

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

## **Best Practice 02: Community Development Initiatives:**

### **1. Title of the Practice: Community Development Initiatives**

Enabling humanitarian activities by the students leading to their involvement in enrichment of living conditions for the socially and economically disadvantaged and overall community development.

### **2. Objectives of the Practice: (100 words) – [87 words]**

- To actively assist in the development of the economically and socially backward community of the remote villages in surrounding areas of the institute
- To encourage faculty, staff and students to be empathetic with the economically and socially weaker sections of the society by providing direct and indirect support and aids
- To encourage gender equity activities and issues in women and education.
- To promote and participate in sustainable environment and energy conservation activities.
- To develop the spirit of selflessness, sacrifice and dedication to social justice and social empowerment.

### **3. The Context (150 words) – [150 words]**

Although, by the introduction of the New Education Policy (NEP-2020), the academic programs are increasingly including community focus and environmental conservation perspectives, Saheed Anurup Chandra Mahavidyalaya (SACM) started this journey decades back.

By virtue of its geographic location and demographic situations, the college, since its inception, has been in its mission and vision to impart higher education to the economically and socially backward community.

The college believes that alongwith the academic growth of the young learners it is equally important to educate them to become a good citizen with good moral characters and stand with the weaker sections of the society.

For years, the Institute has been fostering donations or funding activities, aiding organizations providing humanitarian relief and encouraging students to contribute to the community support

services. Inspired by the spirit of selflessness inculcated through social welfare programs, students and alumni have emerged as role models in promoting community improvement.

#### **4.The Practice (400 words) - [ 400 words]**

The college has a legacy history of community service since its inception because the college was started after the name of Martyr - Anurup Chandra Sen, a great Indian freedom fighter of India associated with the revolutionary uprising in Bengal. As a keen educationist he inspired a group of young students from the remote village of Burul to pursue education and also indoctrinated them the values of social and moral responsibilities towards the country and its citizens. In his brief teaching career, Anurup Chandra Sen ignited the dream of upliftment and emancipation among the marginalized and underprivileged students of this rural hamlet through the path of knowledge and education.

Thus, the college has been evolving this practice by encouraging welfare and social outreach activities of every kind. Students are involved in aiding the underprivileged through active aid and support. In developing this practice, the Institute has further motivated and inspired the students to work for social development.

SACM has a long tradition of diverse community service through its potential NSS Unit, which has been in operation since 2009. Students regularly participate in campus cleanliness drives like **“Swachh Pakhwada”**, rallies on **“Save Water”** to spread awareness on societal benefits. **Donations to charitable organizations** like Orphanage, Oldage Home, **Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa)**, the **Ramkrishna Mission**, **Bharat Sevashram Sangha** are regularly made by students and staff to nurture values of compassion and social justice. The Institute maintains a plastic-free campus, with special bins and collection points.

**Books for Blinds:** The Institute has tied-up with National Institute of Empowerment for the People of Visually Disabilities (NIEPVD) for the welfare of the visually impaired students not only for the college students but also for the interested outsiders. The college library has set up a separate section for them. The college believes in unity in diversity and hence the college library has setup a **Religious Section** inside the library for all the prominent religions which is accessible by students, staff and outside people also.

**“Gift a Sapling” drive:** All Resource Persons are gifted saplings in the Institute and all faculty and staff presented saplings as incentives. This encourages sustainable thinking among students.

**Blood donation camps:** For last 20 years the Institute has been a lifeline in organizing **blood**

**donation camps.** Camps have been organized on campus since 2003, thereby saving countless lives. More than 100 students donate blood every year in this blood donation camp.

## **5. Evidence of Success: (200 words) – [200 words]**

The impact of various social outreach and community-focused activities has been far-reaching, setting records in community service:

**A Student Alumnus, Debasree Pramanik,** has devoted her career and life to look after underprivileged students in an Orphanage named “XXXX”. Like her, there are many Alumni and students from this college who have voluntarily engaged themselves in doing remarkable community services to society.

Towards, women empowerment, which is very essential in a remote village like Burul, the current ratio between boy and girl students in the college is 40:60, which shows that the women empowerment culture in the college is very prominent and gradually in rise for last 5 years.

There is currently almost 80% students who belong to either economically backward class (~45% or socially challenged category. Out of these, around 70% students are studying with scholarships which is itself a community service of the college as per the philosophical vision of the founder of the college Saheed Anurup Chandra Sen.

Apart from NSS, the college has different clubs like Nature club, Eco Club run by students who looks after such philanthropic task including awareness of alternative and sustainable energy, disposal of bio and non-biodegradable wastes, water conservation and recycling initiatives.

## **6. Problems encountered and Resources Required: (150 words) – [150 words]**

Getting the right funding and sponsors for the student welfare organizations and projects is really challenging. The number of socially disadvantaged people in the community is large, so catering to all becomes problematic. People in need are sometimes based in distant areas, so in order to reach out to them, resources and costs for travel are involved.

Being located in a remote village having no train connection, transportation is a big problem in the college. The college is in dire need of a Vehicle dedicated for relief work and other outreach

programs. Interface with NGOs, welfare agencies, groups with large outreach and long-standing contacts with people in need. The surrounding area of the college is not economically solvent enough and hence no financial assistance is expected from internal stakeholders whereas getting such assistance from the outside potential people is also challenging because of the poor connectivity with the main city.