

BEST PRACTICES

Arts Commerce College, Yeoda

Tq. Daryapur, Dist. Amravati,

Maharashtra (India)



Prepared for

CRITERION-VII

INSTITUTIONAL VALUES AND BEST

PRACTICES

(Session: 2020-21)

7.2 Best Practice No.1

1: Title of the Practice:-

“COOPERATIVE LEARNING CAMPAIGN”

2: The objective of the Practice:-

1. The purpose of Cooperative Learning for our institution (Contrary to popular practice) is to deliver education uniquely in times of Pandemic.
2. The first goal of Cooperative Learning is to reach out to students in the COVID-19 Pandemic who do not have access to a Smartphone or the Internet.
3. Promoting E-learning along with Cooperative Learning, to promote equal access to education for all.
4. To develop higher-level thinking, oral communication, self-management, and leadership skills.
5. To promote student-faculty interaction.
6. Increase in student retention, self-esteem, and responsibility.

3: The Context:

COVID-19 closed schools around the world. Globally, more than 1.2 billion children are out of the classroom. As a result, with the rise of e-learning, teaching methods have changed dramatically, leading to the delivery of education on remote digital platforms. But in a developing country like India, access to e-learning was not possible for everyone. Due to this difficulty, access to education has become difficult for a large population of India. Because of this difficulty, the

the college administration has formulated the modern concept of cooperative learning with a different module and structure and its details are given below.

4: The Practice:-

Cooperative Learning is a method of instruction that involves grouping students to work together toward a common academic goal. The method is based on the theory that knowledge is a social construct and that educational experiences that involve interaction and social exchange, that are contextually relevant and engaging and are student-centred, lead to deeper learning.

1. Designing Cooperative Learning tasks is a discipline in itself. As many practitioners have pointed out, the benefits of Cooperative Learning do not happen automatically just because you put some students together to work in a group. The exact structure, script, length, and objectives of the activity may vary, as per the conditions and situations.
2. The Institution launched the *Cooperative Learning Campaign* to continue the process of teaching students amid prolonged lockdowns due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. But this method is slightly different from the usual Cooperative Learning.
3. Under Cooperative Learning, college teachers who were serving under the Teacher Mentor Scheme identified students who did not have access to Smartphones and internet facilities to benefit from e-learning. This was followed by the identification of students who had access to e-learning services, and who lived close to children who did not have access to these facilities.
4. A specific timetable was created to facilitate the Cooperative Learning process online and to ensure equal representation of all subjects.

5. The college's Whatsapp and Telegram groups were used as mediums to promote Cooperative Learning. And the campaign was successfully carried out through these Social Media Groups. The whole process was carried out in three ways, the details of which are given below.

- a. Under this campaign, teachers used Google Meet and Zoom applications according to their Timetable to include students who had E-learning facilities in teaching-learning. And in this process, students who did not have E-learning facilities were instructed to be involved and it's an important part of this campaign.
- b. For those students who did not have an e-learning facility and did not have any student who had this facility, another method of cooperative learning was adopted for these students. In this way, the students who had an e-learning facility were first taught through online teaching and the students were instructed to teach what they have learned to the students who were deprived due to a lack of facilities of E-learning. Who will learn from whom, and from whom will be educated, all this work was decided by the college teachers.
- c. The third method of cooperative learning was for college teachers to reach out to students who did not have e-learning facilities. But due to the lockdown, very little work was done on this method. But whenever the opportunity arose, some lucky teachers demonstrated their abilities.

5: Evidence of Success:-

The purpose of initiating cooperative learning was to provide adequate educational activities to students in the lockdown caused by the Covid-19 Pandemic. The main purpose of this activity was to reach out to students who lacked the resources to benefit from e-learning. The following are two key benefits of this campaign.

1. The instant benefits of Co-Operative Learning have been found to have improved the performance of students even during the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. The number of students appearing for the exam has increased
3. The proportion of students who pass the exam has increased.
4. Teacher-student relationships have improved, and mutual trust has increased.

Other Benefits:

- ❖ Gain leadership and decision-making skills among the students.
- ❖ Gaining conflict management skills.
- ❖ Study engagement has increased.
- ❖ Increased communication skills.
- ❖ Increased sense of personal responsibility.
- ❖ Confidence has increased.
- ❖ A positive attitude with colleagues is cultivated.
- ❖ Got to see positive interdependence.
- ❖ The process of individual and group accountability has accelerated.
- ❖ Mutual and small group skills are visible.
- ❖ Solve problems across teams.

