

Baburaoji Gholap College

Sangvi, Pune 411007, Maharashtra

Presentation of Best Practice – I in the Prescribed Format

Academic Year 2018 - 2023

Best Practice-1

A baseline study of the villages in Pune District

Introduction:

Our college, recognizing the challenges faced by the rural population in Maharashtra, particularly in Mulshi and Maval Tehsil, initiated village surveys under the guidance of our Honourable Principal. The surveys aimed to understand the ground reality of facilities and resources in rural areas. A comprehensive questionnaire was designed to collect information through student participation, focusing on nonconventional energy sources, electricity, water supply, irrigation, cooperative societies, and government development schemes. The results, presented in this report, contribute to a better understanding of rural society, aiding policymakers in formulating appropriate transformational policies.

Importance of Village Surveys:

- Understanding fundamental necessities of villages.
- Recognizing challenges for targeted interventions.
- Informing policymakers for effective strategies.
- Providing a holistic view of village life.
- Enhancing student learning through practical experience.
- Involving residents in the development process.
- Fostering self-reliance and community empowerment.
- Establishing a baseline for assessing progress.

Objective of the Practice:

- Study the social, cultural, religious, political, and demographic structure of the community.
- Document natural resources, including soil, water, plants, crops, and animal diversity.
- Record information on nonconventional energy sources, electricity, drinking water, irrigation, drainage systems, sanitation, literacy, cooperative societies, etc.
- Identify and understand the needs and problems of the community and involve them in the problem-solving process.
- Cultivate a sense of social and civic responsibility among participants.
- Enable participants to apply their knowledge in finding practical solutions to individual and community problems.

Methodology:

The college employed a questionnaire-based approach, capturing both qualitative and quantitative data, to establish baseline information and track changes over time. The survey covered village facilities, proximity to essential services, and various socio-economic aspects.

Challenges in Village Survey Studies:

Village survey studies are complex, requiring a nuanced approach to avoid biases and misrepresentations. This report emphasizes the need for a balanced understanding of rural communities.

Data Analysis:

Data compilation utilized MS Excel, Google Earth for topography analysis, and revisits to villages for additional details. The compiled data covered household demographics, energy usage, education, health, and more.

Compiled Data:

Data covered various aspects, presented visually for ease of analysis. Interviews with families provided insights into income sources, expenditure, and lifestyle.

Natural Resource Survey:

Focused on plants, crops, animals, medicinal plants, soils, and water resources. Data compilation used MS Excel, emphasizing the importance of biodiversity conservation.

Village Profiles:

Detailed profiles of Dongargaon, Kusgaon, Karmoli, and Chale, covering geographical, demographic, economic, cultural, and developmental aspects.

Evidence of Success:

The report presents the challenges and potential avenues for development in surveyed villages, emphasizing the commitment to preserving culture and ecology.

Impact of the Practice:

The initiative exposed students to real rural challenges, fostering environmental awareness, instilling a sense of responsibility, and contributing to holistic student development.

Sustainability:

The surveys will extend to multiple villages, broadening activities to encompass diverse fields. Students in the upcoming academic year will receive advanced training.

Resources required:

Enthusiastic student and teacher involvement, comprehensive sample analysis facilitated by adequate laboratory facilities.

Dissemination of the practice:

The compiled knowledge will be shared with the village panchayat, Block Development Office, and may be published on the college website as an open-source document.

Suggestions for Village Development:

- Prioritize development initiatives in hilly terrain villages.
- Introduce modern facilities to enhance residents' quality of life.
- Focus on improving the social status of women in the villages.
- Uplift the social status of various castes within the community.
- Create opportunities in villages to curb youth migration to cities.
- Improve and develop roads leading to the villages.
- Establish weekly markets to boost economic vibrancy.
- Pave roads for better connectivity and accessibility.
- Address water-related issues for the well-being of villages.
- Ensure access to secondary and higher secondary education.
- Maintain water and soil quality for overall village health.
- Conserve plants, crop, and animal diversity through community participation.
- Establish a nursery for rare, endangered, and threatened plant species.
- Promote awareness about non-conventional energy sources like solar equipment.
- Discourage the use of agricultural waste as fuel and promote energy-efficient alternatives.
- Raise awareness about Vitamin A deficiency and supplementation.
- Utilize cultural heritage and natural resources for promoting tourism activities.

