

## **Best Practices of Phek Government College, 2023-24**

Phek Government College as a premier institution of higher education, has adopted best practices which are in tandem with its vision of providing quality education and holistic development of its students. These practices reflect the vision and values of the institution to empower its students to be productive agents of change in the society, at the same time these practices also emanate from the cultural and social specificities of the students and the institution. Some of the best practices of the college include provision of special scholarships such as, Special Merit Scholarship, Special Merit Scholarship for General Category/OBCs and SCs Students, L. Mefutiba Merit Award, mentoring program, remedial classes, teacher-student synergy for a green campus, promotion of skill development, etc. Departmental best practices include conduct of study tours, cash award and Certificate of Recognition given to topper in Education honours, identification of a plant in the campus every month, conduct of mock Parliament, publication of Athenaeum, water quality analysis in the campus, artefacts gallery, word of the week, Best library visitor, etc.

Two notable best practices of the college are highlighted as under:

### **1) Teacher-student Synergy for a Green Campus**

Phek Government College is located in a sprawling 38-acre land, surrounded by lush greenery and rich vegetation. The teacher-student synergy for a green campus gives ample scope for the institution to develop and sustain its best practice of preserving the environment. Environmental preservation and sustainability have become critical issues in our world today. As such, the college as an institution of higher education has an added responsibility of making teachers and students co-partners in the preservation of the environment. The institution has adopted Teacher-Student for a green campus with its commitment to maintain the pristine and green environment of the campus, as well as to preserve the ecology. As per the practice, the teachers and students of the college are engaged in maintaining the cleanliness and hygiene of the college, nurturing and taking care of the plants and flowers, etc. Toward this end, the Eco and Sanitation Club of the college have assigned the students in different groups. Each group is placed under 4-5 teacher in-charges and they are responsible for nurturing the plants and flowers in the allotted plots.

The institution has undertaken various activities towards the promotion of a green campus. The teachers, staffs and students of the college have been engaged in major green landscaping of the college by planting trees, flowers, digging compost pits, cleaning the surroundings etc

at regular intervals. The Eco and Sanitation club along with the NSS often organizes social work in the college. On social work days, all the students are engaged in cleaning the college and its surroundings, tending to the flower gardens, weeding and pruning etc. The institution also has a Botanical Garden which is overseen by the Department of Botany and two polyhouses which are taken care of by faculty in-charge along with the students. The Department of Botany also identifies a plant species in the campus every month as part of its departmental best practice. In addition to these activities, awareness among the students is also generated through an environmental science paper and field trips, as well as commemoration of important days such as World Environment Day etc.

The Teacher-student Synergy for a Green Campus has proved to be a significant best practice of the institution. The success of the practice can be seen in the manner in which the greenery of the campus is maintained. The practice has infused in the students as well as the teachers and staff of the college, a sense of collective responsibility towards caring for the environment. As a result of the practice, the college is green, clean and tidy. It also has the advantage of being located in a plastic-free town. As such, the college is litter-free and hygiene is well-maintained.

Owing to the topography of the district in which the institution is located, landslides remain a challenge to the best practice especially during torrential monsoon season. Additional funds are required to procure resources to conduct further initiatives such as setting up herbarium etc. Machinery, manpower and building materials are required to solve the problem of loose soil and landslides.

Some of the major activities undertaken as part of the best practice during the year are:

1. In commemoration of World Environment Day on 5th June, 2023 a plantation drive was organized by the Eco and Sanitation Club in the campus with faculty, staff, and students' executives. The club received 57 indigenous tree saplings free of cost from the Forest department and the principal donated some ornament plants. Altogether more than 100 tree saplings were planted in the campus.
2. On 19th July, 2023, a mass social work was conducted along with faculty, students, and staff.
3. On 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2023, the Eco and Sanitation Club of the college organized and supervised a mass social work in the college on account of the Academic and Administrative Audit Peer Team visit.

4. Mass social work was conducted on 31<sup>st</sup> January in the college campus.
5. Phek Government College observed World Environment Day on the 5th of June 2024 under the Theme "Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience" along with the rest of the world, which was organized by the Department of Environmental Science and Science Club, PGC. The program was chaired by Mr. Mughato K. Kiba, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany, while Dr. T. Tiakaba Jamir, Principal of the college, gave the welcome address. Mrs. VilhoutounuoTheunuo, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Science, delivered a short talk on the theme, after which a Plantation Drive was carried out at the college Botanical Garden.

## **2) Promotion of skill development**

Promotion of skill development is a valued best practice of the college. Over the years, students have been encouraged to hone their artistic skills and traditional craftsmanship through various activities. The activities for the promotion of skill development have been formalized through the Skill Development Club of the college. The Skill Development Club is supervised by faculty in-charges along with the student representatives. The emphasis of the Skill Development Club is on 100 per cent handcrafted products and as such, the activities of the club center around the production of local handicrafts such as *muras*, *daos*, baskets, knitted items, wooden baskets, plates and cups, embroidered pillow and cushion covers, table mats etc. There is overall participation of the students in these activities. These handcrafted products are put up for sale in stalls during Republic Day and Independence Day celebrations in the district. The students also organize exhibition-cum-sales day wherein their products are exhibited and also put up for sale. Income which is generated through these sales is utilized for further activities.

The institution provides a skill development room wherein students gather and engage in making various handcrafted products. Their handicrafts are put up on display in the skill centre. All these activities are conducted at regular intervals every year. The items produced by the students are collected every year, put up for display or sold during red-letter days and sales day.

