**CRITERIA - VII: INNOVATIONS AND BEST PRACTICES**

**7.1Environment Consciousness**

***7.1.1 Does the institute conduct a green audit of its campus and facilities?***

**Yes**, the institute is conducting a green audit of its campus and facilities starting from this academic year 2017-2018. This audit is planned in three phases.

**Pre-audit:** The scope of the audit is defined. Various initiatives during the academic year are confirmed.

**Audit:** Green audit is to be conducted by an internal green audit team on a yearly basis.

**Post-audit:** Based on the internal audit report, the institute reviews environment related initiatives that has to be implemented. It then formulates the action plan for the next academic year in order to have better environment sensitization. An external audit is also proposed to be conducted every five years.

**The following are the commitment of the institution towards eco-friendly campus:**

* Students are strictly instructed to follow the guidelines given by the government to avoid plastic materials to be eco conscious. Hence thrust is given on plastic free zone on the campus. The student volunteers are extensively used to campaign against the plastic things sensitizing the dangers of plastic materials.
* The college has well maintained green pockets and separate medicinal garden in the campus.
* One gardener is appointed who cleans garden daily and also takes care of its maintenance.
* To enable proper waste reduction and recycling practices through education and communication efforts. The class rooms and practical laboratories hold remarkable sign at various ports as “SAVE ENERGY”, “PUT OFF FANS AND LIGHTS” when not in use, etc.
* The College organizes several programs like tree plantation, go green, save water and electricity and cleanliness related activity through NSS.
  + 1. ***What are the initiatives taken by the college to make the campus eco-friendly?***

1. **Energy conservation**

* Implementing energy saving techniques is ensured that the lights and fans are switched off by floor peons and staff after completion of the last lecture of the day.
* Classrooms are made with sufficient cross ventilation and light so that the use of electricity can be minimized.
* Creating awareness in students about energy crisis, energy consumption and effects of carbon emission.

The steps to be taken are as follows:-

* Posters and placards on energy conservation are displayed in classrooms, computer labs and administrative office. The posters are made by material like old newspapers, corrugated boxes.etc.
* Talks have been arranged for students and staff on energy misuse and methods to conserve energy. Minor steps like shutting down computers when not in use, turning off computer monitors or other electric appliances at the end of the day etc. were practiced.
* Various competitions like poster painting and essay writing are held regularly to create awareness among the students about Energy conservation.
* Conducting seminars and workshops to develop communication skills & personality development in students.
* Maximizing the use of natural light and turning off all non – essential lights whenever possible, turning off exterior Architectural lighting between 11:00 PM to 6:00 AM.
* The ordinary bulbs and tube lights are replaced with CFL bulbs throughout the campus.

All the above steps show the commitment of college towards energy consumption.

1. **Use of renewable energy**

The College is planning to install solar panel and adaptation of solar energy under renewable energy was the best course of action in the existing circumstances. Solar technologies are broadly characterized as passive or active solar technologies depending on the way these equipment capture, convert and distribute solar energy.

* Active solar techniques include the use of photovoltaic panels and solar thermal collectors to harness the energy.
* Passive solar techniques include orienting a building to the Sun, selecting materials with favorable thermal mass or light dispersing properties, and designing spaces that naturally circulate air.

1. **Water harvesting**

Every summer (period from February to June) there is water scarcity and the institute is located in one of the drought region. So, to overcome this water shortage we are planning to introduce the concept of water harvesting. There are mainly two main techniques of rainwater harvesting

Storage of rainwater on surface for future use

* Recharge to groundwater**.**

The distilled water is used in the laboratories. The water (that was used as a coolant) coming out from distillation machine is collected and used for many purposes including gardening.

1. **Solar panels**

One solar power is fixed in the college at boundary wall and more initiatives of deploying solar panels is to be taken in near future.

1. **Efforts for Carbon neutrality**

The Ministry of Human Resource Development has been emphasizing the need for "minimizing the institute's impact on the environment and its carbon footprint." Each institute has been advised to constitute a dedicated and independent green office consisting of members knowledgeable in environmental issues and green technologies and practices, besides student representatives.

The College makes the student aware of the carbon credits, carbon neutrality; its advantages etc. in the curriculum

Following are the steps taken for carbon neutrality:-

* Overload and shock in the electricity can be automated by tripping system.
* Smoking is strictly prohibited inside the campus.
* Auto changes over generators are made available in the campus so that delay or break in works due to electricity can be avoided.
* The college has been maintaining greenery with lawns and shrubs and trees for keeping carbon neutrality stable. Crotons, cacti and some varieties of flowering plants are grown as indoor plants placed in corridors.
* Minimization in the use of coal in this campus is a serious measure adopted by the administration to reach the Carbon neutrality.
* Parking private cars outside the main campus has also helped us to reduce the carbon emission rate.
* Recycling is promoted amongst students in the following ways-

- Students are encouraged to make paper carry bags to wrap products at the annual sale.

