

Best practice –I

Title of the Practice: Environmental Sustainability Initiatives

Objectives of the practice: The main aim of the practice is to foster environmental awareness and sustainable practices among students and the community by addressing critical issues such as afforestation, water conservation, and eco-friendly celebrations.

1. **To Foster Environmental Awareness:** Educate students, faculty, and the community about the importance of environmental conservation and sustainable practices.
2. **To Combat Environmental Challenges:** Address critical issues such as deforestation, water scarcity, and pollution through practical and community-driven solutions.
3. **To Promote Green Practices:** Encourage the adoption of eco-friendly habits and practices in daily life and community celebrations.
4. **To Strengthen Community Engagement:** Collaborate with local communities, government bodies, and environmental experts to implement impactful conservation projects.
5. **To Develop Sustainable Skills:** Equip students and participants with the knowledge and skills required to undertake environmental initiatives independently.
6. **To Achieve Long-Term Impact:** Create sustainable systems for water conservation, tree plantation, and eco-friendly celebrations that benefit both present and future generations.

The Context: With increasing environmental challenges such as deforestation, water scarcity, and pollution, there is a pressing need to engage educational institutions and local communities in promoting sustainability. Recognizing its role in shaping responsible citizens, the college initiated practices to address these issues through collaborative and impactful actions.

The Practice: It's commendable that the IQAC (Internal Quality Assurance Cell) and NSS (National Service Scheme) department of our college are actively organizing events to create awareness about the environment. These initiatives not only contribute to environmental sustainability but also help in fostering a sense of responsibility and consciousness among the students. Here's a brief overview of the events organised by our institute.

1. **Tree Plantation Drive in Collaboration with Post Office, Karmala:** To contribute to a greener environment, our college in collaboration with the Post Office, Karmala, organized a tree plantation drive dated on 02/10/2023. This initiative involved the active participation of students, faculty, and local community members.
2. **Water Conservation through Construction of Continuous Contour Trenches (CCT) in Roshewade:** On 27/02/2024, as part of its rural development initiatives, the NSS Department of college undertook a water conservation project in the adopted village of Roshewade. The project focused on constructing Continuous Contour Trenches (CCT) to enhance water retention and prevent soil erosion.
3. **Environment Awareness Lecture:** Prof. D.G. Bhosale gave a guest lecture on the need of eco-friendly Ganesh Visarjan on 24/09/2024, at Pratapsinh Mohite-Patil Mahavidyalaya, Karmala. The purpose of the presentation was to encourage attendees to be environmentally conscious and to increase knowledge of sustainable practices during the Ganesh Chaturthi celebration.
4. **Celebration of World Water Day:** In observance of World Water Day on 22/03/2024, the Department of National Service Scheme (N.S.S.) arranged a significant event aimed at illuminating the importance of water conservation. The centrepiece of the occasion was a guest lecture delivered by Prof. Ajit Bhopale, an esteemed authority in water management.

Evidence of Success: The initiatives led to increased environmental awareness among students and the community, with active participation in all activities. Tree plantation drives successfully contributed to a greener environment, while the construction of CCTs improved water retention and soil quality in Roshewade. Now, in this CCT 102102.903 litres of water can be stored. The promotion of eco-friendly Ganesh Visarjan practices saw positive adoption on students.

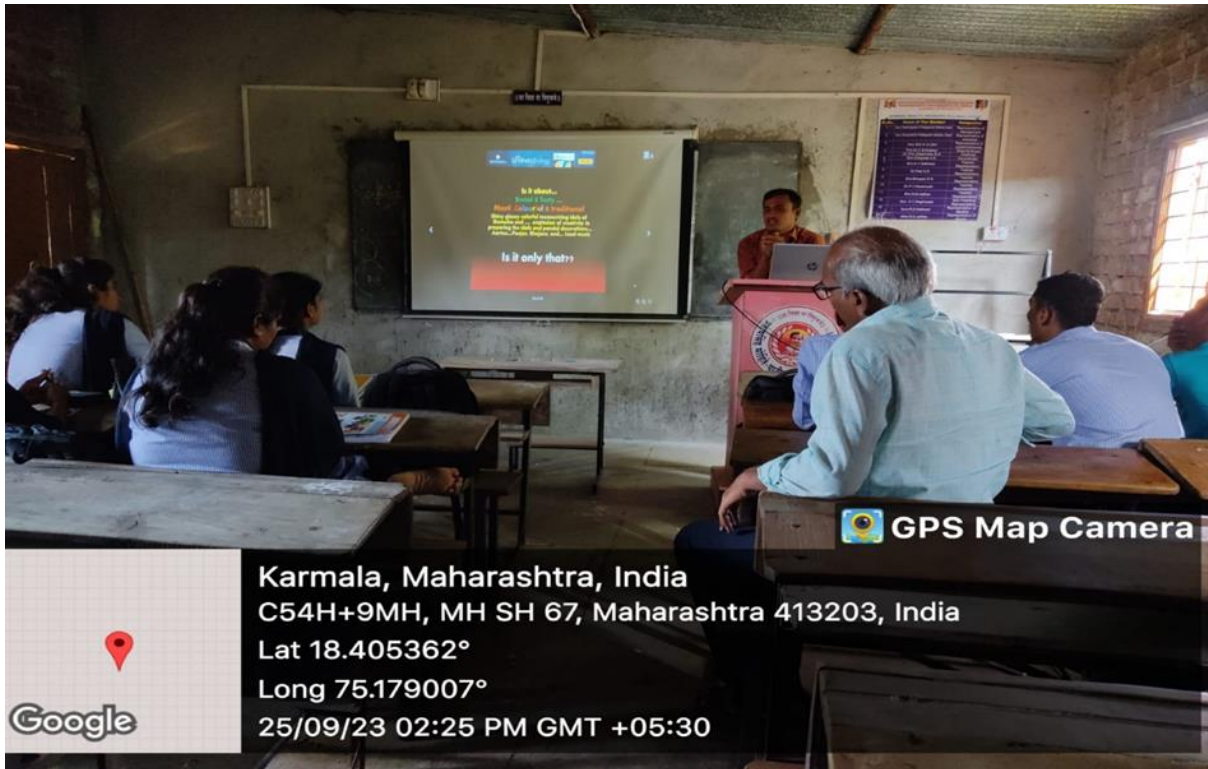
Problems encountered and Resources required: Resource limitations posed challenges in securing sufficient materials and logistical support. Initial hesitation from community members due to a lack of awareness required additional efforts for engagement. Sustaining the outcomes, such as maintaining trees and trenches, demanded continuous follow-up and monitoring. The practices required financial support for materials and events, active involvement of volunteers from the NSS and faculty, expert guidance for effective implementation, and logistical assistance for transportation and other needs.



Tree Plantation at Post Office Karmala



Water Conservation through Construction of Continuous Contour Trenches (CCT) in Roshwade



Prof. D. G. Bhosale delivering lecture on need of eco-friendly Ganesh Visarjan



Prof. Ajit Bhopale delivering lecture on Water Conservation



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