

Best Practice II

Title of the Paper: Career Guidance

Objectives:

1. To help the students to figure out what they want out of education and life.
2. To empower them and build their overall confidence by giving them hands-on training and experience of handling challenging situations.
3. To help the students in their period of turmoil and confusion.
4. To enhance the employability skills of the students.
5. To develop readiness for choices and changes to face.
6. To motivate the youth for self-employment.
7. To identify and motivate the students from weaker sections of society.
8. To help in the total development of the students.

Context:

The priority and thrust area of our college is overall development of the students. A conducive learning environment was created to the students through curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

The institution has student's Welfare cell and Placement cell which function at the college level in general and various clubs and associations at department levels in particular. The centre organises workshops, career guidance and orientation programmes designed to inculcate interpersonal skills, team spirit, leadership skills, presentation skills, problem solving abilities, decision making skills, creativity etc.

Seminars, webinars, workshops and extempore competitions and quiz were organised by departments and clubs to provide mental stimulation. By these programmes and activities all the students develop the employability skills which enables them to present themselves in a more impressive and effective way to face the competitive world ahead.

The practice:

In collaboration with District Employment Office, Ooty the centre organises coaching classes for students which enables them to face the competitive exams confidently.

The departments have an assigned a co-ordinator who motivates and helps students to enrol in NPTEL and Swayam platforms. The students enrol in courses which enables them to strengthen the curriculum as well as to open the opportunities for pursuing courses of their choices.

The departments organized programmes which made the students to explore future job opportunities in both government and non- government sectors.

All these practices initiate or encourage attitudinal changes, participation in learning, retention and achievement and job search which reduces unemployment.

Evidence of success:

The purpose of education is to explore and develop potentials of individuals and to do so career choices must be made in student's life. They need career guidance to explore and plan for future career endeavours based on their individual interest, skills and values.

By the various programmes and activities organised, the students acquired self-knowledge, developed specific career and educational goal, developed problem solving and decision making skills. They were aware of the job opportunities prevailing at local, state and national levels. Being encouraged and trained at the coaching classes more number of students attended competitive exams, enrolled and successfully completed the courses in NPTEL and Swayam platforms.

Problems Encountered:

The students of the college are basically from rural and semi- urban regions in and around Nilgiris. Hence in spite of vast number of programme/ activities organised the students do not have a clear understanding of the nature and importance of the employability skills. This drawback is mainly due to little or no attention is given to related career opportunities and lack of proper utilization of time spent outside the classrooms.