

North Bengal St.Xavier's College

7.2.1: Best Practices

BEST PRACTICE 1

1. **TITLE: CREATION OF GREEN CAMPUS**
2. **OBJECTIVES:** The goals and objectives of this initiative is to provide all the stakeholders of the Institution a healthy environment and prepare them to build a sustainable ecosystem. It is an initiative to sensitize the younger generations on the necessity of a green cover and plantations for the future.
3. **THE CONTEXT:** Environmental pollution is a global problem nowadays. This necessitates the creation of mass environmental awareness to minimize the environmental damages. In today's scenario the young generation is highly inclined in taking self-responsibility to protect the environment. The educational institutions have taken the opportunity to hone this awareness and motivate the students a sense of promoting green campuses and protecting environmental damages. Green campus concept mainly focuses on the efficient use of energy and water; minimize waste generation or pollution and also economic efficiency. Green campus focuses on the reduction of contribution to emissions, procure a cost effective and secure supply of energy, encourage and enhance energy use conservation, promotes personal action, reduce the institute's energy and water consumption, reduce wastes to landfill, and integrate environmental considerations into all contracts and services considered to have significant environmental impacts.
4. **THE PRACTICE:** North Bengal St. Xavier's College practices green campus formation and takes environment friendly initiatives to create green campus. To adhere with this objective the college has prepared a green policy and has a provision for green audit. The total area of the college is approx. 25 acres and the college building only covers approx. 1 acre. It has reserved enough area for the green expansion in the coming future and to remain aligned with its motto of green and clean campus. The college continuously strives hard to reduce the consumption of energy and has also adopted a range of alternate sources of energy. One measure in this aspect is its effort to tap the solar energy. Solar panels are installed in the campus as well as the boys' hostel for generation of electricity. The college opts for CFL/LED bulbs and tubes. The college adopts proper system for segregation and management of all different types of wastes generated in the campus. This task has been made easier by placement of color coded bins for biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste at appropriate places. A bio-compost pit for kitchen waste has been made in the hostel. The college has rainwater harvesting system. Through rainwater harvesting the college has adequate facilities to collect the rain water for the purpose of gardening

and maintenance of its green landscape. There is sufficient open area as lawn for open recharging of ground water level. The college has started a novel venture of cultivation of variety of organic vegetables in the hostel and also has a tea plantation over an area of approx. 5 acres. The college has an active 'Nature Club' (**X-istence**) which is responsible for conducting various awareness programme to make the students learn about the habit of general cleanliness and to motivate them to follow green practices in the campus. The club provides awareness to the students about the importance of the environment, its conservation and sustainable use of environmental resources (also to community). The St. North Bengal St. Xavier's College campus is now making a conscious effort to establish the campus as a '**zero waste**' zone, through a slew of scientific and environment-friendly measures. A number of initiatives have been put in place to promote the concept of '**Reduce, Reuse and Recycle**' and contribute mite to protecting the environment. The college has also taken other necessary steps to make green campus.

- 'Green computing' is a regular practice nowadays such as the online fee payment, circulation of notices and other official information through digital platforms, etc.
- The glass windows of the class rooms facilitate the maximal utilization of natural light.
- The walls of the class rooms are painted white so that maximum light can be reflected in the room.
- The traditional lighting systems are replaced with LED lighting system.
- Switching off the electrical equipment when not in use is strictly maintained
- Use of plastic bags are discouraged in the campus.
- Students undertake dissertation work on campus ecosystem regularly.

5. EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS: The success of this particular initiative is clearly evident in various areas of the college. Solar panels are provided on the top of the Xavier block and hostel capable of providing 1800 kW per year. **76% of tube/bulbs are LED to minimize the power consumptions.** The campus has a green cover of tea plantation. Farming land in hostel has an area of approx.1 acre where a large variety of organic vegetables are grown annually. Some amount of the vegetables produced are consumed in the hostel and Xavier Niwas and a larger portion is donated to Jesu Ashram Hospital (hospital for poor and needy). Economically and medicinally important bay leaves plants have been planted over an area of 1 acre behind the college main building.

6. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED: The college is fully self-financed therefore most of the expenditure including the cost incurred for maintenance of Greenery of the campus is dependent on the tuition fees of the students only. The solar panel generated energy is not connected to the online grid.

BEST PRACTICE 2:

1. **TITLE: X-CELLENCE DAY (ANNUAL COLLEGE DAY)**
2. **OBJECTIVES:** “Next to excellence is the appreciation of it” a quote by William Makepeace Thackeray rightly summarizes the main objective behind the celebration of our annual College Day “X-celence Day”. Our college always strives for excellence and motivates the students to perform at their full potential and also to grow their passion for learning so that they can accomplish their high value ambitions. In an endeavor to achieve this noble vision, the college appreciates and recognizes the academic as well as non-academic achievements of the students by rewarding with a token of appreciation and a certificate every year in presence of their parents and guardians. The distinguished personalities of academic and cultural are also invited to encourage the students by their noble thoughts and experiences.
3. **THE CONTEXT:** According to educational psychology, motivation can be categorized as - intrinsic and extrinsic. Intrinsic motivation arises from a desire to learn a topic due to its inherent interests, for self-fulfillment, enjoyment and to achieve a mastery of the subject. On the other hand, extrinsic motivation is motivation to perform and succeed for the sake of accomplishing a specific result or outcome. Motivation, both intrinsic and extrinsic, is a key factor in the success of students at all stages of their education. Teachers or an Institution can play a pivotal role in providing and encouraging that motivation in their students. So, “X-celence day” is a humble effort of us, as an Institution, to inculcate a motivation and an appreciation to the young minds for all the excellent performances by them so that they continue to do so in their future as well.
4. **THE PRACTICE:** The event has been in practice since the very first year of the college. Every year students from all the departments who have excelled in various academic as well as non-academic fields like sports, cultural, leadership, etc. are invited to receive an award along with their parents/guardians on this occasion. Conventionally, the students who hold first and second rank are given gold medal and silver medal respectively along with a certificate of achievement. The parameters and criteria for the selection of awardees are determined by the college administration and finally it is announced by the apex body of institution.

Apart from the regular students, ex-students who have excelled in their professional fields are also invited to appreciate their achievements. With an endeavor to encourage the teaching spirit of faculty, since 2018, faculty members who have been recently awarded with their PhD degrees are also felicitated in this occasion.

The different categories of awards are as follows:

- Professional Excellence
- University Topper in PG Examination
- Class Toppers in UG-University Examination
- Class Toppers in Internal Examination
- NSS Volunteers
- Social Service Cell Volunteers
- Extracurricular Activities
- Student with 100% attendance
- Student with outstanding performance in all fields

5. EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS: Parents /Guardians and students have always appreciated the efforts of the Institution in organizing such an event. Parents/ Guardians take out time and attend the event every year on a large number. We always feel them being proud when they witness their ward receiving an award and words of appreciations by the distinguished guests. This event, therefore, not only motivates the students but also encourages parents to support and believe their wards. The success of the event is also reflected on the academic as well as non-academic performances of the students. There is always a healthy competition among the students and they become motivated, more innovative and passionate about their work. This way it creates a learning ambience where students can explore themselves to their highest potential. We have witnessed the fellow juniors and the friends of the awardees also getting motivated which encourage them to do better each time.

6. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED: One of the constraints faced during organizing the event is the lack of adequate space. The event is organized in the college auditorium, which is quite spacious, but on this day we have a huge gathering of students, parents/ guardians and also some of the guests all at the same time. Sometimes, it becomes little difficult to handle the gathering properly. The event goes on continuously for hours. In such case maintaining discipline becomes a problem sometimes.