**Activities of NSS team in plantation programme**

* The team encourages students by distributing fruit yielding plants on the Fresher’s Day.
* Hundreds of plants are being planted on every Independence Day, Republic Day, World Environment Day and other occasions.
* Each student is given a plant and instructed to plant it at his/her home and rear it properly.
* The team has allotted the NSS volunteers to protect the plants from animals and tramping pedestrians.
* Our college is following a trend that every delegate who visits college is requested to plant a sapling in the presence of faculty and students.

**G. Bio-Hazardous waste management**

* Generally the waste from microbiology labs, chemistry departments and other labs are carefully discarded through proper channels where the sewage system has been done in eco-friendly manner.
* Use of plastic bags is discouraged within the institute premises.
* Broken glassware of any sort is considered hazardous waste and is disposed appropriately.
* Students and faculty members are discouraged from using cell phones in the premises.
* Broken glass, and plastic, rubber and poly-urethane materials are disposed into municipal dump bins to be recycled.
* E-waste management – using mobile phones in the campus is reduced.
* Generally in few cases it is unavoidable to dispose them to the scrap merchants and these are replaced with new ones.

**H. Recognition/certification for environmental friendliness**

Officially we do not have any recognition/certification to our institution regarding environmental friendliness.

**7.1.3 *How does the institution ensure the robust infection control and radiation safety measures are effectively implemented on campus?***

Infection control

* Separate workers are allotted for cleaning and mopping the floors on daily basis.
* Separate sick room is available for the students
* The disposable gloves, mask and head caps are available in all the laboratories.
* The surgical and non- surgical instruments are sterilized by proper sterilization methods in all departments’ laboratories in the CSSD department of RVS hospital.

Radiation safety- The official steps to be taken for radiation safety is not yet practiced.

**7.1.4 *Has the institution been audited / accredited by any other agency such as NABL, NABH, etc.?***

The institution is preparing to apply for NABH accreditation.

**7.2** ***Innovations***

***7.2.1 Give details of innovations introduced during the last four years which have created a positive impact on the functioning of the college.***

**Innovations in Academics**

* The college has introduced many innovative practices for the students to achieve quality education. The college has started remedial coaching for the slow learners, which helps them to cover up their gaps in learning.
* High-tech class rooms with smart board, LCD projector and screen.
* Series of workshop/seminars/debate/panel discussion have established the reputation of this college as a place of quality education.
* Series of sports and cultural events have created positive impact on our stakeholders.
* Computerized results, uploading of results on college website, and timely examination have also improved our reputation and commitments.
* Air Conditioned Seminar Hall with the modern audio-visual facilities has opened the avenue for a state-of-the –art presentation and lecture facilities for eminent speakers during seminars and workshops.
* Seminars on all-round personality development and inculcating a spirit of selfless service, patriotism and universal brotherhood.
* Project Grants, from DST&ICMR etc. have enhanced the path for extensive research and better laboratory infrastructure.
* Industrial visits and educational tours are organized regularly which helps them gain hands-on experience and get a feel of the actual professional environment in the industry and to know about different places of prime importance.
* A week in an academic year is exclusively given for cultural and sports activities to improve the students overall wellbeing.
* Encouraging the students in different activities like NSS programs, GO-GREEN concepts, SAVE POWER etc.,
* All the students are being trained in Communication Skills. Every student has to go to CALL once in a week so that he/she acquires good communication skills during the four-year Degree Course. This enables him/her to face interviews successfully with ease.
* Introduction of e- Library helps the students in finding the books of his/her choice promptly. It also helps the Library personnel in serving the students effectively.

**Feedback mechanism**

Students’ feedback about infrastructure and teaching learning process is obtained from the students twice in an academic year. This improves the teaching quality of teacher. Suggestion boxes are also made available in porch and library for getting students feedback.

* Broad areas of review are:

1. Faculty – Strength, expertise, training and performance
2. Student - Strength for each course offered by the School or Department; monitoring of students’ performance;
3. Infrastructure-Level of infrastructure provided for the course content, augmentation required;
4. Research & Development – Publications, product development,
5. Placement, Industry – Institute Interaction, Consultancy and Research;
6. Funding – External funding and status of projects;
7. Health Centre organizes free medical camps and distribution of medicines free of cost to the Students and Staff members.

**Innovations in administration**

Administration Centre for e-governance offers software based IT services to the Institution for performing its day-to-day operations transparently and efficiently.