Promotion of skill development as a best practice of the college has been extremely beneficial not only to the students but also to the community at large. This best practice has ensured that the traditional knowledge system of craftsmanship is preserved

for posterity. It has sensitized the students to be responsible bearers of their traditions and culture. There is awareness among the students that their rich cultural craftsmanship is very unique and hence, needs to be preserved in an era in which the rich cultural traditions are dying out. The success of this best practice can also be seen in the manner in which the skills of the students have been honed and diversified. There is an enthusiasm and interest among the students to further improvise on their skills. For instance, the students of the college are skilled in weaving shawls and mekhelas, an art which is gradually dying in an age of globalization. Handcrafted products which are reminiscent of bygone generations are made by the students with much zeal and interest.

This best practice of the college has certain challenges. Due to paucity of funds, sufficient materials for all the students cannot be provided. Promotion of skill development can also be augmented by the provision of more specialized tools and equipments through which the students can improvise on their skills. The remote location of the institution also poses a challenge to the availability of ready tools and materials. More resources in the form of equipments and tools, and funds are required to make this best practice a platform for generating employment avenues and opportunities.

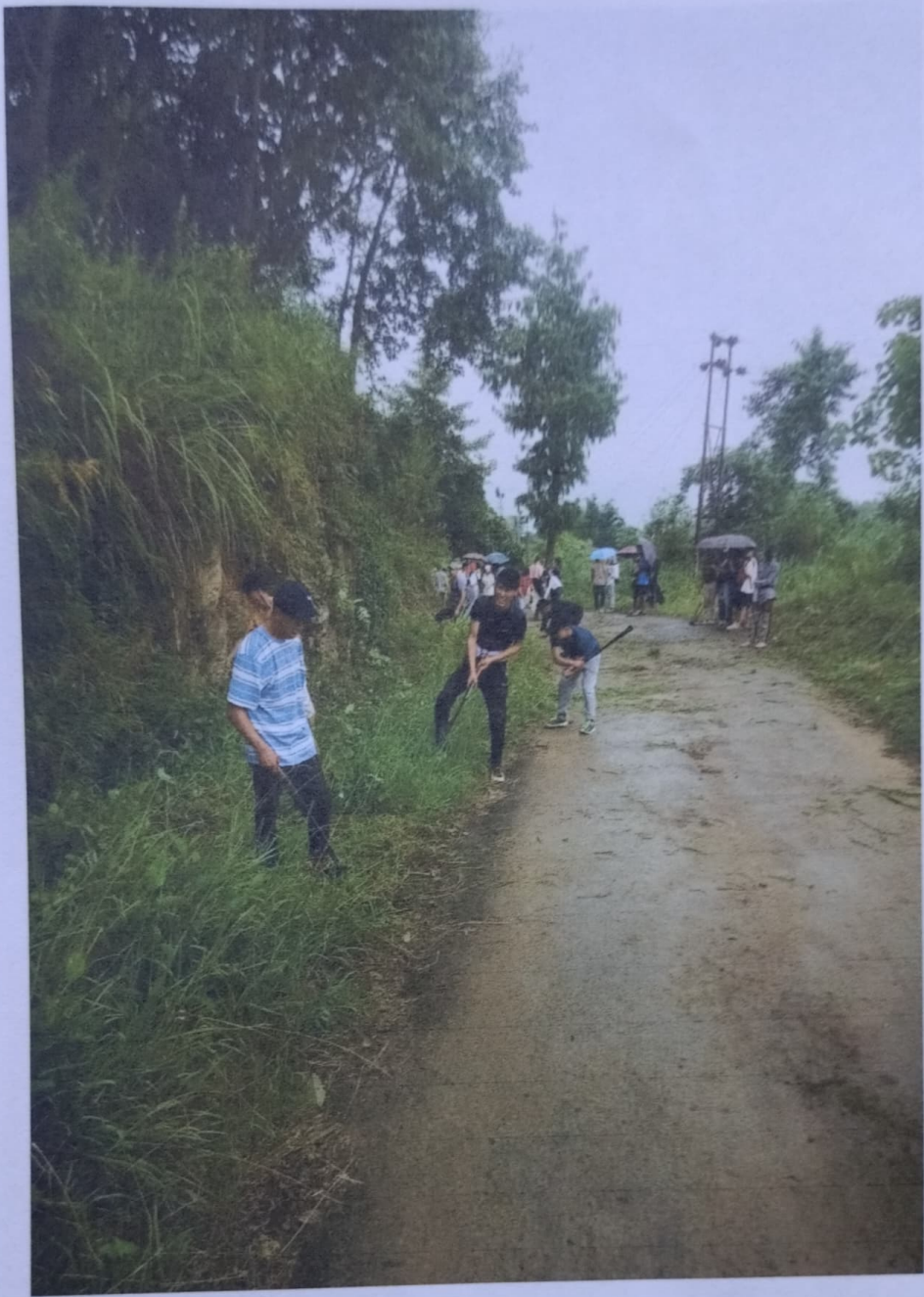
Some of the notable activities undertaken under this best practice in the academic year 2023-2024 are highlighted as under:

1. On 12th October, 2023, the Skills Development Club in collaboration with the Students Union of the college collected handicrafts and art works to be displayed at the artifact gallery of the college.
2. The Skill Development Club in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assessment Cell (IQAC) organised a one-day programme aimed at promoting students' skills. During this workshop, the students worked on creating various handicrafts items such as traditional basket, knitting, weaving, carving etc.
3. A sales day-cum-exhibition was organised by the Skill Development Club of the college on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 wherein a wide range of traditional items handcrafted by the students were exhibited and sold for generating funds for future activities of the club.

## Pictures of Best Practices











Principal  
Phek Govt. College  
Phek : Nagaland