6: Problems Encountered and Resources Required:-

1. The main challenge faced in cooperative and collaborative learning is group conflict. Students need to learn to work together. It is not always something that comes naturally. You can teach skills like praising others, taking turns for equal participation, and shared decision-making.
2. Teachers who have not previously used cooperative or collaborative learning also have difficulty confronting the myriad questions in the classroom that are not found in traditional education. So they need to get used to the things that are picked up during these activities.
3. The most important and difficult phase of this campaign is to prepare students for the education of other students. This is a difficult task because students feel hesitant in the process of learning and teaching their classmates. The personal ego of the student also plays an important role in making this difficult.
4. In this process of cooperative learning, boys can teach only boys and girls only girls. In contrast, the concept of action is not even possible in India's rural social tradition.

7: Photo Gallery:



College teacher training students for COOPERATIVE LEARNING CAMPAIGN



Students gather at the village temple to study

1.2 Best Practice No.2

1: Title of the Practice:

“UNESCO'S INTERNATIONAL-DAYS CELEBRATION”

2: The objective of the Practice: -

1. To raise awareness and educate the community on issues of concern that require global attention.
2. To educate the public on issues of concern, mobilize political resources to address global issues, and celebrate and strengthen humanity's achievements on a global and national scale.
3. It is an effective opportunity to make an international day a facilitator for awareness-raising action.
4. Poverty alleviation, zero hunger, good health, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy, etc. are some of the specific goals of International Days.

3: Context:

1. International days and weeks are currently observed by the United Nations. The United Nations designates specific days, weeks, years, and decades as occasions to mark events or topics to promote, through awareness and action, the objectives of the Organization.
2. On occasion, these celebrations are declared by the specialized agencies of the United Nations, such as UNESCO, UNICEF, FAO, etc., when they concern issues that fall within the scope of their competencies. Some of them may be later adopted by the General Assembly.

3. International days are occasions to educate the general public on issues of concern, mobilize political will and resources to address global problems, and celebrate and reinforce the achievements of humanity.
4. The international observances (which also include weeks, years, and decades) are some of the most visited pages on the UN website. Each international day has a dedicated website, available in the UN's six official languages.
5. The International Days also serve as an indicator of the interest that a given subject attracts in each part of the world. To find this out, we look at the level of engagement that these commemorations receive in different regions and languages across the world.
6. The themes of international days are always linked to the main fields of action of the United Nations, namely the maintenance of international peace and security, the promotion of sustainable development, the protection of human rights, and the guarantee of international law and humanitarian action.

4: The Practice:

The College has decided to celebrate the Six International Days to promote a sense of educational, social, moral, environmental and health care responsibility among the students. All these International Days have been selected from the official list of UNESCO.

1. World **Environment** Day (5 June)
2. International **Yoga** Day (21 June)
3. International **Youth** Day (12 August)
4. World **AIDS** Day (1 December)
5. International **Women's** Day (8 March)

The details of the International Days celebrated by the College are as follows:

1. WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY (5 JUNE)

World Environment Day is celebrated annually on 5th June and it is the primary tool of the 'United Nations for promoting awareness and action for environmental protection. It was first celebrated in 1974. It was a platform for raising awareness of environmental issues such as Marine



Pollution, Human Overpopulation, Global Warming, Sustainable Consumption, and Crimes against Wildlife. World Environment Day is a global platform for public awareness, with more than 143 countries participating every year. Each year, the program provides a theme and forum for businesses, NGOs, communities, governments, and celebrities to support environmental causes. The theme of World Pollution Day in 2019 was "biodiversity" and our college also undertook various activities under the same theme like,

- ❖ An online Guest Lecture was conducted for the student.
- ❖ The Online Quiz was conducted.
- ❖ Students are focused on the importance and usefulness of diversity.

2: INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY (21 JUNE)

International Yoga Day has been celebrated annually on June 21 since 2015, after it was established at the United Nations General Assembly in 2014. Yoga is a physical, mental, and spiritual practice that originated in India. Indian Prime Minister *Narendra Modi*, in his address to the United Nations in 2014, suggested the date of June 21, as it is the longest day of the year in the northern hemisphere and shares special significance in many regions of the



world.

