## **INSTITUTIONAL BEST PRACTICE – 3**

(Presented in NAAC format)

#### 1. Title of The Practice

# "VEHICLE-FREE DAY"

#### 2. Goals

## A) Aims & Objectives

- To sensitize students about environmental issues.
- To let them understand the benefits of fuel saving.

# **B) Principles or Concepts**

- Apart from academic knowledge and skills, it is essential for the students to understand the benefits of an eco-friendly lifestyle.
- Fuel saving is considered in India as a nation-building activity.

#### 3. The Context

One of the most important concerns for the modern world, especially in the 21st century, is environmental issues. Fuel consumption is skyrocketing and the temperatures across the globe are alarmingly increasing. In the present context, it is highly necessary for the youth of the country to understand the environmental issues and the benefits of fuel saving. They are to be trained for an eco-friendly lifestyle, and further, they need to make their own contribution for the protection of nature.

### 4. The Practice

Vehicle-free day is observed on the second Tuesday of every month by the students as well as the staff. On this specific day, no vehicle is observed on the premises of the college except bicycles. All fuel-run vehicles are strictly prohibited from the campus on the day. The staff come to college, either by bicycles or on foot. Those who come from a little farther away would come by public transport. Towards the end of the day, an awareness meeting with all the students and staff is arranged, and the issues related to environment protection are discussed at length with a view to preparing the students for an eco-friendly lifestyle. At times, an expert in the subject is also invited to make a speech and interact with the students.

Constraints & Limitations: Nil

#### 5. Evidence of Success

- Students developed environment-consciousness and are extending their awareness in other activities of life by avoiding polythene bags and planting saplings etc.
- They are vowed to create this kind of awareness in their neighborhood too.

## 6. Problems Encountered & Resources Required

- In the beginning, there is some resistance from the students; however, they are enlightened about the brighter side of the practice.
- Resources for organizing awareness programs are borne by the Institution.

### 7. Notes

As it is said in the UN Environment Program, world car-free day on September 22<sup>nd</sup> is a great opportunity to reduce air pollution. Taking inspiration from such moves, the Institution observes vehicle-free days in the campus. Fewer vehicles into the campus means less exhaust emissions, thus less air pollution. The emissions do not only increase global warming but also be harmful for the health of people. Moreover, this method saves money for the individuals too.

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