

BEST PRACTICE 1

“SUSTENANCE OF QUALITY EDUCATION THROUGH DIGITALIZATION DURING THE PANDEMIC-COVID-19”

Objectives of the Practice

St. Pious X Degree & PG College has always been upfront and alert in responding to the unprecedented challenges like the Pandemic Covid 19

- The objectives of Digitalization of Education
- To provide uninterrupted Education to the students even during the Pandemic
- To familiarize and train the Teaching faculty on various ICT tools needed for Digitization of Education
- To impart and enhance skills in the form of various online skill enhancement webinars and workshops
- To help the students and faculty cope up with the alarming effect of the pandemic through online programs on life skills and emotional well being

The Context

The lockdown imposed by the government as a preventive measure to curtail the spread of the pandemic, covid-19 has impacted the education sector severely. The strains of “Bharath Padhe online (India studies online) has been propagating throughout the country to cope up with the dwindling situation. A need to adopt Virtual teaching and learning has become mandatory. The outbreak of the pandemic made us realize how important it is to make technology an integral part of the education in the modern times. The process of transition from structured classroom learning into dissemination of knowledge through digital platform has encouraged students towards critical thinking, adaptability and creating global network for learning. This new method of teaching on the other hand burdened the parents and the management with economic challenges as they had to allocate special budget in the purchase of the new software, strong internet and WIFI connections and the devices needed for online education.

The Practice

The following programs were organized to make Digitalization of Education a successful mode of teaching and learning and help in holistic development of the students even during the Period of Lockdown.

I Faculty Enrichment and Training Programs towards Online pedagogy

- **Gsuite for Online Education** :The college has acquired G Suite for online Education for the institution in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic with the college domain name, stpiouscollege.org during the month of May 2020. The College embraced this weaving technology to continue Teaching and Learning process by online platform giving the faculty

an opportunity and sufficient training to integrate with G Suite for Education during the Corona pandemic lockdown.

- **The licensed zoom software was also purchased for the feasibility of conducting online webinar with large number of the participants.** Some of the webinars, celebrations and workshops were streamed live on YouTube for the benefit of large groups.
- To facilitate participation of a greater number of Students and delegates in various events, most of the programmes were streamed through YouTube.
- **A two-day workshop on ‘G Suite Education Platform** was organized on 8th& 9th May, 2020 for the faculty of the college by the department of Computer Science in association with CIRF, Computational Intelligence Research Foundation, Chennai. The resource speaker, Dr. Doreen Robin, Founder and Director of CIRF, explained and demonstrated various features of Google Classroom.
- **Faculty Development Program on “Digitalization Of Education-ICT Tools”** -was organized by Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the college on 15thand 16thJune, 2020 to train the faculty on usage of Google classrooms, Creating Google forms, Generating E certificates, Design Thinking, Online tools of Assessment and Conducting webinars.
- **International webinar** on “Synergistic Efforts of Academicians and Industrialists in Combating COVID_19” was organized by the department of Physics on 2ndJune 2020
- A 5-day AICTE -ATAL sponsored Online Faculty Development Program on ‘Organizational Behavior’ from 15 to 19 Feb, 2021 was organized by the Department of Commerce.
- The Institution was registered into Edx, Coursera and Spoken Tutorials and provided the domain login to all the students and teachers and encouraged their enrolment into online courses offered from the premiere universities from all over the world. This initiative is an index of the commitment of the management to provide resources even during this dire situation and keep the process of learning continuous.
- This service was later extended to the community and other Institutions also.

National and International webinars organized for students to impart knowledge beyond the curriculum

- **On Entrepreneurship**

International webinar on Digital Marketing, Organic & Inorganic Marketing, Drip Campaigning, & Google Analytics by the Department of Mass communication on 29th June 2021 with Digital nest, Webinar series ‘Entrepreneurial Expedition Success stories of entrepreneurs International webinar on 4th September 2020, Entrepreneurship Certificate course and Digital Marketing certificate course and Entrepreneurship- A way forward National webinar by ED Cell on 26th August 2020.

- **On Science and Technology**

National webinar on “Philosophy and microbiology” on 13th July 2020 by Department of Microbiology, International webinar on “Functional Nano biomaterials in Biomedical Fields” by Botany and Biotechnology 1st June 2020, International webinars on “Blue Biotechnology- Drugs from our Oceans” and “Omics and Disease Markers” on 7th June 2020

- **Skill Enhancement**

National Webinar on “Busting Myths of Project Report Writing” by the Department of Management on 5th June 2020, National webinar on Role of Analytical Tools in Data Science by Department of Statistics National on 29th June 2020, National workshop on Art & Craft of Mobile Photography on 3rd and 4th July, International webinar on Presentation skills on 17th July 2020 by Department of Mass communication, International web conference on “Language and Literary skills and knowledge necessary for Professional English” – Challenges and Innovations in teaching and learning on 18-19 February, 2021 by the department of English, National Seminar on “Statistical Computing and Data Science” on 26th & 27th Feb, 2021 by Computer science department and Webinar on “Personality Development and Soft skills” on 31st October 2020, Workshop on Dance Therapy on 19th November 2020

