

## **Best Practice 1**

Title of the Practice: **Intellectual Growth of Students through Debating Skill**

**Objective:** It is better to debate a question, be it ethical, political or surreal, without settling it than to settle a question without debating it. A leading institution is the one that inspires its students to engage on a debate on the most relevant issues frankly and thoroughly. The students must be inspired to talk rationally and fearlessly, and they must have the patience to listen to what other people think. There are numerous benefits of debate. The greatest benefit is that it helps students to see the power of deploying rational and reasoned argument on a burning topic of our Country or our State in a persuasive way before the public. The College firmly believes that the students must have a say on the burning issues of the society, and debate among them on the burning issues of the society pertaining to its affairs on politics, economics and culture provides experiences that are conducive to life-changing, cognitive and public-speaking skills. Therefore, the College has been organizing All Assam Inter College Sadananda Chaliha Memorial Speech Competition and Najeebur Rahman Memorial Quiz Competition in the month of October every year.

**Context:** Some of the brilliant students of the College have the alacrity to participate in a debate on a big platform on the most important issues of the society. But they didn't get the proper platform for that. The College took stock of it and finally took the resolution to organise a state level speech and quiz competition in fond memory of two prominent persons who had long term association with the College: late Sadananda Chaliha and late Najeebur Rahman. Late Sadananda Chaliha, an eminent historian of his time, was the long-serving principal of the College who took this seat of learning to newer height of excellence. Late Najeebur Rahman was the first president of the Governing Body of the College. Both of them contributed significantly to the growth of the College.

**Practice:** Every year a burning issue of the state is chosen by the committee, comprising students and teachers, as the topic for the speech competition. Most of the colleges of the state are invited to participate in both the events. A screening

test is conducted exclusively to select three of our students, one for speech competition and two for quiz competition.

**Evidence of Success:** Every year around 20 colleges of the state participate in it. The teachers, non-teaching staff and the whole student community of the College look forward to this state level event. The College also invites the prominent personalities of the locality to the event. The enthusiasm of the selected participants from our College knows no bound.

**Problems Encountered and Resources Required:** Sometimes it becomes so difficult to select just three students from among the students of the College for the two competitions. Most of the Colleges are invited, but only 20 to 25 colleges of the state come to participate. The prize money needs to be increased a little bit. There is always a time pressure as both the competitions take place in a single day.

## **Best Practice 2**

Title of the Practice: **Eco-friendly Campus**

**Objective:** “The earth is”, says Wendell Berry, “what we all have in common.” One of the greatest challenges that the whole earth faces today is environment pollution. Indeed, it has become a monstrous issue affecting the lives of millions of living things, let alone human beings, across the world. It’s high time that we take appropriate measure to make it healthy. Biswanath College is an illustrious institution which has been relentlessly trying to promote an eco-friendly campus in such a way that it sends a message to the society in this regard. Through different environment-related activities involving students, teachers, NCC cadets, NSS volunteers and office employees, the College wants to protect, conserve and reserve the environment of the locality in general, and its campus in particular.

**Context:** The very place where the College is located is an ideal spot of natural ambience. In and around the locality deforestation was going on in full swing. It was illegally carried out by a section of greedy businessmen. Being the leading

institute on the north bank of the river Brahmaputra, the College decided to carry out tree plantation drive and cleanliness drive in the desired way.

**Practice:** The College has taken a firm resolve to conduct tree plantation programme and cleanliness drive particularly on World Environment Day and on the College's foundation day. The College has sufficient land for it. The College authority contacts the forest departments and collects saplings of valuable trees which are planted in the College campus by teachers, students and employees.

**Evidence of Success:** The greenery of the whole campus of the College is enough proof of success of the practice. The College has literally become a plastic free-zone. All the visitors to the College and the stakeholders appreciate the natural ambience of the college.

**Problems Encountered and Resources Required:** After the plantation part, trees need to be protected from cows and goats. Organic manures are to be applied sporadically. The protection part needs to be taken seriously. In this regard, our students are to be made sensitive. Those trees are to be preferred which have physiological potential matched with College beautification and fruit productivity. One major constraint that is currently perceived is the shortage of good planting material for the plantation programmes. Most importantly, these plantation drives should be conducted outside the College campus.