

BEST PRACTICE - I



1. Title of the Practice: Shahu Extension Service for Rural Transformation

2. Objectives of the Practice:

- To transform adopted and nearby villages in an integrated manner by creating awareness about the importance of education, health, hygiene, sanitation, safe drinking water, financial literacy, communal harmony, etc.
- To inspire the village community for sustainable development through their involvement in water conservation, rainwater harvesting, tree plantation, organic farming and use of renewable energy sources, etc.
- To empower women by providing training and guidance to Self Help Groups.
- To create awareness among the villagers about various Central/State Government schemes like Swachh Bharat Mission, Ujjwala Yojana, Kusum Kissan Yojana, NABARD, PMAY, PMGSY, PMGDISHA, MGNREGS, and NGO sponsored schemes.
- To remodel adopted village into the "Ideal Village" that can inspire other villages in its vicinity.
- To instill sense of humanitarian values among the students.
- To inculcate leadership quality, organizational and communication skills among the students.
- To ensure exposure of students to diverse socio-economic & cultural background and sensitizing them for paying back to society.
- To develop proximity of the students with the villagers and strengthening bond between them to contribute in 'Nation Building'.

3. The Context:

The institution, since its inception focuses on building a strong linkage with the society especially to rural communities. Villages are considered as the Soul of the Nation. However, majority of the villages in the country still face constraints such as access to education, health facilities, safe drinking water, electricity, roads and market. Against this background, the institution through its Shahu Extension Services Center (SES) tries to transform adopted and nearby villages into the Ideal Villages. This initiative would go a long way in ensuring holistic and integrated development of the villages. Through this initiative, the institution tries to fulfill its social obligation by addressing to solve the problems faced by the villages. At the same time, the institution seeks positive transformation and engenders progressive changes in the students through alternative development models that are participatory, sustainable and inclusive.

4. The Practice:

The various departments and support units planned to carry out the social activities in the various villages around the Latur city during the academic year 2021-22 in support with SES Center. After COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, it was possible to reach

physically to the villages for conducting the activities as expected. Hence, we have done the following activities:

- Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)
- Survey of 25 villages
- Distributed kits containing food grain and other things
- International Webinar on “Ecosystem based Disaster Risk Reduction, as a Methodology for Sustainable Rural Development”
- Two Day National Conference on “Changing Trends in Agriculture and its Impact on Rural Development”
- Guest Lecture on Vermicomposting
- COVID-19 Vaccination Awareness Night Session at Rural Bazaar
- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Campaign & Rally
- AIDS Awareness Rally
- Blood Donation Camps
- Health Checkup Camp for Cattle
- Women’s Health Checkup Camp
- Health Checkup Camp for Adolescent and elderly people (TB, Cancer)
- Guest Lecture on Awareness about Breast Cancer
- Talk regarding balanced diet with children and pregnant women
- Guiding and Counseling the students of Zilla Parishad Primary School, Omerga, Bori
- Camps to aware villagers about Swachh Bharat Mission, Ujjwala Yojana, Kusun Kissan Yojana, NABARD, MGNREGS, and NGO sponsored schemes
- Camps on Education, Health, Sanitation, etc
- Program about leadership quality and communication skills
- Cyber Security Awareness Program

5. Evidence of Success:

- Through survey, villagers understood the ground reality and major drawbacks with percolation tanks, drainage facility, unequal drinking water distribution system and no facility for dumping of liquid and solid waste.
- The villages, where the survey was conducted; received the development grant from the Government of Maharashtra after the survey.
- Villagers and Students realized and recognized the value of Healthy lifestyle and importance of Education
- Gram Panchayat took initiative to apply for various Governmental and Semi Governmental schemes
- Supply of food grains helped needy villagers
- Villagers were sensitized and they took initiative for gender balanced society by providing equal attention to their children irrespective to gender

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

Problems Encountered:

- Some of the villagers' indifferent attitude hinders our efforts for bringing changes to the villages.
- Permission for land acquisition to set up Solid Waste Plant
- Improper Communication of Gram Panchayat with Government and Semi Government agencies.
- Limited financial resources of the institute stand as a bigger hurdle for solving major developmental issues.

Resources Required:

- Financial resources are required for augmenting the extension and outreach programmes in the villages.
- Support from villagers, local administration, political leadership and NGOs.




Principal
PRINCIPAL
Rajarshi Shahu Mahavidyalaya
(Autonomous), Latur