

# UNIVERSITY COLLEGE MANGALORE

## Best Practices of the Institution

### BEST PRACTICE -1:

- 1. Title of the Practice: “Ondu Hotthu Kai Thutthu” (Mid-day Meal)**
- 2. Objectives of the Practice:** To provide free mid-day meal to the economically weak students.
- 3. The Context:** Most of the students of our college hail from poor and rural background. Around 25-30% of the students commute every day to college by local train from neighbouring state Kerala. Most of them are not in a position either to bring food from home or depend on the canteen. Realising this need free mid-day meal scheme was initiated. The Principal and the like-minded staff pooled in money to start the scheme. The scheme was introduced on 27-09-2016. This scheme became very popular soon and many non-teaching staff too joined hands. One of the clerks donated 200 steel plates for the scheme. The scheme which started with catering 75 students, in course of time gathered momentum with generous contribution from the alumni and PTA along with the regular contribution from our staff. Presently the beneficiaries of the scheme have crossed 250.
- 4. The Practice:** Applications are invited from needy students and an interview is conducted by a Selection Committee constituted by the Principal to identify the students who really need the benefit of this scheme.
- 5. Evidence of Success:** The scheme that was introduced free of cost for 75 students in the first year, in course of 5 years’ time has increased the number of beneficiaries to 250. The feedback of the beneficiaries is a testimony to the success of the scheme. They felt that the scheme helped them a great deal in focusing on their learning better as they were not hungry while learning.
- 6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:** There are still some students who need the benefit of this scheme. Due to lack of resources, it is not possible to accommodate all of them. With the further help from donors, college has the plan to extend it to the needy students in the days to come.

[Videos on Midday Meal](#)

## **BEST PRACTICE - 2:**

### **1. Title of the Practice: “Hasire Usiru” (Green Initiatives)**

**2. Objectives of the Practice:** To maintain an eco-friendly campus.

**3. The Context:** Since the College is located in the heart of the city, there are a number of vehicles which move around all the time in and around the campus leading to increase in the temperature making it difficult to bear the heat mainly during summer season.

**4. The Practice:** A holistic education is imperative to create socially responsible individuals. Higher education cannot limit itself to merely providing academic training. It is important that students are made aware of their duties and responsibilities towards society and the world at large. Being sensitive and responsive to the environment is a trait that has to be inculcated in children at a young age in school and reinforced at the level of higher education. To set an example and inspire all stakeholders to opt for environment friendly alternatives, the College has initiated the following practices.

- **Solar Energy and usage of LED bulbs:** The College has installed solar lights with the assistance from university in the campus and rooftop solar panels and linked it with the existing MESCOM grid system. It has been initiated to replace all the existing bulbs with LED bulbs to reduce power consumption.
- **Ban on Plastic:** The usage of plastic is completely banned in the college campus. The canteen authorities in the college are strictly advised not to use plastic while giving parcel; instead, students are informed in advance to bring their own metal made Tiffin boxes to get the parcels.
- **Rainwater Harvesting:** The College has initiated the creation of an infrastructure to facilitate Rain Water Harvesting on a large scale. The green grounds around the College building allow the rainwater to percolate through the soil so that the deep-water aquifer/underground water reserve gets replenished.
- **Vermicompost:** A vermicompost unit has been set up in the College, which helps promote organic gardening and organic farming. A three months duration certificate course on Vermi technology is introduced in the college during the academic year.

- **Paperless System:** The College is consciously working towards reducing the use of paper by way of digitalization of documents and introduction of an e-academic management system, which involves the digital of the students' academic details including marks, attendance, etc. The college also encourages duplex printing in the college. The feedback during the academic year is collected by using Google forms which saves lot of papers.
- **E-waste management:** Repairing of laptops, computer hardware and projectors is encouraged and executed frequently. Some departments use the overhauled computer peripherals and laptops as a part of this process. Disposal of unusable hardware is achieved through buy-back policies and the money is utilized to get new and upgraded equipment. A minimal e-waste generation is ensured by optimal and periodic maintenance and computers managed separately by qualified staff and if there is any discarded unusable computer, it is sent to e-disposable unit of the Mangalore University.

**5. Evidence of Success:** Each initiative undertaken by the College is a small step towards the greater good of humankind. It must be understood that these initiatives take time to bring about significant changes, however the efforts are bearing fruit and gradual changes are becoming visible.

- There has been a sharp decline in the total electricity consumption after the installation of solar lights and LED bulbs.
- A committee has been constituted under a senior staff to have a detailed plan for the rainwater harvesting; the committee has already convened a meeting once to understand the technicalities of the implementation of the project at the college level.
- A vermicompost unit has been successfully implemented and the certificate course in Vermi technology is introduced in the college.
- The College also encourages duplex printing in the college. The feedback during the academic year is collected by using Google forms, which saves lot of papers.

**6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:** Financial constraints remain the biggest problem for expensive green initiatives like rain water harvesting. The College is attempting to raise funds for this through a number of channels. Educating the local community about green initiatives so that they too adopt adequate measures.