

Annexure-III

Best Practices for 2014-15

Title: Establishment of extra admission and fee counters at remote locations (Guptakashi and Ukhimath) for the students of distant area.

Background:

The natural calamity of June 2013 (16/17 June 2013) has severely impacted the backbone of the whole Kedarnath valley of Uttarakhand state. It has affected each and every sector and segment of society. The low-lying areas near the river edges were completely vanished due to the floods and following landslides. There was a great loss of life and property (houses, shops etc). Road connectivity in the whole area was severely hampered. Though it has been almost two years since the calamity struck the region the community as a whole is still in dire need of financial / mental and social support. The negative impact on the educational environment after the calamity still prevails. Re-establishment and maintenance of the proper educational environment still stands a great challenge for the college. Only positive attitude and motivation can help in facing and overcoming the challenges posed by calamity.

Objectives:

- Motivating parents and students.
- Easing the enrollment process by setting camp offices near the students.

The road connectivity of whole area was severely impacted this year as well, especially during the monsoon season when the admission process was underway in the college. It was very difficult for people of distant village to reach places for the basic needs of food, shelter, medicine etc. Army, NGO and various organizations, social workers, local people, students all were still involved in various relief works. The enrollment for higher education in the college (i.e. taking admission and attending classes) especially for class 12th pass-outs from far off regions was not easy. We observed that the number of applicants for new admissions in the college at the beginning of this session was still quite below the number for previous sessions (i.e. before the June 2013 natural calamity had struck the region). And it was thus the responsibility of the college staff (both Teaching and Non teaching) to make all possible efforts in various directions for bringing back the situation to a normal level. The college therefore decided to establish remote admission and fee counters at far-off places (Guptkashi and Ukhimath), as was done last year as well to cope with the same problem, for smooth running of classes during the session. Also, parents were asked to encourage their wards for maximum enrollment despite all the hardships.

Obstacles:

Due to bad road conditions the staff members had to sometimes walk on foot (upto a few kilometers on the difficult hilly terrain during monsoon season) to reach the remote admission/fee counters while carrying their luggage. They had to stay longer in far-off places away from their families (and in absence of basic amenities) for this task.

Impact:

The establishment of remote counters for admission and fee deposition with the active involvement of the teaching and non-teaching staff of the college helped in an appreciable enrollment of students, especially

girls. This exercise helped in maintaining the number of fresh enrollment in the college at par with those before the calamity period.

Best Practices for 2014-15

Title: Active participation of college Teaching and Non-Teaching staff and students with NGOs (like Ram Krishna Mission) for distribution of essential commodities in the region during the disaster period.

Background:

Though it has almost been two years since the natural calamity of June 2013 (16/17 June 2013) struck the region, the whole Kedarnath valley is still reeling with its effects. It has affected each and every sector and segment of society. There was a great loss of life and property (houses, shops etc). Road connectivity in the whole area was (and still is) severely hampered. The community as a whole is in dire need of financial / mental and social support.

Objectives:

- Motivate the community as a whole including parents and students.

The road connectivity of whole area is still severely impacted. It was very difficult for people of distant village to reach places for the basic needs of food, shelter, medicine etc. Army, NGOs and various organizations, social workers, local people, students all were involved in relief work on a large scale. The college staff (Teaching and Non-teaching) also actively involved themselves in various social works like small repairs in and around college, distribution of essential commodities to needy and affected

Various NGOs like Goonj, Reliance foundation, Ram Krishna Mission were contacted and they agreed to offer their help. In fact Ram Krishna Mission had meanwhile agreed to do some new construction work (Girls Hostel and PG Block) in the college. They had set camp in the college for this purpose and some members of their team (monks, engineers etc.) were staying in the campus. During this period they organized several programs for distribution of relief material to the calamity affected people (including our students) of the region as well. The college staff and students helped them (and other NGOs) in the packaging and distribution of the essential commodities like first aid kits, solar lights, clothes, drinking water kits, school supplies to students etc. to needy and affected people in the Kedarnath valley. The college is committed towards its moral responsibility in such social causes.

Impact:

This act not only motivated the college staff but also helped us in connecting with the society. Our interactions with the parents and their wards during these activities helped in creating a positive educational environment in the valley. It encouraged the parents to enroll their wards in the college and also encouraged students to attend classes. It encouraged them to move forward with a positive approach as life goes on. Quite appreciable enrolment during the session was the reflection of the efforts made by the college staff.