Context

Best practices represent institutional quality index. They add value to an institution and its stakeholders. They also enrich human life and help develop an institute as a source and means to perform social responsibility. In addition, best practices reflect the credibility and **cheerful life of a college** or an institute. In recent years, educational institutes are hailed as the centre for many activities - socio-economic, political, and cultural reformations. Institutional excellence in higher education is the cumulative index of best practices. In light of this, our institution has recognized **two** distinguished best practices based on the cultural distinction of our students and work on humanitarian grounds:

**Best Practice 1**

**Title of the practice:**

SAKSHAM

**Objective of the practice:**

1. To support the talent of students in extracurricular activities and hence their personality development.
2. To provide a platform to showcase their talents at college level and later on at the inter-college events such as youth festival.

**Practice:**

Our college has been recognized as a top choice for quality education and cultural activities. SAKSHAM is our college’s annual literary, cultural and sports fest that is organized by the VIVA student’s council and VIVA cultural committee. Students are encouraged to participate in the event that is also actively organized by them under the guidance of the staff belonging to the cultural committee. The outcome is the development of personality traits of students and inculcation of managerial skills in the students. Students come out of their shelf, enjoy the academic life and ease out their stress related to studies, and thereby not remain book worms. In addition to SAKSHAM, our college actively participates in many intercollegiate events with the passion of winning.

SPORTS DAY: Events included Carrom [girls and boys, singles and doubles], Chess [boys and girls], Running 200 m [girls and boys].

ANNUAL DAYS CELEBRATIONS: Organized in two days to accommodate all faculties.
Table 1. OVERALL PARTICIPATION & ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME OF THE COLLEGE OR INSTITUTION</th>
<th>NAME OF THE EVENT OR SEMINAR</th>
<th>NO OF PARTICIPANTS</th>
<th>NO OF EVENTS WON</th>
<th>TITLE WON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dhanukar college 2019-20</td>
<td>Kurushetra</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Best CL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalmia college 2019-20</td>
<td>Dalmia lions utsav</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Best college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rpims 2019-20</td>
<td>Convegno</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Best CL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nk college 2019-20</td>
<td>Quest(seminar)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Letter of appreciation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tolani college</td>
<td>Tech Bit</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Best college. Best Cl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mithibai college 2019-20</td>
<td>Kshitij</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sn college 2019-20</td>
<td>Udaan</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Evidence of success:

Recognition of talents of students and some of the students pursue it as a career and become successful in their future demeanours. Some of our students went on to become famous choreographers e.g. one of our students, Vivek, formed a dance group named as Tutix group and participated in a very popular television reality show Dance Plus, some established their own dance classes, some became popular models. In addition, our college has won best college trophy several times in the academic year 2019-20. Data as shown in Table 1.

Problems encountered and resources required

1. Not so easy to attract sponsors for the event.
2. It is a magnanimous task to manage the entire event considering the huge strength of our college.
3. Help from NSS volunteers is required to organize such an event.
Best Practice 2

Title of the practice: Outreach programmes with an emphasis on flood relief activities and COVID awareness.

Objective of the practice:
1. To inculcate empathy among students.
2. To create awareness about what is going on around the globe and how to address such issues.
3. To educate the students along these lines and generate a compassionate youth.

Practice:
Our college started this practice in view of the current global concerns such as climate change resulting in floods, and COVID pandemic. The practice included voluntary flood relief work in flood affected areas in Sangli-Kolhapur. The help/donation was collected in the form of 2,000 kg of grain, biscuits, pills, medical supplies, essentials, new clothes and other useful materials. Mask Making Activity was conducted by NSS Cell, University of Mumbai on 2nd May 2020. In the Pandemic situation all Volunteers were informed to make at-least 10 masks each by using their household resources. All the volunteers actively participated in the event and our VIVA NSS UNIT made more than 500 masks.

Name of the event/program: Helping the victims of Flood in Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara
Date of the event/program: 23rd August, 2019
No of participants: 43 volunteers, Male: 20, Female: 25
Name of the Committee: NSS UNIT, VIVA COLLGE

Name of the event: Mask Making Activity
Date of the event program: 02nd May, 2020
No of the participants: 47 Volunteers. Male: 22 volunteers, Female: 25 Volunteers
Evidence of success:

The distribution of items collected for the flood victims was carried out by the volunteers of the RSEO with the help of Prof. Vishal Sawant, former Palghar district coordinator. Mask making activity was successfully conducted under the guidance of our Program Officers.

Problems encountered and resources required

1. Reaching out to people for donations and distributions.
2. Making sure that the donations reach to the needy people.
3. Risk of COVID infection.