

Best Practice-1

A. Title of the Practice:

Exploring and grooming the potential of a student through Student-Centric Activities

Famous Indian Philosopher-Educationist Swami Vivekananda said, “Education is the manifestation of perfection that is already in men.” Keeping this thought, the college organizes various students-centric activities along with its regular academic activities to provide a platform to the students to explore their potential and showcase their talents.

1. Objective of the Practice:

- Actualization of the potentiality of the students
- Inculcate analytical thinking process
- Promotion of team work
- Develop the habit of reading and writing
- Develop self-confidence
- Develop leadership quality
- Self-Identification
- Develop the spirit of cooperation
- Inculcate social outlook
- Develop self-assessment
- Realize the ethical values in practice
- Develop fellow feeling
- Preparation for future life based on identification of his interest
- Self-satisfaction through the involvement in organization
- Learning through doing
- Developing positive thinking
- Learn how to manage the time and stress
- Learn to discipline the life.
- Learn to overcome obstacles
- Learn to assert strongly in the face of opposition
- Cultivating good will towards the institution.

2. The Context:

Exploring the potential of a student entails lot of challenging issues and thus poses problems in the successful implementation of the best practices. These challenging issues stems from different fronts like students themselves, financial, infrastructural, time constraint, and the like. The problems are sometimes faced by the concerned department itself. For example, while in the process of publishing the student edited Departmental magazine the department has to manage and overcome some challenges like maintaining the balance between such activities and the completion of the course, to complete the activity with meager financial amount, utilizing the right person for the right job and the like. Similarly, the institute as a

whole also faces certain issues like clashes of different programmes, problems related to examinations in semester system, etc.

The contextual features of such problems may be identified as follows:

- Maintaining balance between the academic and welfare activities.
- Optimum utilization of minimum fund
- Limitation of infrastructure of the organization
- Time constraint
- Limitation of human resource
- Social stigma
- Problem arising from peer group pressure
- Inhibitions arising from students' introvert nature

3. The Practice:

- **Student Edited Magazine:** B. Borooah College encourages the departments to publish magazine targeting the students so that they can develop their habit of reading, writing and analytical thinking. As its response, a good number of magazines for student are being published by the departments of the college regularly. Many of them are edited by the students themselves. Some of them are:

i) 'Puberun' (Dept. of Assamese) ii) 'The Chemical Axis'-2249-8842 (Dept. of Chemistry)
iii) 'Basundara, 2250-1908 (Dept. of Geography iv) 'Annals' (Dept. of History) v)
'Trapezium' (Dept. of Mathematics) 'Sophia'- 2394-0150 (Dept. of Philosophy).

- **Hand Written Magazine:** The Department of Assamese annually publishes a hand written magazine viz. 'Unmilan'. The magazine consists of poetry, short stories and prose written by the students. Creative art, sketch, and decorative hand writing are its striking features.

- **Annual lecture programme:** All the Departments of B. Borooah College organizes departmental annual lecture programme/ talk/ workshop by inviting resource person from the field of academics so that students can acquire knowledge of the subject in depth beyond the prescribed syllabus.

- **Youth conclave:** The Youth Conclave is an annual event of B. Borooah College that provides a platform for the youth of the region to showcase their talent and explore their potential. A number of exciting competitions take place during the Youth Conclave, viz., short film-making, poster making, quiz, music competition, business idea, photography, instrumental playing, vocals, student seminars and so on. Students from different colleges and institutions participate in the Youth Conclave which has become a much awaited event in the region. The conclave provides an opportunity of exchange of ideas among the students of different institutions. Through the conclave a student's skills of event management,

organizing capability, leadership quality, human resource management and communication skills is honed as this mega event has to be managed by the students with the teachers giving them the necessary support.

- **Bhola Borooah Debating Competition:** The Bhola Borooah Memorial North-East Inter-College Debating Competition is organized by the students Union of the institution. This competition has completed more than fifty years of existence. A souvenir is also published each year during the competition. Students belonging to different institutions and who had participated in this competition are now occupying very good positions in the socio-political sphere.

- **Annual College week and Cultural Rally: Culturally Rally,** the most exciting event is organized as a part of college week that provides a platform to represent the ethnicity of our nation.