- **On Life Skills and Aesthetics to cope up with the Pandemic**

National webinars on “Emotional Wellbeing and coping with the Pandemic” by the department of Psychology on 20th June 2020, Being Vigilant – An Approach to fight against Covid-19’ by Department of Chemistry, and other webinars organized in the same context include Covid Awareness, Know your body and Coping with Grief during Pandemic, Eat right and stay fit a national webinar by Department of Psychology on 13th October 2020 -90 students, Relationships Violence and Life skills 12th November 2020 by Department of statistics and Leadership Engineering.

Evidence of Success

Digitalization of Education opened new avenues and opportunities to teachers and students to interact with the experts not only nationwide but also overseas. The participation of the delegates in various webinars from different corners of the country and the world is a true reflection of it.

The consistency of more than 85% success rate in the examinations proves that justice was made in virtual teaching and learning.

The Placement data also proves that the efforts made by the management and the teachers in providing holistic education and making students competent by providing opportunities to enhance their skills was fruitful.

The various programmes organized to cope with the pandemic at the emotional level proved to be helpful as students expressed their gratitude to the management for the support rendered even through online mode. They were thankful to the teachers for being very helpful and posting the required study material in the google classroom and other digital platforms for easy learning.

The webinars and the certificate courses conducted on the Entrepreneurship encouraged some students to become young entrepreneurs and self-reliant.

More than 85% of the students and teachers successfully completed various certificate courses not only in their respective subjects but also on life skills.

The college received I2OR National Award for 2021 and Our Principal received “The Best Principal of India” award for 20-21 and Ms. Beulah Vennela, Head, Department of Psychology received “The Best Innovative Faculty Award” for the year 20-21 by AIACHE.

Problems encountered and Resources Required

Though the digitalization aims at transforming the traditional pedagogical methods into need based modern methods, there are main constraints associated with it. Some of them include:

- Lack of control over the class
- Scope for manipulative approaches: Students are vulnerable to distractions that are difficult to be monitored by the teacher and they have an opportunity to give lame excuses such as issues with the network connectivity, technical errors, low data availability etc , manipulative approaches to avoid attending the classes.
- Minimum scope for the teacher to foster social skills and emotional growth of the students
- Digitalization demands high cost resources for teaching and learning

Strategies adopted to overcome the problems

Regular monitoring by the Principal and the discipline committee created a disciplined environment .Regular posting of the study material in the digital classrooms helped the students to cope up with the preparation. Generous allocation of funds by the management to conduct webinars made Virtual learning a success.

BEST PRACTICE 2

“EMPOWERING STUDENTS WITH UNIVERSAL VALUES AND ETHICS THROUGH CELEBRATION OF COMMEMORATIVE DAYS”

Objectives of the Practice

The main objectives of the Best practice are

- To pay a tribute to the contributions made by the eminent personalities in various fields
- To create national consciousness among the young minds and sensitize them towards their duties for nation development
- To create awareness about the greatness of the Indian heritage and culture
- To enlighten the students the importance of celebrations in developing a positive attitude and gratitude in life

The Context

Holistic education implies a more democratic and humanistic approach to learning that engages the mind body and spirit of the learner. The knowledge imparted is not confined to the academics but encourages the student become a virtuous citizen of the nation. At St. Pious X Degree & PG college for women the students are provided with various opportunities to appreciate the efforts and contributions made by the eminent people of our great history, science community and national leaders. The special days commemorating the immemorable events that kindle the national consciousness among the youth are also celebrated. By observing special days, the young minds are instilled with humility, courage, reverence and integrity. These events help the students get inspired and develop respect towards our nation and motivate them to aspire high.

The Practice

The various activities conducted during 20-21 can be categorized into

- **Birth Anniversaries of the Eminent Personalities**
- ❖ **Gandhi Jayanthi** On 02 October, 2020, A webinar on “Role of Youth in Attaining Atma nirbhar Bharat in Energy” and Prospects of a career in Energy” was organized by Department of Physics
- ❖ **Rashtriya EkthaDiwas** was celebrated in remembrance of Sardar Valla Bhai Patel and his contributions to the freedom struggle and unity of independent India, an online programme was held for all the NSS Volunteers.
- ❖ **14th National Statistics Day:** Department of Statistics celebrated 14th National Statistics Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis, father of Statistics on 29th June, 2020. On this occasion the department organized a National Webinar and Quiz competition on “**Role of Analytical Tools in Data Science**”.
- ❖ **‘National Mathematics Day’:** The Department of Mathematics organized a webinar on ‘Ancient Mathematics’ to mark 133rd birth anniversary of Sri Srinivasa Ramanujan on ‘National Mathematics Day’ dated 22 December, 2020 virtually

