SIVANATH SASTRI COLLEGE

BEST PRACTICES 2020-21

BEST PRACTICE 1

Title
Reaching the unreached

Objectives
- Address the pandemic induced economic crisis faced by a section of students.
- Ensure that students continue undergraduate studies and that there should not be any dropouts for economic reasons.

The Context
A section of students made an appeal to the Principal for financial assistance/ fees concession due to the economic hardships faced by them in the pandemic situation and the resulting lockdown.

The Practice
The Principal convened a meeting of the Finance Committee to discuss the issue. After a detailed discussion, the Committee proposed that at least 10% reduction of college fees could be considered. The proposal was sanctioned by the Governing Body. Subsequently there was 10% to 12% reduction in college fees for the year for all students. Payment by installment /additional fees concession was provided on the basis of merit and economic condition.

Evidence of success
Financial assistance in the form of fee reduction, fee waiver, scholarships and payment by installment ensured that majority of students were able to pay their fees and continue their studies. There were no drop outs due to economic reasons.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The decision to reduce fees had to be considered very carefully, since it would result in substantial reduction of college income which in turn would affect future plans for expansion.

Best Practice 2

Title
Exploration of efficacy of digital learning

Objectives
To investigate the perception of the students regarding online mode of teaching, problems faced by them and suggest remedies

Context

During pandemic days the digital platform was the only way to continue the teaching learning process. All students did not have sufficient exposure to the digital mode and some were

facing difficulties attending the online classes.

Practice
A questionnaire was designed for online survey on perception of students across all programmes of all semesters, incorporating questions on medium used by students for online learning, their opinion regarding timing, duration and number of classes, regularity of attendance, preferred mode of online teaching, and ways to improve student participation.

Evidence of Success

There was overwhelming response from the students to the survey. 1274 responses were received. Students showed a positive attitude to the online mode of teaching learning. However, some issues such as regularity of attendance, full understanding of what is taught; active participation of students in class required further improvement. Remedial measures suggested in the report were applied by the various departments to improve the quality of the online classes.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The survey was designed by IQAC and carried out on the Google platform. The feedback received was analyzed and a report was prepared which presented department wise variations in the responses to various questions. Remedial measures were suggested accordingly. The report was shared with all departments for necessary action.