

Best Practice 2

Title: Upliftment of the Students from Rural Backward and Border-belt area through 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 successfully been 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 to adopt employment cum income generation courses.
- To provide fee concession and scholarships to the deserving students.
- To improve the 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 upliftment 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 students better exposure, trainings, internships, industrial visits and placement opportunity. There is a provision of need based courses and training Programmes as 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/Windows10 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 course.

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

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

E-mail:

ssmdnn@yahoo.com

Contact person for further details:

Dr. Rajan Kumar

Website:

www.ssmdnn.org