- ❖ **Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Jayanthi:** The NSS Units I & II of St Pious X degree & PG College for women celebrated Subhash Chandra Bose Jayanti on 23rd January 2021 through presentations on Life and contributions of Netaji.
- ❖ **Teachers' Day:** All the students celebrated the Teacher's day commemorating the birth Anniversary of Sri Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan on virtual platform with their respective teachers.
- ❖ **Sarojini Naidu's Birthday:** Department of English organized an Online poetry competition on the occasion of Smt Sarojini Naidu's Birth Anniversary
- ❖ **National Youth Day** was celebrated on 12th January commemorating Swami Vivekanand's Birth Anniversary.

- **Days to invoke national consciousness and sensitizing students on constitutional obligations**

- ❖ **Independence Day Celebrations:** The Department of Commerce organized a week-long celebration starting from 10th to 15th August 15th by conducting various competitions on virtual platform.
- ❖ **Dept. of Commerce** conducted Poster/Collage making & Essay Writing competitions on 25 January, 2021 on the occasion of 72nd Republic Day of India
- ❖ **National Voter's Day** A webinar on voting as our fundamental right to elect government in our democracy was arranged by Department of social sciences on 25th January 2021
- ❖ **National Girl Child Day** on 24th January 2021 was celebrated through various online competitions.

- **Days to celebrate our Rich heritage and culture**

- ❖ Department of Second Languages celebrated f "**Hindi Diwas**" Dept. of Hindi organized "Chitra kuchkahatehain" and "Nara Lekhan" competitions with the theme Hindi – Hamari Matrubhasha
- ❖ On 18 January, 2021, on the occasion of '**Sanskrit Day**' Elocution Competition on the topic 'Importance of Sanskrit & its role in day-to-day life. was conducted
- ❖ **Telugu Basha Dinotsavam** was organized by Dept. of Telugu on the topic "**Telangana Geyakavithvam**."
- ❖ **Bathukamma Festival** - Telangana state flower festival signifying the importance of women for a happy life, **Rangoli Competitions** on the occasion of **Pongal** and **Christmas** Celebration spreading the message of peace were celebrated on the virtual platform.

- **Observance of Days that motivate us towards a better life**

- ❖ On the Occasion of **World Youth Day**, Department of Psychology in collaboration with the Department of Social Sciences in collaboration with YWCA, Secunderabad, conducted a webinar on 18th August, 2020
- ❖ **International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking:** The Department of Psychology along with the Department of Social Sciences observed, International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking by conducting a webinar on "**Drug Use & Abuse**" on 26th June, 2020, a webinar on 8th September, 2020 **World Suicide Prevention Day**, **International Day of Persons with Disabilities** on 3rd December.

- ❖ **Nutrition Month Celebrations** from 11th September to 1st October with the theme "Right Food-Bright Life"
- ❖ **World Mental Health Day** on 12th October 2020 by conducting some online stress buster games
- ❖ **International Yoga Day:** NSS Unit-I & II conducted online yoga session on 21st June 2020 by Mr. Pankaj a certified yoga instructor awareness of practicing yoga in daily life followed by demonstrating some yoga practices.
- **Commemorative Days to celebrate special Achievements in the history**
- ❖ **Constitution Day: (26th November):** On 26th November an online meeting was held for all the NSS volunteers to explain how Indian constitution was drafted and also explained the rights and duties of the citizen in the nation that are given by the constitution. The NSS unit II volunteer Miss. Sruthi presented a power point on Fundamental Rights and duties to all the volunteers
- ❖ **KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS-** was celebrated on 26th July to mark the victory of Indian soldiers in recapturing the mountain [TIGER HILL] which was firstly occupied by Pakistan army.
- ❖ **National Science Day on 28th February 2021,** signifying the breakthrough discovery of Raman effect by Sir C.V. Raman was celebrated by all the science departments through various intercollegiate competitions

Evidence of Success

- ✓ The students paid their tribute to the great leaders and eminent personalities by enthusiastically participating in all the events.
- ✓ The feedback received through online and the comments by the students in the chat boxes during the programmes displayed their gratitude and zeal to follow the path laid by our great leaders
- ✓ Students expressed their gratitude to the management and the teaching faculty for keeping up their spirits high and for instilling optimism and hope even on the virtual platform during the lockdown

Problems encountered and Resources Required

- Due to uncertainties and technical issues, there were some hassles during online programs
- Some students expressed their inability to join as they were at remote places and deficit of the mobile data
- Some of the issues were resolved by allowing the students view the programme passively through the recordings