

Pune District Education Associations
Seth Govind Raghunath Sable College of Pharmacy, Saswad

Best Practice 1: Environmental Awareness Program

1. Title of the Practice

Environmental Awareness Program

2 Objective

To take an initiative in creating environmental awareness about importance of conservation and preservation of environment among students, staff, all the stakeholders of the institute and community.

The main objectives of the activity are as follows:

1. Awareness: To expose the students towards nature and allow them to learn regarding environment and to develop sensitivity, appreciation, and respect for the environment.
2. Knowledge: To acquire knowledge of the environment beyond the immediate environment including distant environment.
3. Attitudes: To inculcate a set of values for environmental protection.
4. Participation: To provide an opportunity to be actively involved at all levels in environmental decision-making.

3. The main Context

Environment consciousness is the dire need of the hour. Global warming, climate change, depletion of ozone layer, horrifying pollution levels, and various other factors make the institute committed towards environmental protection. It is the institute's responsibility to develop a spirit of conservation and environment consciousness among students and faculty members. Consistent efforts are going on to generate electricity through solar energy. The campus of the institute is a beautiful place where there are lush green lawns. The institute works as Oxygen Park for the surrounding areas which is dotted with shops, houses and buildings as well as roads.

4. The Practice

The institution has implemented a large number of initiatives to conserve energy and save environment. The institute organizes a wide range of activities to make students conscious about environment.

Various awareness drives, brainstorming sessions, plastic collection and cleanliness drive, Best from Waste competition, Green walk, guest lectures, plantation drive, No Vehicle Day are organized for students in the institute.

4.1 Solar online grid power generation plant

The institute has installed a solar online grid power generation plant which is upgraded to produce 10 KW energy. This energy is being utilized for tube lights and fans in classrooms, corridors, seminar hall, Principal's cabin and administrative office.

Use of LED bulbs and tubes also reduces the usage of conventional energy. Energy audit is done to keep a track on the consumption and improvise usage. No Vehicle Day is observed during celebration of "Environment Awareness Week". Students and staff members are encouraged to share/ pool motorcycles and cars or use the public transport for saving fuel, reducing pollution and to use Bicycles and electric bikes.

4.2 Tree plantation drive

The institute initiated a tree plantation drive at Hilly area around Malhargad near Saswad. Every year about 50 saplings are planted and maintained by our staff members and students.

It is a unique urban forest project where the natural ecosystem is being established by rejuvenating biodiversity over the past two years.

4.3 Rainwater harvesting

The institute strives to make the campus a zero waste zone. 'Reduce, Recover, Recycle and Reuse' is the policy for water management.

Rain water harvesting, watering the plants through drip irrigation, leakage free pipelines and faucets, etc. ensure controlled usage of water.

4.4 Energy audit

The institute conducts energy and environmental green audit every year and institute has optimized on the usage of energy efficient LED fittings, usage of energy efficient equipment and installation of 10 kW Solar online grid power generation plant . All this has led to minimization of the carbon footprint.

4.5 Cleanliness drives

The students of NSS and staff regularly work for cleanliness drives. NSS volunteers collect 'Nirmalya' in Saint Dnyaneshwar Maharaj Palakhi Sohala at Saswad near the institute. This activity is being conducted for the last ten years.

4.6 E-waste management

The administrative office is digitalized to reduce usage of paper. All these efforts have contributed towards focusing on paperless work, initiating and maintaining a green campus, fulfilling the social commitment and creating environmental awareness among all stakeholders.

E-waste is generated from worn out computers, other hardware, mobiles, electric appliances etc. It consists of hazardous materials such as lead, zinc, lithium batteries, tin etc. Improper disposal of these products is dangerous for living beings. The ewaste and plastic waste is collected and given to agency for proper disposal.

4.7 Plastic Waste Management Campaign

The institute observes NO PLASTIC policy for all stakeholders. The biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste is collected separately in colour code garbage bins by Municipal Corporation of Saswad. The single-use of plastic is reduced to an almost zero level so that they should not be dumped under the ground with wastes. It is being done to reduce the risk for human beings and other creatures to survive on earth.

The purpose behind launching the Plastic Waste Management campaign is as:

1. The primary goal of the campaign is to identify the main barriers or difficulty in reducing plastic from the household's garbage or garbage by any factory. The difficulty is also faced in separating the plastic waste from mixed wastes and residual waste streams.
2. The campaign works on inspiring the students of our institute for providing "Shramdaan" which refers to being physically active and providing the participation of the students and people in various cleanliness activities.
3. As the secondary objective, the campaign works on promoting the recycling of plastic waste into a new plastic product to decrease the production of plastic. Earth is already suffering from the problem of excessive use of plastic by a human. In this situation, recycling is the best option to release some burden of plastic from the earth.
4. The third and the equally important aim of launching this campaign is to stop the plastic waste from being land-filled and also to stop the incineration of plastic waste as the incineration and landfill of plastic is the main reason behind the land of being infertile and inappropriate to use.

This activity is conducted on 22nd day of each month. All the students and staff give their active participation in this campaign. The plastic waste collected in and around the campus as

well as from the Saswad city is handed over to the municipal corporation for further recycling.

