

Best Practice of Kendrapara Autonomous College

Best practice-I

1. Title of the Practice:

Pro-Active initiatives to serve students from the socially-disadvantaged communities.

2. Objectives of the Practice:

Kendrapara Autonomous College caters to all sections of the society and attempted to reach the remotely located villages, communities, identities and sections of the society.

With this background, KAC aims:

- To equip students to achieve their goals and fulfil dreams
- To facilitate the students in overcoming social, cultural, economic and educational barriers.
- To provide necessary infrastructure and human resource support system for social inclusion.
- To impart necessary skills to face national and global challenges.
- To empower students to be self-reliant leading to the upliftment of dependent families.
- To uplift marginalized and socially disadvantaged communities to come to the mainstream of development.

3. The Context:

Kendrapara Autonomous College has its reach and access to the remotest villages and communities. The students coming from diverse background like Rural, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities, Other Backward Castes, Single girl child, Transgender and differently abled pupil are just to name a few. Most of the students are first generation literates who are seeking support from educational institutions to address their challenges and fulfil their dreams. Kendrapara Autonomous College takes utmost care to support and uplift the qualified, potential and deprived sections of the society. In fact, this dimension is reflected in the Vision and Mission document of the university and it is following an inclusive education policy. Since its existence Kendrapara Autonomous College has witnessed several disadvantaged students discontinuing education due to financial support. In this background KAC has initiated affirmative action's such as free ships and reservations for social inclusiveness.

4. The Practice

The KAC has taken up many pro-active initiatives to serve students from socially disadvantaged communities with the intension of increasing enrolment to higher education. The initiatives include, Free ships for students, Free books, scholarships for the blind students, Empowerment cell and equal opportunity cell for differently abled persons, Pre examination coaching for the students, special classes for students to qualify for national and State level entrances to pursue higher education, question bank for SC-ST students, medical support and Sports accessories.

5. Evidence of Success:

The proactive measures of the institution have been reflected in the number of students enrolling to various courses offered by the college. Maximum percentage of reserved category seats are filled every year. Students are getting the benefit of free ships every year.

The facilities extended has resulted in maximum number of students completing the courses successfully. The dropout rate reducing over the year among socially and economically weaker sections. Physically abled students' students have been benefited through facility of battery-operated vehicles, wheel chair facility, disabled-friendly washrooms, screen- reading software and scribes during the examinations. Special promotional classes for higher study enable them to qualify for national (JAM, CUET) and State level (CPET) entrances to pursue higher education at institutions with national and international repute and placed in their respective fields.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Problems encountered:

The proactive initiatives of Institution have resulted in increased number of applicants and admission for various programmes offered in the college. This has led to shortage existing hostel facilities. Therefore, providing accommodation and other necessary infrastructure has become a major challenge to the institution. Considering the advantages of the said scheme students from other economically weaker sections are also requesting the college authorities to extend the welfare measures, which is a challenge for the college to meet the demand due to reduced financial resources.

Resources required:

- Require to increase the hostel strength in terms of seats.
- Necessary to enhance the staff strength.
- Adequate monitoring and review mechanism to be established for the appropriate utilization of funds.
- Fund mobilization channels needs to be developed and executed for continuing and extending the facilities to other students also to meet overall sustainable development goals.