CITY COLLEGE

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7.2.1 - Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per the NAAC format provided in the Manual.

Website Link: http://www.citycollegekolkata.org/IQAC_aqar_2020-2021.shtml

Best Practice :1 During the Covid-19 pandemic

1. Title of the Practice: During the Covid-19 pandemic

2. Objectives of the Practice: For the past couple of years, we've been going through one of the most difficult periods of our lives. Physical separation, mask-wearing, and adherence to COVID-19 procedures became known as "the new normal" around the world. In these conditions, the institution's objectives, in addition to its regular activities, included constantly addressing the new needs of students brought on by the epidemic.

3. The Context: Due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, West Bengal's educational institutions have been shuttered since March 14, 2020. India's Prime Minister issued a state of emergency across the country, beginning March 25, 2020. All routine activities, including instructional ones, had to be abruptly halted, with just online/virtual mode remaining.

4. The Practice: Due to the global disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the primary task of an educational institution was to maintain normal academic activities as much as possible, while taking into account the needs and requirements of students, as well as their ability to access internet services, particularly for those living in remote areas. The development of online/virtual classes has needed a thorough understanding of how to conduct online lectures using a variety of platforms and approaches, such as PowerPoint presentations, Google Classroom, and Canva. Apart from classrooms, virtual administrative meetings and activities, as well as webinars on significant and relevant issues, became the standard. During the COVID 19 pandemic, all departments began to function through online classes using Zoom, Google, or Webex platforms, as well as uploading study materials, PowerPoint presentations, or audio lectures to Google Classrooms or WhatsApp groups and sharing them through the college's website. This is the context in which the institution took a bold stride forward and established its imprint. All the faculty members assisted their students in various ways with the goal of bridging the digital divide's barriers and limits.

5. Evidence of Success: The teaching-evaluation procedure was restarted after classes were regularized in the online mode. The institution's academic activities were restored by a series of webinars, virtual events, and online issues of research journals.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required: It is difficult for students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds to routinely purchase mobile internet data packs (avg. 1.5 GB per day is required), and they cannot all afford to purchase smartphones, tablets, or PCs. Some settlements on the periphery of the city also lack adequate internet access. The institution lacked the necessary resources to assist the financially disadvantaged. As a result, the online form of instruction was not always beneficial to students from these groups.

Best Practice: 2. Social work in the aftermath of Cyclone Amphan and Yaas Cyclone landfall during the COVID 19 Pandemic

1. Practice title: Social work in the aftermath of Cyclone Amphan and Yaas Cyclone landfall during the COVID 19 Pandemic.

2. Objectives of the Practice: Natural calamities like super Cyclone "Amphan" and "Yass" and the onset of the COVID 19 epidemic upset the usual running of all academic institutions. Our college was determined from the start to get back to normal as soon as possible. As a result, the primary goal was to conquer all obstacles that stood in the way.

3. The Context: Many people lost their jobs during the COVID 19 pandemic's lockdown period. Unorganized sector workers are particularly vulnerable. The majority of them have lost their jobs, access to food, health care, and social security. Educational institutions should step up in this situation to fulfill their social responsibilities.

The super cyclone Amphan made landfall in Odisha and West Bengal on May 20, 2020. The super cyclone Amphan was a catastrophic tropical cyclone that wreaked havoc on Odisha and West Bengal's coastal districts.

Another super cyclone "Yass" landfall Around 09:00 IST on May 23-28, 2021at the north of Dhamra Port and south of Bahanaga.
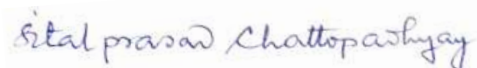
Different parts of West Bengal basically on low-lying areas in East Midnapore and West Midnapore, Jhargram, Hooghly, Kolkata and North 24 Parganas and South 24 Parganas were placed on high alert. During these storms, significant flooding occurred throughout Kolkata. Thousands of trees and electric poles were uprooted. Kolkata, West Bengal, received about 236-260 mm of rain.

4. The Practice: Many of our faculty members, as well as non-teaching staff and students, actively participated in various relief initiatives during the lockdown due to the COVID 19 epidemic, Amphan and Yass relief efforts. During these calamities, the college donated rice, pulses, mustard oil, potato, hand sanitizer, and other necessities to 110 low-income people. In addition, the college building was used as a shelter for the affected people and sufficient food was arranged for them who took the shelter.

The college building and its surroundings were badly damaged as a result of the cyclone. The college's initiative to restore the damage is praiseworthy in this context. To restore the damages, a large amount of money was set aside. The college administration, instructors, staff, and students rose with an invincible attitude the day after the Amphan cyclone to overcome all obstacles in the process of rebuilding the college compound, and they also participated in campus cleaning and sanitization programs. The typhoon wreaked havoc on the modest garden on the college's campus as well.

5. Evidence of Success: The college and its environment were saved thanks to the students' and all the staff members' tireless efforts, and they were able to resume their normal essential operations. The campus's greenery, however, could not be restored.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required: Relief and restoration efforts necessitate significant financial resources. As a result, a shortage of resources is a serious issue, yet the college administration has remained steadfast in its commitment to enhancing the infrastructure despite the limited resources available.

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