Yoga is practised in India since the 5th century and it has helped keep the body and mind healthy. With a holistic approach, Yoga addresses all the different systems of the body and mind. *Asanas* are said to strengthen and make the body more flexible as health improves; the spirit is also renewed with confidence. The practice of *Pranayama* regulates the purification of the internal system and organs, acting as a superior and capable complement to asanas. The energy generated in the body by these physical practices is channelled into *meditation or Dhyana* for stability, peace, and calm.

Since 2015, our college has been regularly celebrating World Yoga Day, which raises awareness about yoga among students through various activities like,

- ❖ A Collective Yoga Event is organized which involves teachers and students as well as responsible persons of the village.
- ❖ In this event, an expert yoga teacher is invited by the Physical Education Department of the college, who trains the audience through a variety of Yogasans and educates how to do daily yoga for a while without any expense for a healthy and stress-free life.
- ❖ In addition, the college's NSS unit conducts daily morning yoga sessions at different times (especially during the NSS camp). This exercise, which is done regularly for ten days daily in NSS CAMP, becomes a habit among the students.
- ❖ World Yoga Day is celebrated at the beginning of the academic session, so, it has a very positive effect on the mindset of the students.
- ❖ Students and teachers of all religions and sects participate in the celebration of World Yoga Day, so this event is also a manifestation of national unity.

- ❖ The theme of World Yoga Day 2019 was "Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family", and all events were organized in line with this theme.

COVID-19 Amidst social distance measures taken by countries around the world to combat epidemic crises, people were at home and doing activities indoors. Our college also conducted the event online intending to create awareness for yoga among the students.

3. INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY (12 AUGUST)

In 1999, the General Assembly of UNO endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998) that 12 August be declared International Youth Day. International Youth Day gives an opportunity to celebrate and mainstream young peoples' voices, actions, and initiatives, as well as their meaningful, universal, and



equitable engagement. The commemoration will take the form of a podcast-style discussion that is hosted by youth for youth, together with independently organized commemorations around the world that recognize the importance of youth participation in political, economic, and social life and processes.

International Youth Day gives a platform to the voices of the youth. It engages youngsters and aims to take initiatives and actions that will increase opportunities for them. This day is meant to signify and highlight the importance of young people, not just as a future generation, but also as the current driving force of change in the world. Various activities like concerts, workshops, cultural events, and meetings are organized to engage the youth and to bring their voices, actions, and initiatives to the mainstream.

Each year, the observance of International Youth Day is marked with a theme,

relevant to the times. The theme of International Youth Day 2020, “Engagement for Global Action” highlights efforts to make education more relevant, equitable, and inclusive for all youth, including efforts by youth themselves. The International Youth Day aims to promote ways to engage the youth and make them more actively involved in their communities through positive contributions. According to the United Nations, there are roughly around 1.8 billion young people between the ages group of 10 and 24 in the world. This is the largest youth population ever. However, more than half of these young people aged between 6 and 14 years lack basic reading and Math Skills, despite attending school. This fact threatens to severely hamper the progress of the 2030 SDG Agenda.

Understanding the importance of all the above, our college also celebrates International Youth Day every year by understanding the usefulness of this day. Because of this day, our college organizes the following events.

- ❖ The best speakers in the college are introduced to the students keeping in view the theme of UNESCO.
- ❖ The NSS Unit conducted various events to promote patriotism, sacrifice, peace, reconciliation, education, training, health awareness, and environmental awareness among the students.
- ❖ At the same time, a program is organized throughout the year which covers many aspects of youth reform.

4. WORLD AIDS DAY (1 DECEMBER)

World AIDS Day takes place on 1 December



each year. It's an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, show support for people living with HIV, and commemorate those who have died from an AIDS-related illness. Founded in 1988, World AIDS Day was the first-ever global health day.

All the World AIDS Day campaigns focus on a specific theme, chosen following consultations with UNAIDS, WHO, and a large number of grassroots, national and international agencies involved in the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. As of 2008, each year's theme is chosen by the Global Steering Committee of the World AIDS Campaign (WAC). "Ending the HIV/AIDS Epidemic" was the theme of 2020, and under the same theme, our college also organized the following event.