- **Inter College Students' seminar:** The Department of English, B. Borooah College organizes inter college students' seminar every year. In this seminar students from different institutions have presented their papers.

- **Departmental Students' Seminar:** All the departments of B. Borooah College organizes seminar among the major students of the Department so that students can have a clear understanding about the topics prescribed in the syllabus.

- **Intra College Essay Writing Competition:** The Department of History organizes yearly Intra College Essay Writing Competition on the topics specially related to human rights, values and the like.

- **College Magazine (BIBIAN):** Apart from departmental magazine, 'BIBIAN', the annual college magazine has been published every year by the students Union of B. Borooah College which provides a big platform for the students to express their creative and literary writings.

- **Recitation on Self-Composed pieces:** To encourage and create an environment on creative writing, Department of English and Department of Assamese regularly organizes a programme on recitation of self-composed pieces.

- **Film Club:** Celluloid- The Film Club is formed for film lovers of the college by the initiative of the Department of English. The club screens movies in diverse languages.

4. Evidence of Success:

It is matter of pride that a good number of students emerge as successful performer in different fields who were involved in the activities practiced by the institution. For example, in the field of literature, music, sports, journalism, drama, politics, academics, science, film, etc. students of B. Borooah College are found to excel remarkably in national and international fronts. Students of the college have carved a niche and have gone on to receive several prestigious awards both nationally and internationally like Padma Bhusan, Padma Sri, Sahitya Academy Award, Soviet Desh Nehru Award, Getz World Peace Prize, several International Film Awards, National Film Awards, Arjuna Award, Bodofa Upendra Nath Brahma Award, Honorary D.Litt, etc.

5. Notes (Optional):

B. Borooah College has a glorious ideology from its inception with the motto 'leaning while earning'. Various inspiring personalities were teachers of this institution. Teachers as role models of the students always try to give their best. While involving in such practices, teachers always remember that such practices have two aspects i.e. gross and subtle. In its subtle aspect teachers try to maintain a cordial and personalized relationship with their students.

Best Practice-2

B. Title of the Practice: Preservation of Heritage

B. Borooah is one of the oldest colleges in Assam. The college was established as part of the nationalistic struggle against the British Rule. The identity of the college is being preserved as its heritage as it is inextricably linked with the contribution of each and every student, alumni, teacher, non-teaching staff, well wishers, etc. This includes some renowned persons and also the contribution of some people who are physically, mentally and emotionally committed to the college as well as to the society. The college preserves its heritage as a tribute to those persons by celebrating some events, festivals and the like.

1. Objective of the Practice:

Heritage provides information on our past and provides an understanding as to how the society has evolved over the years. A society can prosper only if it is aware of its past and how it utilises it for a better future. Heritage is also about preserving the culture and tradition. Everyone should examine their history and traditions as it enables one to develop awareness about oneself. The primary focus is to let the upcoming generations realize the meaning of heritage, realizing the culture and traditions along with being aware of impact renowned

personalities have on the society. Personalities are important as they are the torch bearers. One who respects ones own culture and traditions always has a respect for other cultures and traditions.

2. The Context:

The very birth of B. Borooah College had a significant historical background. “In 1941, the British Government had issued an order barring students who joined the freedom struggle from pursuing studies at Cotton College, the oldest college of the region. Under these circumstances, there was a move to open an alternative college. The move was temporarily halted because of World War II in 1942.” A year after the War, B. Borooah College was opened on a temporary campus at Kamrup Academy School where the young men fighting against the British during the day time, came to pursue studies at night.

Evidences of almost everything were reduced into ashes when the fire engulfed the college on March 3, 2005. However, the college has made a noble endeavour to encapsulate the emotions and contributions of those people who are committed and associated with the college by preserving its heritage in different forms. The heritage of the B. Borooah has been preserving by celebrating some events, festivals and the like.

