

## **Best Practice 1**

**Title :** Biodiversity Audit

### **Objective of the Practice:**

1. To identify various species of flora and fauna in the Kalina University Campus and document them in scientific manner.
2. Based on the findings make suggestions to the University to preserve the biodiversity by initiating ecological restoration and preservation of available flora and fauna.

**The Context :** The geographical location of Kalina campus of the University of Mumbai is strategic as it is located along the Mahim Creek and low lying flood plains. Secondly, the same area housed some of the reputed institutions like forensic lab, Bandra-Kurla Complex, International and Domestic airport. Due to these prime establishment there have been massive degradation of natural flora and fauna due to various development project. The flora and fauna maintained in the university campus serves as lungs of this whole area and helps in curbing the heavy air pollution. Biodiversity preservation in future may also be used for carbon credits and carbon bank.

**The Practice:** The biodiversity audit was successfully conducted by Dr. Poonam Gawali. During the practice, all species of vegetation were identified and the information has been systematically arranged in the form of report. The faunal diversity also has been identified and documented. The biodiversity audit was done from January 2018 to March 2018.

**Evidence of Success:** The findings have been communicated in the form of report to the authorities. The University has the Garden Development Department. The results have been communicated to this department. According to the suggestions, the process of making plan for the proper garden development in the view of ecological restoration and biodiversity preservation has been initiated.

**Resources required:** Various garden equipment, surveying tools and technological tools like GPS recorder are required. Most importantly, the financial investment is must for ecological restoration which can be probably arranged through Carbon Trade.

### **The Institution:**

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Year of Accreditation: 2012

Grade awarded by NAAC: A

Contact persons: Prof. DevanandShinde, Vice-Chancellor

## **Best Practice 2**

**Title:** Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Bharatratna Babasaheb Ambedkar Jayanti Saptah

**Objectives:**

1. Community awareness regarding the Constitution of India,
2. Spreading the values and ethics of communal harmony, equality, justice and liberty among the various stakeholders like student community, non-teaching staff, teaching faculties and society,
3. Various experts and stalwarts were invited to share their viewpoints and experiences regarding the universal values and ethics of humanity and the democratic, sovereign and plural spirit inculcated by the Indian Constitution,
4. To disseminate the thoughts of great leaders like Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Bharatratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar and enlighten them to carry forward the spirit of diversity.

**The Context :** There has been a need of spreading awareness among the various stakeholders in academia as well as society regarding various provisions that have been made in the Constitution of India regarding practicing and preserving the universal values of equality, social justice, plurality and communal harmony. There have been incidences in recent past that have disturbed the communal peace and social harmony. At this backdrop, the thoughts of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Bharatratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar need to be reinstated in the younger generation and especially teaching community. Several prominent thinkers, artists and academicians were invited to discuss various dimensions current social situation. In these deliberations, how the immense significance of preserving the Constitution and constitutional rights was reemphasized.

**The Practice:** The novel practice included not only involvement of academicians but also artists from various art backgrounds. It included a visit to Phule Wada in Pune; awareness programme in Jawar; a play titled as '*Shivaji Underground in Bhimnagar Mohalla*'; Seminar on 'Percepts of Social Justice and Empowerment'; seminar by administrative staff of the University; seminar by college teachers on 'Interrogating Cotemporary Social Reality'; painting exhibition and book exhibition. The whole week programme used probably every possible way of representation to reach the objectives to the stakeholders. The following members played a key role in successful conduction of program -Dr. Gautam Gawli, Convenor, Dr. Surendra Jondhale, Dr. A.K. Srivastava, Prof. Balasaheb Salve, Dr. Vijay Pawar, Dr. Vidya Venketesan, Shri. Dinesh Kamble, Dr. Kishore Gaikwad, Dr. R. M. Badode, Shri S T More, Shri. Abhay Rane, Dr. Ganesh Chandanshive, Dr. Mrudul Nile, Dr. Ramesh Kamble, Prof. Ahire, Dr. B.L. Jadhav, Dr. Shubhada Joshi, Dr. B.V. Bhosale and Shri. Malale. The programme was arranged between 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 to 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.

**Evidence of Success:** The whole week program was open for all and attended by more than thousands of visitors belonging to various categories like student community, teaching and non-teaching staff, activists and political representatives.

**Resources Required:** For the successful implementation of programme academic and non-academic spaces were required. The same was fulfilled by the General Administration Department. The Budgetary provisions were made by the University for the same. The programme was effective as it revitalised the political spirit and enquiry among younger generation and it definitely spread awareness about the constitutional rights and what role constitution has played to govern a free citizenship to people of India.

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