AIDS is caused by the spread of the life-threatening human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) which attacks the immune system of the patient and significantly reduces the body's resistance to other diseases. The disease serves as the final stage for the people who live with HIV but with proper care and medical health, HIV-positive people can continue to live a healthy life without it reaching the final stage. On a global level, there are approximately 38 million people who are living with HIV. It was first discovered in 1984 and since then, this virus has killed more than 35 million people, making it one of the deadliest pandemics in human history.

World AIDS Day allows fighting against HIV. People who have been affected by HIV feel motivated and dare to fight against the fatal disease. Our college also hosts a variety of events to raise awareness about AIDS and to build courage and solidarity to fight this global epidemic.

1. The NSS unit of the college conducts various programs on the occasion of World AIDS Day on December 1 every year.

2. On this day, the college organizes an AIDS awareness rally where students hold banners with various slogans written on them. Students walk the village streets chanting AIDS awareness slogans.
3. At the same time, the college conducts lectures by an expert speaker who addresses the youth and provides them with absolute information on AIDS prevention and awareness. Young people need to be aware of this because they are the most affected by this disease.

5: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY (8 MARCH)

In August 1910, an International Socialist Women's Conference was organized to precede the general meeting of the Socialist Second International in Copenhagen, Denmark. Inspired in part by the American socialists, German delegates Clara Zetkin, Kate Duncker and others proposed the setting up of an annual 'Women's Day.

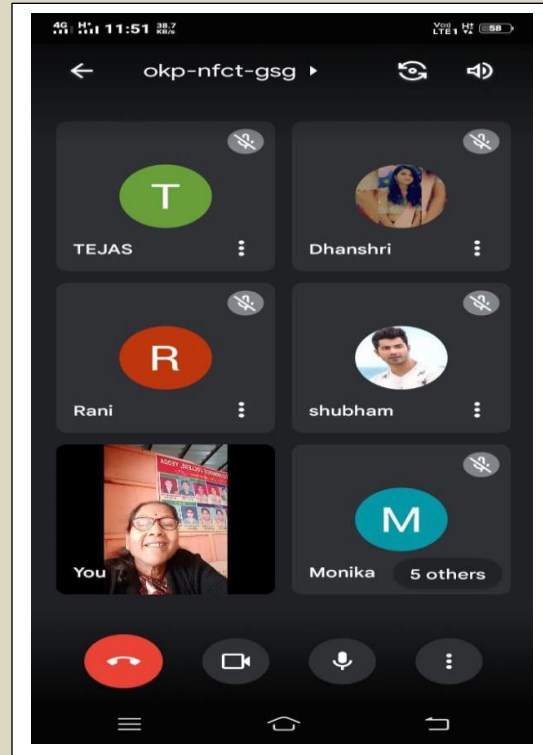
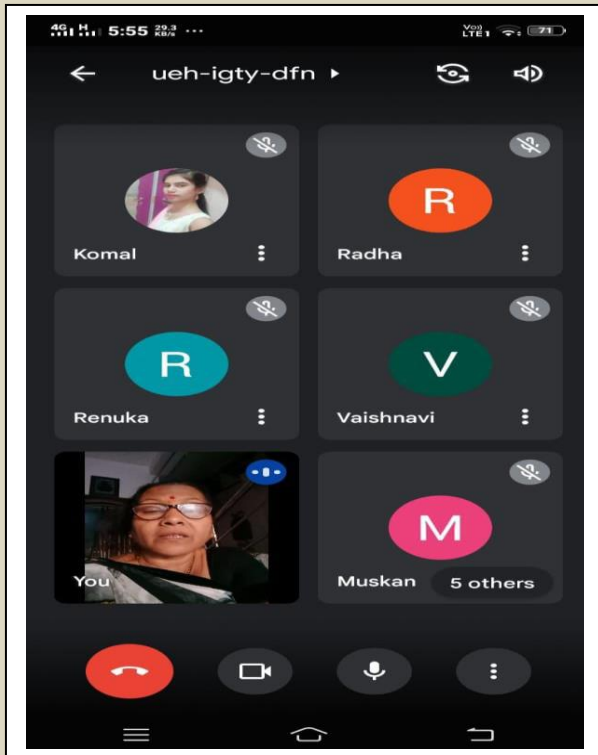


International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day for celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Internationally, purple is taken as a colour to symbolize women's day. The theme for Women's Day 2020 is "Think equal, build smart, and innovate for change". The purpose of International Women's Day (IWD) is to uphold women's achievements, recognize challenges, and focus greater attention on women's rights and gender equality. It is celebrated worldwide to spotlight women, their issues and achievements, and has a different theme each year.

