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Best Practice 1

Expanding Teaching Learning Beyond the Curriculum

Objectives

- To enhance practical exposure of the students
- To equip students with participative methodologies
- To explore and expand learner's experiential skills

Context

- To help students handle the post-pandemic challenges of teaching-learning
- To supplement the classroom curriculum
- To motivate the learners reorient their skill sets

Practice and Evidence of Success

- The 3rd and 5th semester students of Sociology department (in collaboration with LIVER foundation and PRATHAM educational foundation) conducted the ASER survey (Annual Status of Education Report) over two weeks on the educational status of children aged 5-14 years across 30 villages of North 24 Parganas district, West Bengal.
- The departments of History and English screened two documentary films, namely, *First Man* (21.12.2021) and *Murder on the Orient Express* (28.12.2021) followed by an interactive session and group discussion with students. The programmes aimed to improve the learner's communication skills and analytical acumen. Students gained orientation with audio-visual learning aids and developed a heightened understanding of their texts.
- The students of Anthropology department conducted a fieldwork at Atulia, Habra-I block, North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal (31.03.2022 – 03.04.2022). Students gained firsthand experience of data collection, analysis and established connection with local people and authorities to collect data smoothly and learn to process, analyze and interpret data for societal welfare.
- Students of Journalism and Mass Communication (under Skill Enhancement Course, CBCS BA 3rd semester) made three documentaries on various socio-cultural aspects of West Bengal.
 - 1st Documentary film "Nimta Adi Kalimandir" focuses on the Indian culture and heritage. Named Adi Kalimandir, this three hundred years old temple dedicated to Goddess Kali was established by Raja Suvarna Roy Chowdhury in Nimta area of Belgharia, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Link of the documentary:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11DeuOSm0b9EC1NtHww9ZZ2Elrm7BYtfO/view?usp=drivesdk>
 - 2nd documentary film was made by the students on Culinary heritage - "Rashokadambo", which is a sweet being prepared and savored since the regime of Sultan Hussein Shah of Bangla. Link for the documentary is:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vAc91PBBTpJKI939EfLMgx5x-ljZzOL7/view?usp=drivesdk>

- The 3rd documentary film made on “Sona jhuri Haat (Sona jhuri market)” features the cultural heritage of the indigenous people of Birbhum district, West Bengal. The Haat promotes women empowerment and promotes healthy economic conditions of that area. Bolpur is famous for Rabindranath Tagore. The Viswa-bharati Campus and Sonajhuri Haat are the main attractions for tourists coming to Bolpur. Link for the video: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vAc91PBBTpJKI939EfLMgx5x-ljZzOL7/view?usp=drivesdk>
- The department of Botany arranged multiple educational excursions for its students to different ecological regions of West Bengal. Here the students gained first-hand knowledge on halophytes and weed fauna. Practical field visits like these serve to fortify the theoretical foundation of the students.

Problems Encountered

- Scarcity of funds
- Challenges of Covid protocol
- Making the students overcome their diffidence

Resources Required

- Institutional Support and more collaborative engagements
- Need to create more experiential opportunities for learners
- Financial resources

Best Practice 2
Ensuring Mental & Physical Health & Hygiene of Students

Objectives

- To prevent the students from infection
- To ensure proper mental health and wellbeing of the students
- To offer a medical exposure to the students

Context

- With the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic the need to prevent the students from the infection was a huge challenge
- Mass vaccination of the students could ensure better management of the pandemic
- To equip the students with proper medical knowledge to maintain good health

Practice and Evidence of Success

- A Vaccination Camp to combat the infection of the Covid 19 pandemic is organized by the college for the 1st, 3rd and 5th Semester student of the college following diligently the Government Order issued by the Health & Family Welfare Dept. of Higher Education, Govt. of West Bengal on 05.10.2021. One hundred twenty one number of students received vaccine under this initiative.
- Health Check-up camp & Psychological Counselling of Students (online) was organized by the institution as part of observing Students' Week on 04.01.2022.
- An exclusive Eye Check-up Camp was organized by NSS units 1 & 2 for the students, teachers, and non-teaching staff of the college on 20.04.2022.
- NSS units of the college celebrated International Yoga Day on 21/06/2022 by practicing yoga under the supervision of trained yoga instructor Sri Alip Goldar.
- An awareness programme was organized by the Youth Red Cross Unit of the college on the detrimental effects of Heatwave on the body and measures to counter the same on 30.04.22.

Problems Encountered

- Paucity of funds
- Lack of awareness among the students
- Making the students overcome their diffidence to involve themselves spontaneously in the programmes

Resources Required

- Institutional Support and more collaborative engagements
- Need infrastructural support
- Financial resources



Figure 1: ASER survey the students of Sociology department



Figure 2: Certificate of participation in ASER 2021



Figure 3: Fieldwork by Anthropology department



Figure 4: Educational excursion by department of Botany



Figure 5: Vaccination camp for students of the institution



Figure 6: Student getting the vaccine



Figure 7: Observing International Yoga Day by NSS



Figure 8: A yoga session in progress under supervision of trained yoga instructor



