scheme, Book Bank Scheme, Remedial Coaching, Special Classes for Advance Learners Academic and Career Counseling, Concession in Admission Fees etc. The College gives scholarship of rupees 11000 to meritorious students. Even open candidates who are unable to pay fees at a time are allowed to pay fees in installments.

**Impact of the practice:** The College has made notable contribution in shaping careers of its thousands of students and played an astonishing role in the overall development of them who in turn have brought laurels to the College. The students attained top positions in academic,

social, cultural, sports activities. The sports students won 18 gold, 16 silver and 15 bronze medals in various competitions organized at National and International level. In sports, it's the only College in Guru Nanak Dev University having the honor of winning thirteen times Overall Sports Trophy (B-division). In co-curricular activities, the College is the winner of Runner-Up Trophy (A-division). In Academics, the College has captured more than 36 merit positions in GNDU in all UG, PG, Diploma and Vocational courses. Our NCC cadets have been awarded by our worthy Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in RDC group. The academic programmes and career oriented courses offered by the College have been proved beneficial as 100 students qualified various competitive exams. The total number of 112 students is progressing to higher education. The career and job related skills are inculcated through 4 B.Voc courses and 3 Diploma courses. The Career and Guidance Cell of the college organizes many programmes to hone the employability skills of the students as 91 students placed under the guidance of Career and Guidance Cell and 100 students benefitted by the guidance of the cell. This is a big step towards elimination of the problem of educated unemployed youths in the state. The college runs a Competitive Exam Centre to train students for various competitive exams like NET, CSIR, GATE, ILETS, IELTS, CTET, PSTET, Staff Selection, Banking and other exams and 9 students cleared the various competitive exams.

**Obstacles:** The students enrolled in the College are generally from socio-economic backward area. Their parents are not much educated. Some time it is very difficult to convince them to let their ward go for higher education as for girls they prefer marriage at early age and they want boys should take up some jobs. The awareness regarding the importance of education for both girls and boys should be made as due to the lack of awareness there is an increase in the count of drop-outs every year.

**Resources required:** The finance required to carry out all the activities is provided by the college management.

### **About the institution**

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