5. Evidence of Success:

- Maximum use of solar energy

Since the institute is committed to contribute in “Environmental Awareness”, all possible measures are taken to conserve the environment. The institute has energy efficient equipment and installation of 10 kW Roof Top Solar Plant. Since major portion of electricity usage in the institute has been fulfilled by solar energy, the institute has very low/negligible electricity expenses.

- Environment consciousness instilled among students and faculty.

The first sign of success was the enthusiastic response received from the students. Various activities conducted under Environmental Awareness like Tree Plantation, Rain water harvesting, cleanliness drive, plastic collection drive saw massive and keen participation. Such activities needed a lot of labour, materials and money. All these were made available through voluntary work and financial assistance by PDEA. The students are all set to spare their holidays for these works. The project, which was rather vast, went on to become a huge success under the supervision of the teachers and the volunteers of NSS.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Financial Resources (PDEA)
- Time Constraint
- Human Resources for the activity

In the initial stage, convincing the students to volunteer for environmental activities was a bit difficult as it was not a module tested in the examination. But the counseling and active participation of the faculty members made the students aware of their social responsibility. Secondly, it was tricky sometimes to get the ample time to carry out these activities due to their regular academic schedule. However, the importance of the activity motivated all to find out the ways and to sort out the difficulties. Lack of skilled hands among the students was the next problem. Maintaining the motivation level in voluntary work and ensuring the wholehearted involvement of volunteers in all the activities was also a problem which got resolved through careful teacher supervision.

Our institute is a self-financed private institution. Raising funds for environmental activities was the next problem encountered. Providing funds to match student enthusiasm was not always an easy task. Our parent organization, Pune District Education Association i.e. PDEA

always helps us on financial aspects by sanctioning the amount for the expenses incurred.

Best Practice 2: Community Oriented Diseases Awareness Program

1. Title of the practice : Community Oriented Diseases Awareness Program

2. Objectives of practice:

- To raise awareness about various communicable diseases, chronic conditions and various metabolic disorders in the community.
- To raise and investigate the public's knowledge of communicable diseases and disease outbreaks.
- To provide extensive health education to the public, particularly those with low educational status and income.
- To inculcate social values and responsibilities among students.
- To create opportunities for the students for social interactions.
- To strengthen team work amongst students and encourage participation.

3. The Context:

Community oriented diseases awareness program is an activity of our institute to provide social platform to our students as upcoming pharmacist, to know the need of society about health and hygiene, what is the actual roll of health professional towards the community. Poor hygiene and improper water, sanitation, and food supply strategies, in addition to inadequate care of wounds and injuries, can create an environment polluted with bacteria and viruses. The pharmacists being healthcare professional can be involved in disease prevention and control in many ways. For example, they can help to develop institutional screening programs to check immunization status and identify undiagnosed medical conditions (e.g., hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, depression, substance abuse, behavioral health issues). Reducing the spread of diseases, advocating the prudent application of antimicrobial drugs, and educating medical personnel, patients, and the general public are all duties of pharmacist in the society.

4. The practice :

Community oriented diseases constitute a considerable proportion of the global burden of morbidity and mortality. Our educational institute is working in the healthcare sector by facilitating pharmaceutical science knowledge for students. So it's our duty to raise awareness about various metabolic disorders and communicable diseases in society.

In the first step of this practice, our institute is taking the initiative for the preparation of MOUs between different members of society who are working on public health and hygiene services. So our institute, Saswad Nagerpalika (the local government body), the Medical Association of Purandhar, and the Rotary Club of Purandhar come together on the same issue and prepare an MOU. According to the MOU, all organizations decided to work together on the same issues to prevent or control various diseases by raising awareness in society. In a meeting of all the parties, it was collectively decided to do a health survey of a few slum areas of Saswad city, and then, according to the obtained data, a group of individuals or families will be treated by medical associations, doctors and to arrange a health checkup camp for society. The society is made aware through street plays during health awareness rally on the occasion of National Pharmacy Week.

5. Evidence of success:


The institute successfully signed MOU with Saswad Nagar Parishad, Saswad, Purandhar/Purandhar Medical Association Saswad, Purandhar/ROTARY CLUB OF Purandhar Saswad. Students of our institute carried out a survey in the Indira-Nagar area of Saswad for about 100 families. Among these, we found 42 families suffered from various diseases from that 17 families have hypertension, 13 families have arthritis and other bone diseases, 3 families have kidney stone, 07 families have diabetes and heart disease, some families have Varicose vein and other diseases, also some families suffered from communicable diseases. Create awareness about the maintenance of hygiene and cleanliness to avoid spread of diseases. We also found that there is a need to educate people about various other diseases and disorders like hypertension, various heart diseases, kidney diseases, arthritis, and others. So, our institute is taking efforts to arrange a health and hygiene awareness camp for these areas. People get information related to health services available in health centers. Participation of people during survey speaks about the awareness that was created by students. People in slum area positively responded to the survey conducted by the students.

On the occasion of National Youth day the institute conducted Health Survey in slum areas of Saswad. Also people were made aware of various diseases and disorders and how to take preventive measures.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required :

The main problem we faced for conduct of activity is availability of funds/ funding sources for organizing such activities. Organizing various welfare activities and health awareness programs in slum areas involves a lot of challenges, but through systematic planning and teamwork, all these activities have been carried out successfully. In order to organize a health

checkup camp, we should have arrangement of basic medicines, first aid kits, basic medical devices like glucometer, BP recorders, oxymeters etc. Further we have to train the persons to use them.


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