Baburaoji Gholap College

Sangvi, Pune 411007, Maharashtra

Presentation of Best Practice – II in the Prescribed Format

Academic Year 2018 - 2023

Best Practice-2

Plastic collection drive

Introduction:

Plastic pollution results from our excessive dependence on single-use plastics, causing severe environmental repercussions. Globally, one million plastic bottles and five trillion single-use plastic bags are purchased and used annually, contributing significantly to environmental degradation. Since the 1950s, plastic production has surpassed that of any other material. Continued trends suggest that by 2050, the plastic industry could account for 20% of the world's total oil consumption, emphasizing the critical need for comprehensive measures to tackle this growing environmental crisis.

The context that required the initiation of the practice:

To overcome challenges in reducing plastic waste, our college initiated a campaign encouraging students to collect plastic from their homes. The collected plastic is then brought to the college and handed over to the NGO "Sagarmitra Foundation" for processing and management. This initiative aims not only to manage plastic waste but also to raise awareness among students and staff about preventing and reducing plastic use.

Our initiative encourages staff and students to adopt eco-friendly alternatives for carrying purchased items. This aligns with our commitment to environmental responsibility and educating the college community on sustainable practices. Aligned with the aims and objectives of plastic collection, we launched the initiative on July 22, 2020. A lecture by Mr. Vinod Bodhankar (Sagarmitra Abhiyan) Pune, was organized on July 21, 2020.

The program, introduced by Principal Dr. Nitin Ghorpade, and skilfully conducted by Dr. Rani Bhagat (Coordinator), saw active participation from 78 teaching and non-teaching staff members.

Objectives of the Practice:

1. Raise Awareness
2. Minimize Plastic Usage
3. Quantify Plastic Generation
4. Cultivate Social and Civic Responsibility
5. Application of Knowledge
6. Practical Problem Solving
7. Establish Environment-Friendly Disposal Solutions:

The Practice:

To underscore the importance of plastic collection, we initiated an extensive awareness campaign among students and staff, recognized and commended by Principal Dr. Nitin Ghorpade. A special 'Plastic Collection Drive' on July 22, 2022, with Chief Guest Dr. Digambar Durgade, marked the establishment of a monthly routine. Over the past three years, 29 drives resulted in a significant contribution of 881 kg of plastic sent for recycling to Sagarmitra Foundation, with active participation from 327 staff and students, aligning with our commitment to environmental sustainability.

Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them:

Addressing initial student reluctance in the plastic collection initiative involved proactive measures. Short training sessions were organized to educate students on effective collection methods and their crucial role in waste management. Teachers played a pivotal role in

supporting students, providing guidance on logistics, proper handling, and disposal of plastic waste. This collaborative approach successfully overcame initial reluctance, fostering a sense of responsibility and commitment among students towards the initiative.

Evidence of Success:

In this drive, we actively collected a diverse range of household dry plastics, including milk pouches, bottles, wrappers, straws, bags, drink bottles, wrappings, shampoo bottles, toys, and containers. The comprehensive collection aimed to address various household plastic waste sources. A notable aspect involves selling the accumulated plastic waste, generating funds deposited into the college account, creating a sustainable financial model. This approach promotes recycling and establishes a self-sustaining mechanism for ongoing plastic collection efforts.

Impact of the Practice:

1. Education and Awareness
2. Experiential Learning
3. Communication Skills
4. Environmental Awareness
5. Advocacy for Plastic Reduction

Sustainability of the Practice:

1. Expansion to Other Institutions
2. Training Programs
3. Community Awareness
4. Continuous Student Engagement

Resources Required:

1. Passionate Staff and Students
2. Plastic Collection Boxes

Dissemination of the Practice:

1. Comprehensive Report
2. Media Publicity
3. Online Platforms
4. Presentations and Workshops
5. Collaboration with NGOs