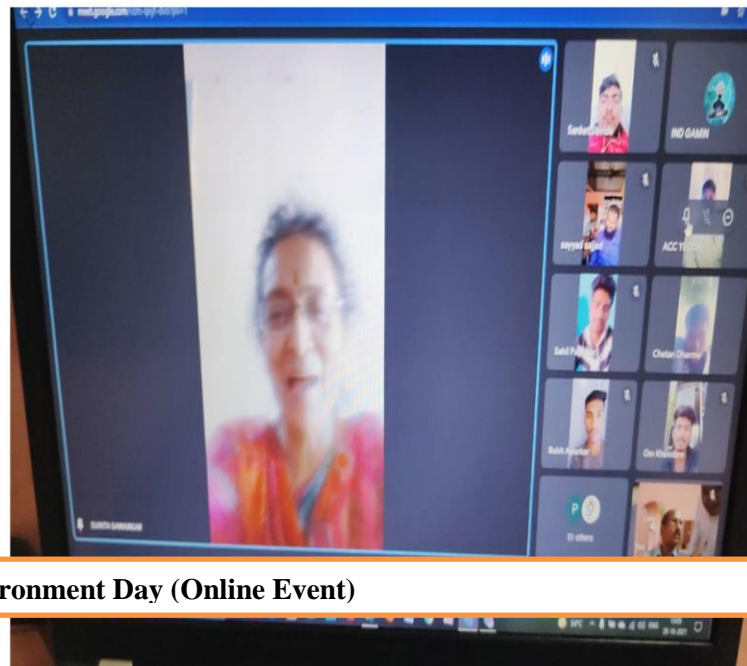
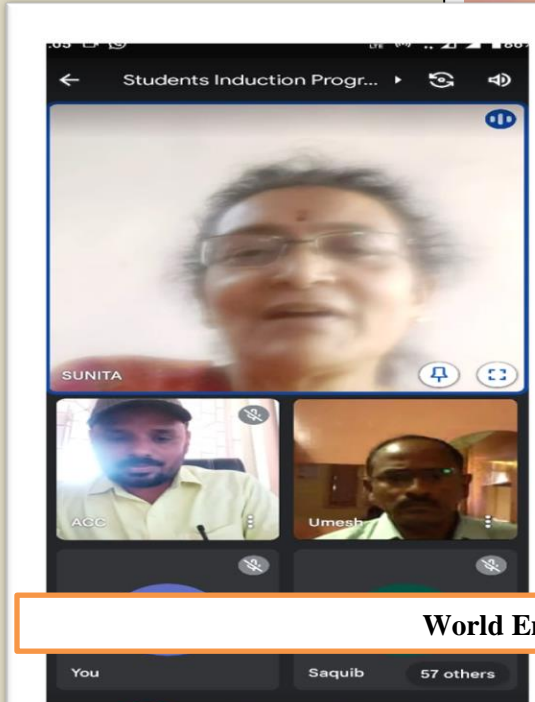
On International Women's Day, March 8, various events are held worldwide. Like seminars, marches, and concerts, the events celebrate women

and highlight the inequalities that women experience worldwide. The focus of the events picks up on various themes such as innovation, the portrayal of women in the media, and the importance of education and career opportunities. Women of all backgrounds: Political, community, and business leaders, as well as leading educators, inventors, entrepreneurs, and television personalities, are usually invited to speak on the day.

1. On the occasion of International Women's Day, our college organizes a seminar in which a well-known feminist figure is introduced to the students, and various topics such as women's issues, their overall development, education, and backwardness in the present time are discussed.
2. An online quiz is conducted by the Women's Grievances & Redressal Cell in which college students participate and the successful students are given an e-certificate.
3. In 2019, on the occasion of International Women's Day, the **Women Grievance & Redressal Cell** was established.
4. The Women Grievance & Redressal Cell is an active committee set up at the college to address girls' issues and their solutions. The same committee has set up a complaint box in the college where girls can write their problems and put them there, but the good thing is that so far, the committee has not received any complaints.



International Women's Day Celebration (Online Event)



World Environment Day (Online Event)



International Yoga Day



International Yoga Day

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