

SHREE SHIVAJI ARTS, COMMERCE & SCIENCE COLLEGE, RAJURA

Distinctiveness

Title of practice: "FACILITATION OF EDUCATION TO ALL"

Among the various visions and missions of the college, one of them is to facilitate education to the economically backwards castes and classes. Keeping this in mind, the institution tried to facilitate education to the backwards class students. The performance of the college, in consonance with this vision, is reflected in various activities, policies and procedures that were undertaken and implemented in the five years. Considering this vision and mission, the college has implemented following procedures and measures to facilitate education to the economically backward classes in the area.

1. Admission to economically backward classes

While admitting students to various programs and courses, the college has adopted 'First come, first serve' policy but at the same time due care is taken to provide 'education to all' so that no student remains deprived from education. The figures of the admitted students clearly vindicate our adherence to our previous policy. 1592 students of backward classes (i. e. SC, ST, OBC) in 2017-18, 1436 in 2018-19, 1326 in 2019-20, 1459 in 2020-21 and 1531 in 2021-22 were admitted for various courses. During the year 2020-21 when the allotted seats for concerned programs were filled, permission was sought for additional 10 percent seats in order to accommodate the students waiting for admission. In this way we could provide opportunity of education to all the desirable students.

2. Concession and fees waiver for economically poor students

Knowing the fact that majority of students come from backward classes and poor financial background, the college has adopted the policy of waiving fees of the students who face economic distress and are unable to pay the dues. In such situation, the college waives off their dues and fees or gives concession. The amount of Rs 494376 in 2017-18, Rs. 57496 in 2018-19, Rs. 472507 in 2019-20, Rs. 32389 in 2020-21 and 98894 in 2021-22 was waived by the college. The sum total of fees of Rs. 11, 55,662 of 364 students was waived off in the past five years.

Secondly, the college also gives facility to students to pay the total fees in easy installment instead of bearing the burden of having onetime payment of full fees.

3. Library-cum-reading room for public use

The college started a new library-cum-reading room at bus stand of Rajura town in order to provide facility of reading room for the students. This library is open for public use twenty four hours with required furniture and books. It is completely free of cost. There are paid reading rooms in the town but since the students are from poor financial background, it is not affordable for them. So to provide them facility of reading room near main bus stand and to inculcate reading culture among students to face the world of competitions, this library was started by the college. At present there are 614 students using this facility. This library is proving useful to the students preparing for competitive examination.

4. Facilitation of recorded classes

Considering the pandemic situation, the teaching learning process was shifted to online mode. But since most of our students are economically poor and do not have individual mobile phones to attend

online lectures. Some students have only one mobile phone in the family. Secondly, they do not have consistent internet speed every time which is required for being connected during online lectures. Hence the students demanded for recorded lectures. Hence the faculties made their recorded lectures available on Youtube channel of IQAC and individual personal you tube channels.

5. Compassionate approach to teaching

Teachers approach student's problems with empathy and compassion. They take into consideration personal challenges and circumstances faced by students in their family. Teachers conduct extra classes as per the need of students and gives several opportunities to the students to appear for their assessment.

6. Special Efforts for provision of different scholarships

Since the majority of students admitted in the college belong to low socio-economic background, they need financial assistance in the form of scholarships. The college has facilitated to provide various options of scholarships/free ships so that they can manage the economic burden. In the five years, 3584 students received benefit of total Rs 1,19,11,447 towards scholarship by Government of India. Apart from this, the college has also introduced Scholarship by HPCL and Chatrapati Shahu Maharaj scholarship scheme to the students. Faculties and office bearers consistently make effort to motivate them, to apply for the scholarship, and makes every possible effort to avail the benefit to them through scholarship.

7. Earn and learn scheme to manage economic crisis

The college has Earn and Learn scheme functional for many years. The fund for the scheme is generated through small amount of donation from all the teaching and non-teaching staff every year. Under this scheme, the students having financial problems are assigned some work within campus and they are paid accordingly.

8. Inclusive practice to facilitate learning

College engaged extra measures to address the learning abilities of every student that includes peer mentoring, group discussions, seminar, unit tests to identify slow and fast learner, special focus on slow learners and due attention is given to make them catch the pace of the class.