* The updated details of their ward’s attendance, absenteeism, fees dues and test marks through e - service.
* Features
  1. Online fees payment using Debit/Credit Card
  2. Storage of student records such as 10th certificates, 12th certificates, circulars, letters and other documents.
  3. Internal Test Assessment Reports send by post to parents.
  4. Mentor reports and comments send to parents every month and guiding them to improvise students.
  5. Parents and Mentor interaction will hold in the campus for every month.
  6. Maintenance of internal marks and external marks in standard formats.
* **Establishment of Interactive Voice Response System:**

This system helps the parents to get their wards’ marks and attendance details through a phone call. Attendance and particulars of marks of the students are sent to the parents through Post .Through this process the College keeps itself in touch with the parents and the date and time of the Parents’ Meet is informed through Post.

**Others**

* **Social activities**
* Initiating the students in campaigns and rallies.
* Motivating them to help for a social cause.
* Creating a livelihood environment in the campus by conducting competitions in the college premises.
* Serving the poor students financially and mentally.
* Guiding the old age people in administration of medications, usage of medication, intake of nutritional diet etc.,

***7.3* Best Practices**

***7.3.1 Give the details of any two best practices that have contributed to better academic and administrative functioning of the institution?***

**First Best Practice:**

1. **Title of the practice:** Mentoring System
2. **Objectives:**
3. **Context:**
   1. It supports their advancement in research activity, conference presentations, publication, and grant-writing.
   2. Students are less likely to feel ambushed by potential bumps in the road, having been alerted to them, and resources provided help in dealing with stressful or difficult periods in their graduate careers.
   3. The experiences and networks of their mentor help to improve the student’s prospects of securing professional placement.
   4. The knowledge that someone is committed to their progress, someone who can give them solid advice and be their advocate, can help to lower stress and build confidence.
   5. Through Constructive interaction with a mentor and participation in collective activities, the students are encouraged to engage in the field.

**4.** Additionally the Principal along with HOD’s initiate the process of planning, execution, monitoring, reporting and action to be taken for various tasks at the academic, research level along with overall development of the students.

**5. The Practice:**

* Monitoring individual student
* Collection of student bio-data (Parents name & address with e-mail ID & phone numbers)
* Present address with accompanied person details (Name, Phone number & E-mail ID, etc.)
* To collect and maintain percentage of attendance in all subjects in every 15 days.
* To collect and maintain results performance in Annual University exams.
* If attendance and results performance is poor/not met to the minimum requirement the mentor should council the students and inform to their parents to improve mentee attendance and results.
* Should check for Dress code, Discipline and Punctuality every day both in morning and afternoon sessions.
* To motivate and select the student based on academic performance to attend scientific session.
* Mentor should have continuous vigilance about their mentee’s activities.
* Mentor should report all the details about their mentee’s to the undersigned by last week of every month.

**6. Evidence of Success:**

* The institution collects the feedback from the students through mentor system, from the faculty through staff meetings and self appraisal form and from stakeholders to identify the organizational needs.
* Management ensures their participation in the various programmes organized by the institution.

**7. Problems Encountered and Resources Required**

* Time is not sufficient to the mentors for supporting the mentees
* No separate rooms for the HoD’s.

**Second Best Practice:**

* + - 1. **Title of the practice:** Management Support for CSR

**2. Objectives:**

* Involving the students to prepare good citizens of the society.
* To impart social responsibilities among the students.
* For upliftment of the society

**3. The Context**

Development of socially responsible and globally competent Nurse is a stated mission of the institution. Accordingly, the curriculum of the programs offered by the institute mandates early and continued exposure to training in clinical practice in various departments of hospital, community training and participation in public health activities in its rural and urban health centers. Inculcation of ethical values and integrity is an important goal of the institute and the curriculum explicitly includes elements of Nursing ethics and professional conduct. Students are encouraged to involve in social activities. This sensitizes them to the health needs of the society

**4. The Practice**

* Identify topics and projects that could be offered with innovative teaching methods and multidisciplinary approach as well as Industry defined projects.
* To motivate the faculty and student to do research.
* To organize conference, workshop, seminar & symposium to create awareness among Faculty and students as well as the public about emerging trend in related area.
* To motivate the faculty and student in CSR
* To identify thrust areas to know the individual needs and support the individuals in fulfilling the needs.
* To create the awareness about various health needs among the public.
* To organize health camps, special camps at free of cost.
* To motivate the staff in consultancy services.
* To create the awareness about rights of the public.
* Distribution of first aid kit to the police.
* Construction of “Chalivendram” to the public during summer time.

**5. Evidence of Success**

* Increased intake of admissions
* Increased interest among students in participating CSR
* Getting co-operation from the public.

**6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required**

* No support in some community areas.
* No sufficient facilities for the faculty as well as students in the community area.