3. The Practice:

Heritage Corner: Assam is the meeting ground of diverse culture. This place is one of the beautiful heritage sites for the ethnicity of tribes, their festivals, as well as their intricate artworks. The quintessential elements viz. Gamosa’, ‘Japi’ ‘Tamol-Paan’, ‘Xarai’ ‘Jaakoi’ ‘Mekhela-chadar’ (Traditional attire worn by women) Assamese Jewelry viz. ‘Golpata’, ‘Jonbiri’, ‘Dugdugi’ etc. being used to represent beliefs, feeling, pride, identity, etc. of Assamese people form the integral part of Assamese culture. Analyzing the legacy of Assamese Culture, the college preserves these elements in symbolic representation in college heritage corner for the future generations to follow. The heritage corner also has photographs of prominent personalities and of those who have made a contribution to the growth of the college.

- **Bholanath Borooah:** B. Borooah College was established in the year 1943 in the name of **Bholanath** Borooah, a doyen of Assamese trade and commerce and a close associate of Sahityarathi Laksminath Bezbaruah. The contribution of the doyen to the Indian society as a whole is a matter of great pride. A philanthropist to the core Bholanath Borooah has contributed to the prestigious institutions like Benaras Hindu University, Calcutta University, H.R.H The Prince of Wales Technical School to name a few.

i) **Bhola Borooah Bust:** A bust of Bholanath Borooah is placed in front of the college Gate visible to any passerby. The college fraternity pays homage to him before commencement of any college function.

ii) **Bhola Borooah Debate:** The Students' Union of B. Borooah College organizes Bhola Borooah Memorial North-East Inter- College Debating Competition every year. This competition has completed more than fifty years of existence and has carved a niche for itself as one of the best and most sought after debating competitions of the region.

iii) **Felicitation of Bhola Borooah family members:** As a part of Bhola Borooah Memorial North-East Inter- College Debating competition, Bhola Borooah family members are invited and felicitated at the beginning of the function.

- **Hem Barua:** Charismatic Parliamentarian and a renowned man of letters, Hem Barua, adorned the Principal's chair for a long time. A freedom fighter, Hem Barua was imprisoned during the Quit India Movement. He was elected for Lok Sabha from Guwahati several times, such as in the year 1957, 1962 and also in the year 1967. He was the member of the Lok Sabha till December 1970. He was also the President of Assam Sahitya Sabha in the year 1972 held at Dhubri and also awarded many prestigious awards for his literary works.

i) **The College Library:** The college library has been named after Hem Barua as remembrance of his contribution to the college.

ii) **North-East Corner:** The North-East Corner of the library houses a special collection of books dedicated to the language, literature, art, culture, history, social sciences and technological development of North-East India.

- **Dr. Bhupen Hazarika:** Dr. Bhupen Hazarika acknowledged as the musical maestro and the cultural doyen became an institution, a legend in his own life time, left his indelible imprints in India's socio-cultural life in all its spheres- music, film, culture, literature, ethnic harmony, humanity. He was honoured with the most prestigious Dada Saheb Phalke Award for his contributions to film industry. He was the erstwhile faculty member of B.Borooah College. Awarded India's highest civilian honour the Bharat Ratna, the college celebrates his legacy for the future generations to follow.

i) **College Auditorium:** The college auditorium has been named after Dr. Bhupen Hazarika.

ii) **Celebration of Birth and Death Anniversary of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika:** B. Borooah College teachers' Unit, the B Borooah College students union and Epigraph, a socio-cultural club of the college, celebrates birth and death anniversary of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika by

organizing programmes on music, art, recitation etc. that highlight various aspects on the charismatic life and works of the musical doyen.

President of Asam Sahitya Sabha: B. Borooah College takes pride in the fact that five of its erstwhile faculty members have served as president of Asam Sahitya Sabha, the oldest literary-cultural organization of Assam viz. Hem Baruah, Jogesh Das, Dr. Nirmal Prabha Bordoloi, Dr. Bhupen Hazarika and Dr. Birendra Nath Dutta. Asam Sahitya Sabha has been actively involved in translation works of various classics, modern contemporary fictions, analytical books and books of science, society and philosophy.

4. Evidence of Success:

A student of B Borooah College is proud of the heritage of the nation, the state and the college. A student of B Borooah College is well aware of the rich heritage of the state as well as the renowned personalities. For example, those who are into music are very rooted to the cultural ethos of the region and those who write choose topics which show their emotional connect with the region and a desire to highlight the same.