Figure 9: Free eye checkup camp by NSS unit

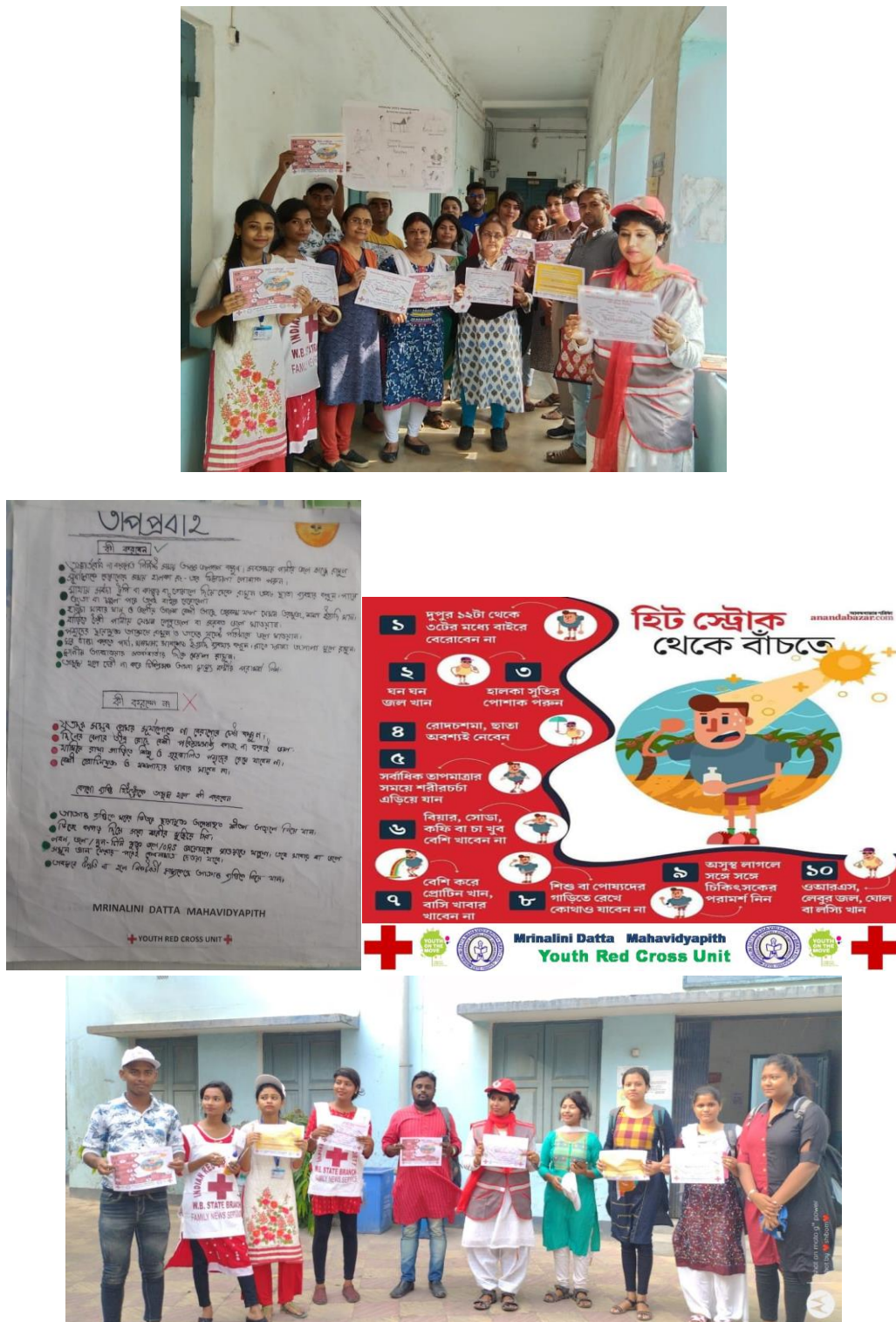


Figure 10: Awareness program on Heat Stroke by Youth Red Cross Unit

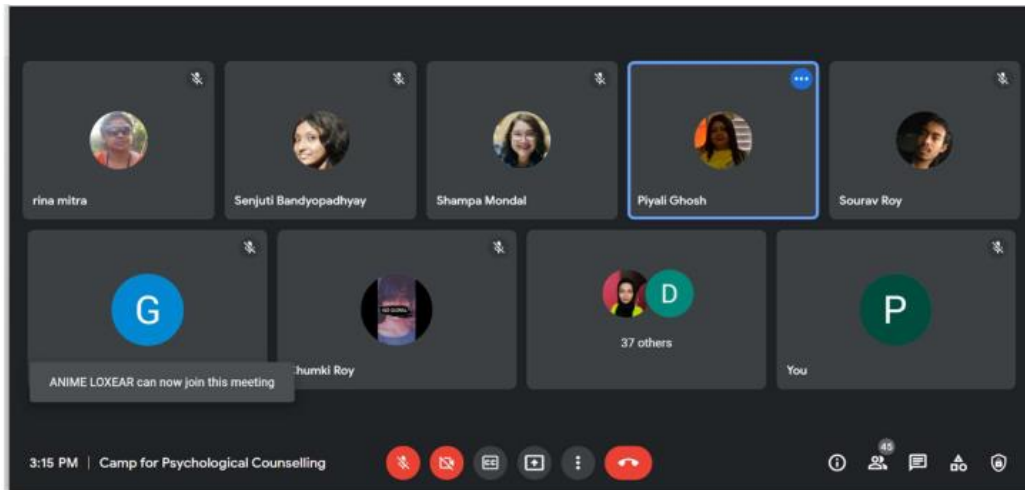


Figure 11: Psychological counselling of students (held online during lockdown)