

### 7.2.1 – Describe at least two institutional best practices

**Title of the practice: “Creating student centric, friendly, innovative and supportive environment to excel teaching and learning process”** As the world turns into a global village in the modern era, the education too becomes competitive today. It is need of the day to deliver the new knowledge to the pupils. Student centric, friendly, supportive, innovative and best practices are required for any institution to establish and flourish further. The objectives of the practice

- To uplift the socially and economically backward students
- To create a conducive ambience for the pupils for their better learning
- To pay utmost care that their personal and financial circumstances do not affect their academic career
- To frame the syllabus which enable the students to get job opportunities, to enhance their entrepreneur skills and to act independently and to have work on experience.
- To make the students effectively navigate and negotiate complex social relationship
- To inculcate positive behaviors, mentally and emotionally that should continue the affinity with the institution even after the course completion.
- To prepare the socially and economically backward students to shed their inhibitions by finding creative solutions to emerging challenges that will make them ready to collaborate with others at all levels.

The context

- **Affordability:** Apart from the government reservation, the marginal students from Sourashtra community are given priority in admission. Comparatively the college charges nominal fees in the self-financing stream.
- **Employability:** The courses are designed to hone the employability skills of the students
- **Concern and Welfare:** The College is committed to the success and well-being of the student in academic, social, professional and personal life.
- **Safety:** The system of the college is framed to provide safety, security and cohesive learning.

The practice

- **Sourashtra College** is a linguistic minority institution with magnificent buildings started by the philanthropists to impart education to the sons and daughters of daily wage earning weavers and transform them into confident and successful graduates and post-graduates. Comparatively the college collects nominal fee from the

students for all the programmes. The students are given various government and non-government scholarships like financial supports from the management, Sourashtra College Alumni Association (SCAAN), Teachers Association, and various Trusts. The scheme of Noon meals to the needy students is provided by Alumni Association, the Management, many philanthropists, teachers and various organisations. Uninterrupted power supply helps the students feel comfortable to learn without any distraction and obstacles. The campus provides mineral water facility for the students. The College has a fleet of buses (16) that ply from important points in and around Madurai to the campus and back to facilitate comfortable commuting for girl students and Staff. □ The college takes effort to impart knowledge and helps the students to face the challenges and problems confidently and boldly. Each year, an Orientation Programme is conducted for the first year students to give a thorough understanding of the rules and regulations of the college and to have a bird's-eye-view of the curriculum. Various Seminars, Conferences, Workshops are conducted to help them update their knowledge and learn beyond their curriculum. By conducting various programmes like cultural programmes, spiritual programmes and gender awareness programmes the college helps the students develop their personality and also bring their hidden talents to limelight. Many public awareness programmes including community service are organised to develop their personality. In general, lack of communication skills affects students' learning at present and also their future career. The curriculum is designed in such a way that it should enrich the employability skills of the students. Courses like Communicative English, English for Competitive Examinations, Introduction to PC Software and Internet, Emotional Intelligence for Effective Leadership, Company Administration, Management of Human Resources, Publication of Part-I/Part-II and Soft Skills books augment to enrich the students' academic performance and skill development and they are indeed very beneficial at the initial stage in studies. The

Language skill development programmes are conducted separately to the students after their regular classes. The feedback and suggestion of the students are helpful to modify and improve such programmes / books. □ Sourashtra College not only takes care of gender equity but also differently abled student's academics. The college helps the visually challenged students to write examination by arranging scribes. By arranging some volunteers, such students are helped to read and prepare study materials. □ The tradition of providing Free Mid-day Meals in Sourashtra Boys Higher Secondary School was started in 1911 by Rashtrabandhu Shri. L. K. Thulasiram, a doyen of Lawyers and the founding father of the School, a few trustees and philanthropists. It is probably the oldest noon-meal scheme in the country. By seeing that then Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Thiru. K Kamaraj was inspired to introduce the scheme for the entire State. Free Noon Meals scheme was adopted in Sourashtra College after 1990's. It is a very successful scheme and helps to encourage poor students, belonging to disadvantaged sections, to attend college actively without being affected by lack of nutrients and help them concentrate on classroom activities. □ Student feedback is an invaluable component in improving teaching and curriculum. By collecting student feedback, courses can be adjusted to make them get better learning experiences. Through the care consideration of end of the term feedback, courses can be improved. □ Good punctuality reveals that students are committed and that they are keen to learn and progress. In this context, the Management of Sourashtra College strictly follows punctuality of the students and offers a special cash reward for students (self finance) who have secured 100 attendance. □ There are more than 30 surveillance CC TV cameras to monitor unwanted intruders in the college campus, committing crimes, theft and break-in. It helps to curb vandalism on the campus property. It helps to monitor unruly and misbehavior of the students and ensures safety and security of the staff, teachers and students. □ To keep the privacy as well as to eliminate unwanted incidents, College maintains separate Common Park,

room and canteen for girls' students. There is a separate common room for women Staff. Apart from these every Department of the college has separate common room for Faculty members. Evidence of success After completing the skill development programmes, students from rural area become confident in communication and they develop themselves to get placement in various companies □ Students have got placement in various companies in and around Madurai and outside the district □ In the 'parents meet' most of the parents agree that their children have improved and are confident to face the society because of the skill development programmes conducted by the College. □ Decrease in the number of students failed in Part-I and Part-II language papers is the resultant evidence of success to the publication of books by the College □ Because of the bus facility and safety, parents of girls' students prefer Sourashtra College for their daughters' higher studies. Problems encountered and Resources required □ Scholarship from the Management, Trusts, Philanthropists and teachers is not sufficient to help all the needy. □ More class rooms with LCD players facility are required to make the courses more effective □ Government City bus facility to the college route is not adequate. Title of the Practice: "Producing Socially Responsible Citizenship through dedicated and selfless community services" Objectives: □ To motivate and train the students to become a part in nation building and development of the society. □ To engage the students in NCC, NSS, YRC, RRC to conduct various awareness programmes. □ To create responsibility in students minds about different social, political, economical and environmental problems. The Context: □ The interested students of our College voluntarily enroll in NCC/NSS/YRC/RRC □ Various awareness programmes organized by the respective units on different aspects regularly. □ Trained students are made to participate in various activities at state and national levels. □ Blood donation is one among the best life saving practices in the college. The Practice: □ Sourashtra College NCC/NSS/YRC/RRC students are given opportunities to do social service in nearby villages (Gopalipuram,

Muniyandipuram, Vilacheri and Nilayur). □ The students participate in many social awareness programmes such as Swachh Bharat, Environment protection and Health Care. They are made as a part of promoting Social welfare of the public. □ Campus Cleaning and Sapling Plantations are practised regularly to promote environmental awareness. □ Blood Donation Camp is successfully organized twice a year. Evidence of Success: □ The training programmes given to the students help them to develop social qualities and adjust themselves quickly in this competitive society. □ In particular, students' confident level elevates remarkably high while facing personal interviews or in any challenging port-folios. □ Students excel in the off campus interview and placed in various companies □ There was a steep increase in the number of students participating in intercollegiate meet/Symposiums/Seminars/Paper Presentations etc. □ Building up the self-confidence through various programmes made many NCC cadets join in Army and Police. Problems Encountered: □ Occasionally regular classes have to be cancelled for conducting such extension activity programmes.