**M. B. MORE FOUNDATION'S** 

# **ARTS, COMMERCE & SCIENCE WOMEN COLLEGE**

Affiliated to Mumbai University

der & President : Hon. Mr. Vijayrao Mahadevrao More

**Outward No.** 

ESTD 2012

Date :

# **7.2.1** Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the institution as per NAAC format provided in the Manual

# **Best Practices - 1**

### Title of the Practice : Empowering Women : Unlocking the World's Potential

#### **Objectives of the Practice**

The gender gap is widest in India in levels of literacy. Uneducated women are powerless and are mistreated inside and outside the home. There is lack of knowledge about the women rights in rural areas and the more serious issues related to prevalent practices of exploitation and violence against women.

Education is a fundamental tool for empowering women. It equips them knowledge, critical thinking skills, and the confidence to challenge societal norms. By ensuing access to quality education for girls, we can create a generation of empowered individuals who can shape a better future.

#### The Context

Roha taluka constitute about 167 villages where majority of people are farmers and few depends on small jobs for their daily meal. Due to low income, people are dejected about their girl's higher education. Parents are not willing to invest in their daughters' education believing that their primary role is to get married and have children. The families preferred to educate their male child rather than their female child. It is common fact that almost one third of the girls who enter formal education in class I drop out before entering class XII.

By providing women with equal access to higher education, technology training and entrepreneurial opportunities, we can unleash their potential as leaders, job creators, decision-makers and contributors to economic development breaking the cycle of poverty.



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#### The Practice

The Management and faculty were thoroughly aware of the difficulties that girls are facing in higher education. Our teachers used to go villages in the taluka; some of them are 20 km far. They were convincing parents about the drawbacks of neglecting girls' education and their impact both on their families and on wider society. Some of our former students also helped them to access with such families. They had to persuade parents to let their girls to continue higher education.

Financial constraints are the major barrier to higher education for rural families. Hence the management had decided to charge minimum fees and facility to pay in instalments. Our administrative staff is active in counselling and informs students' about various scholarship schemes. They also support by timely providing free S.T. bus passes to the girls.

Institute has given wide infrastructure including Class rooms equipped with LCD projectors, laboratories, Library, Common room, Computers, Wi-Fi & internet, sports material, Canteen etc. Maximum area of the campus is covered under CCTV surveillance which assures the safety of the girls. Teachers and supporting staff have made a rapport with the specific group of students through Mentor-mentee scheme.

The institute helps the girls to build social and emotional literacy beyond books through co-curricular activities. Various committees are framed to conduct co-curricular activities which provides platform to the girls, build confidence, and help to recognize inherent value and potential.

Women's health is a crucial aspect of empowerment. Access to comprehensive healthcare, reproductive rights enables women to take control of their bodies, make informed decisions and lead healthy lives. Our Women Development Cell actively carries out organization of activities throughout year specifically addressing genderbased violation, legal rights and health. Our dedicated teachers promote mental health support which is vital for women's overall well-being.

#### **Evidence of Success**

Institute had enrolled only 21 girls in A.Y. 2012-13 when it was just came to existence. The efforts of enthusiastic management and staff succeeded in attracting more girls. At present about 542 girls enrolled and 552 were completed their graduation from this institute.



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The institute has raised hopes of girls who are willing to pursue higher education along with their responsibilities of domestic work on their shoulders. More girls are deciding to continue their education after marriage and to become self-reliant. Some of us graduated students are doing job and supporting their in-laws and husband.

#### Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Education is the most powerful weapon with which you can change the world. We all know the power of education. Unfortunately it is very difficult to run educational institutes in rural areas. This institute is private, run by the Management on self-finance basis. The institute is not getting any type government and UGC funding. Teachers are appointed by the Management on yearly basis where chances of promotions or upgrade are slim. This is a demotivating factor for teachers in rural area.

The general population in the area is hired laborers on farmland and other manual work. The remuneration in these sectors is relatively low. They find burdensome to spend over higher education and especially on their daughters. Hence the management has been charging less fess for admission as compared to other un-aided institutes. Besides low income, we have provided extensive infrastructure and adequate facilities for girl's education where the management has suffered a lot within these ten years and spent huge amount on staff salaries and other development.

#### <u>Notes</u>

It is a matter of pride that the institute has grown as a shelter for girl students seeking for higher education in Roha taluka.



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### **Best Practices - 2**

Title of the Practice : The Perfect Diwali Gift

#### **Objectives of the Practice**

Adivasi people comprises many tribes are concentrated in forested areas. In search of work they keep on wondering along with their families. They even do not satisfy even their crucial needs.

Festivals are an incredibly important part of Indian culture. When we are rejoicing with friends and family to celebrate our cultural festivals, there are millions of children from poor families who are not even certain of their next meal. Here we can make a difference, choosing to share some of your valuable time and energy, in bringing a smile to their face.

#### The Context

Diwali is one of the important festivals in India. People decorate their houses, invite relatives, light lamps and share gifts. Adivasi people rarely celebrate such festivals. Due to poverty these people do not able to purchase sweets, clothes on the days.

Institute has N.S.S. unit comprising of yearly 100 registered students. This unit organizes versatile social activities. The purpose of such social activities is aware the young generation about their social needs and to build confidence and leadership qualities in students. Most of these activities are conducted in their adopted village. However, institute decided to expand the horizons of work of NSS unit and started this activity every year to make the students aware of the needs of the tribal community. In this initiative, the institute took the cooperation of NGOs working for tribals.



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#### The Practice

Every year the NNS representative of the institute discusses with the 'Snehvardhini Social Trust' and finalises the *Adivasi pada* and the day for the activity. Gifts are collected from every staff and student of the institute through NNS. Items like clothes, shoes, notebooks, toys, drawing materials, school bags etc. are collected but food is strictly avoided out of concern considering health of the children.

This program is organized in the temple or school premises of *Adivasi pada*. The NNS programme coordinator felicitates representative of the Snehvardhini Social Trust, few parents and school teachers from the *pada*. The NNS programme coordinator and student representative explain objective of the visit. Student volunteers distribute gifts to children, women and elderly people in *pada*.

#### Evidence of Success

The institute got information about the 'Snehavardhini Social Trust' located in same area and working for the tribal community. This activity was first conducted in 2016-17 through NNS in collaboration with Snehavardhini Trust with the aim of making students aware of the problems of tribals and marginalized communities like them. Since then, this activity has been carried out consistently every year.

Each staff and student of the institute actively participates in the activity and collects gifts. The activities started to give gifts to children in the *pada* are improved and the items are collected to give to the women and elderly people as well. In the last seven years, this activity has been implemented at various *padas* in Roha taluka. The institute is sincerely trying to contribute to the tribal society with Snehavardhini Trust.

Every year, students make attractive Diwali lanterns from the waste materials in the institute, one for the institute and the other for the tribal school. It conveys the message of creating minimum waste by recycling. The institute provides bus facility to go to *Pada* for this activity.

#### **Problems Encountered and Resources Required**

If someone desires something from the heart.... the whole universe will work towards getting you that. We believe this statement and got realized its truth.



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