



THOMAS JONES SYNOD COLLEGE

JOWAI, MEGHALAYA 793150

INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL

REGN. NO. SR/TJSCJ-80/97 OF 1997

NAAC Accredited 'B' Grade

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Institutional Best Practices:

Best Practice 1

Title: Spreading Awareness and Outreach through Theatre

(a) Goal: To educate the society and spread awareness on pertinent issues and matters that affect society like Domestic Violence, Legal Rights, RTI, Cleanliness, Drug Abuse, etc., either on our own initiative or in collaboration with various Government and Non-Governmental Agencies through theatre. This activity also generates awareness among students themselves and also helps build and cultivate important values like unity, team spirit, sense of responsibility and discipline and inculcates life-skills like acting, writing, and production and to develop students' creative and critical thinking and reasoning power.

(b) The Context: The College is located in the heart of Jowai city which is also an important market place where people from all walks of life converge for various social and economic activities. Hence, a large number of people come from the nearby village and are, therefore, unaware of a number of social evils that are prevalent in the society. It is in this context the College decides to undertake an important task of generating awareness among the people through its outreach programmes conducted through the Theatre Club.

(c) The Practice: Street Plays and Short Skits on important and relevant issues of the day are performed in important public locations such as the markets, Hospitals, and community halls to create awareness on pertinent issues such as the ill-effect of Tobacco and Drugs, and the importance of cleanliness in daily lives.

(d) Evidence of Success: The Club receives recognition of its contribution through Certificates and Mementoes and its activities are highlighted in the local news. The Club is also often contacted by Government agencies like the Deputy Commissioner's Office, District Legal Services Authority, Health Department, Office of the District Election Officer, Municipal Board and NGOs.

(e) Problems encountered and Resources required: One of the major problems encountered by the institution is Students' time management. The institution also requires adequate props and resources to make these programmes more effective and far reaching.

Best Practice 2

Title: Community Service through the Extension Activities Committee

(a) Goal: The aim of this practice is to engage with the community in the District and to identify areas where the College can create a positive impact that will benefit the community and society and to inculcate in the students the spirit of generosity and selfless service.

(b) The Context: The Primary aim of the College is to provide education to the youth and prepare them for a bright future. However, the college also realises that it cannot exist in isolation and only in pursuit of this single goal. The college depends upon the community for its existence just as the community needs the college for educating its youth. It is in this context that the college has decided to build a symbiotic relationship with the community which will benefit both the community and students.

(c) The Practice: The Extension Activities Committee has been constituted in the College which comprises of the NSS, NCC, RRC and Eco-Club. This committee oversees and supervises the functioning of these units and identifies the areas where they may bring about a positive change in the community and the environment. The units under this committee work together and collaborate on various projects through which the institution wishes to make a difference and inculcate a sense of societal responsibility in the students. These projects are always carried out in consultation with the stakeholders like the District Administration, the Village Council and the Community.

(d) Evidence of Success: Through the Extension Activities Committee the NSS has provided assistance to the Dr. Norman Tunnel Hospital, Jowai in carrying out a Cleaning Drive within the Hospital premises. In collaboration with the Tourist Driver Association the Extension Activities Committee has also conducted a cleaning drive at Iawmusiang market. The NSS unit of the College has also adopted another village where it organized a Special Camp. The NCC unit of the College has also adopted one of the tourist spot within Jowai. The RRC has conducted a Blood Donation Camp where students and staff of the college have donated blood.

(e) Problems encountered and Resources required: One of the major problems encountered is the time constrain, as the students have to focus more on academic matters. Another problem encountered is that such efforts are sometimes viewed with certain amount of suspicion due to the mindset of the people in the rural areas. As a result of financial constrain, the institution had to depend basically on the funds received from the NSS and RRC for the conduct of these programmes.