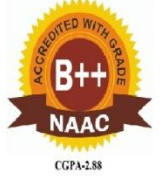




Office of the Principal
RANGAPARA COLLEGE, RANGAPARA

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Best Practice II

1. Title of the Practice: Green and Clean Campus Initiative: Leveraging Rural Sustainability at Rangapara College

2. Objectives of the Practice:

The objective of this initiative is to harness the natural greenery and rural setting of Rangapara College to establish a model of ecological sustainability and cleanliness. It aims to:

- Preserve and enhance the surrounding greenery.
- Integrate eco-conscious practices into daily campus operations.
- Foster environmental awareness among students and staff.

3. The Context

Rangapara College, located in a serene rural area surrounded by natural greenery, faces challenges typical of rural settings, such as limited infrastructure for modern waste management, over-reliance on traditional practices, and lack of exposure to advanced sustainable practices. However, the abundance of green space offers a unique opportunity to model sustainability by integrating nature with education. The initiative was designed to capitalize on the existing natural beauty while addressing challenges like waste management, plastic use, and maintaining hygiene.

4. The Practice

The initiative at Rangapara College focuses on preserving and enhancing its green environment while ensuring cleanliness and sustainability.

Key components include:

- **Eco-Friendly Campus Maintenance:** Leveraging the natural greenery by planting native species and creating eco-parks and herbal gardens for educational and medicinal purposes.
- **Community-Driven Cleanliness Drives:** Regular cleanliness campaigns involving students, staff, and the local community, ensuring a litter-free campus and surrounding areas.
- **Vermicomposting Units:** Utilizing organic waste from the campus to produce compost for gardens, reducing dependency on chemical fertilizers.
- **Rainwater Harvesting:** Installing rainwater harvesting systems to conserve water and ensure efficient use of natural resources.
- **Green Energy Solutions:** Exploring the use of solar panels and energy-efficient lighting systems.
- **Plastic-Free Campus:** Implementing strict policies to reduce plastic usage, promoting alternatives like cloth bags and reusable containers.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Organizing workshops and outreach programs on sustainable practices, emphasizing rural-friendly solutions like organic farming and traditional ecological knowledge.
- **Green Audit:** Rangapara College conducts Green Audit on a regular basis to protect its environment and also to maintain its greenery. This audit also helps to address the environmental issues in the campus.
- **Energy Audit:** the institution conducts energy annually to find out the measure for reducing electric energy consumption and also to take necessary measures for attaining sustainable goals.

This initiative stands out because it integrates the surrounding rural and green context into the institution's operational and educational framework, creating a unique learning experience for students.

5. Evidence of Success

Key indicators of success include:

- Enhanced biodiversity with an increase in native plant species.
- Reduction wastes through vermicomposting.
- Active participation of over 90% of the college community in cleanliness drives.
- Local recognition for environmental initiatives, inspiring nearby villages to adopt similar practices.
- Increased student awareness and involvement in sustainability projects, evident from participation in eco-related workshops and competitions.

- The Pollution Control Board has issued appreciation and recognition letter for conducting environmental and sustainable related activities conducted by the institution.

These results signify the success of the initiative in harmonizing educational and environmental goals.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- **Challenges:** Limited financial resources for initial investments, occasional resistance to change, and gaps in technical expertise for implementing segregation of non-degradable wastes.
- **Resources Required:** Financial assistance for infrastructure, partnerships with environmental organizations, and technical training for staff and students.

7. Notes

This initiative serves as a replicable model for rural institutions aiming to integrate sustainability into their campus operations. Leveraging local resources and engaging the community are key success factors. Rangapara College's approach highlights the importance of contextualizing sustainable practices to fit the unique strengths and challenges of rural settings.