



## **EMERALD HEIGHTS COLLEGE FOR WOMEN**

Reaccredited with Grade B<sup>++</sup> by NAAC (3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle)

Fingerpost, Ootacamund – 643006

The Nilgiris, Tamilnadu

Criteria – VII – Institutional Values and Best Practices

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### **Title of the Practice: Extension Activity**

#### **Objectives of the Practice:**

- 1) To indoctrinate a sense of social responsibility in the students of the college.
- 2) To allow the students to explore their community consciousness and lead to a healthy partnership between Educational institutions in the neighborhood and the College.
- 3) To make a meaningful learning through personalized experience.

#### **The Context:**

The need for extending the learning experience beyond the classroom is long felt due to the demanding needs of the ever-changing world. Having firsthand experience through several extension activities will not just primarily allow the students to imbibe knowledge through practical training but also it can help them in understanding the real needs of the society through participation in several independent study and community services. Hence the college facilitates the students to actively partake in several extension activities outside the college for both academic and non-academic purposes in order to groom the students as professionally and personally sound individuals.

#### **The Practice:**

All the departments in the aided wing are guided by their respective Heads to take part any extension activity outside campus. The activities are sometimes based on their curriculum and most of the times they are based on community service.

The students of the Department of English visited Kollimalai village, Ooty, as a part of their extension activity on 17.12.2021 at 10.00 am. Kollimalai village is one of the seven villages of Kota Tribes of Nilgiri District. The total number of Kota tribes is around 2250 only. The tribes lived in compact communities. The students of the department went to the village to conduct a survey on their lifestyle. The students of the Department of Commerce, accompanied by their Head and other members of the faculty went to the Glenmorgan 120 students participated and gave awareness on “Importance of Savings and Education” to the tribal people of Glenmorgan.



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The students of the Department of Zoology were taken by their Head and other members of the faculty to the Tribal Toda mund –Theranadmund situated near Glenmorghan. Our students meet the tribal community of the mund and interacted with them. Our girls as part of the extension activity carried out the blood grouping for the community people.

Apart from these departmental activities all the students of the college were taken in common by the NSS Coordinators. NSS volunteers involved in cleaning programme at railway station on 17/12/2021. Ooty is known for tourism. Nilgiri mountain railway is a centenary railway in Ooty. They cleaned the rail way track and in and around the railway station. National Service Scheme Volunteers organized an “Old Age Welfare Association” on December 2019. The volunteers of this association will meet old age people in their vicinity. This association is organized to spread love and compassion to lead a healthy life without worries and anxiety. This year our volunteers visited an old age and orphan home located at Dhenallai Village on 21/12/2021. Our volunteers engaged themselves by interacting with the old age people to know the need of the people. The volunteers donated dress materials, provisions, fruits and snacks to the home. They also donated rupees ten thousand (10000) to the home on behalf of NSS, Emerald Heights College for Women, Ooty.

Every year our volunteers celebrate Christmas in our college. This year our volunteers organized Christmas celebration at Deaf and Dum School, Garden Road, Vannarpettai, Ooty on 21/12/2021. This school is a government high school for physically challenged children. More than 25 children study in this school. The students shared their joy of celebration by playing games with the children and distributed sweets and snacks to them.

### **Evidence of Success:**

The extension activities enabled the students to have a deeper insight into the meaningful living by the people the society. The visit has shed light on the cultural practices of the tribes and the student gained immense knowledge about the language, culture and other traditional practices. It gave a comprehensive picture of the simple, archaic and unadulterated lifestyle of the tribes.



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It has enabled the students to understand the need to live in an immaculate, faultless and utopian world. This practice creates a sense of social responsibility in the minds of the students and enables them to gain insight about their value system. This practice also helps to promote the welfare of oneself and family and helps to believe that love, compassion, faith, charity and spirituality enrich one's life.

### **Problems encountered and Resources required:**

Most of the places chosen for these kind of extension activities are located in very remote areas. Hence the first and foremost problem faced by the Members of the Faculty and the students is the mobility. Lack of transportation facilities at the appropriate timing was a major difficulty. Apart from this, these activities should be carried out in the hours other than the regular college timing. Hence there is a problem in getting permission from the organizations chosen for the activity during their holidays. If the days chosen are working days, extra care should be taken by making necessary special arrangements to avoid disturbing their routine.