

SNDT College of Home Science, Pune
BEST PRACTICES- 2018-2019

(1) Employment Meet

1) Title: Employment Meet

2) Goal:

- a. To provide an opportunity to the youth seeking jobs to apply and meet various employers at one venue.
- b. To provide the infrastructure and support to the industries and organizations participating in the Employment Meet.
- c. To ensure that the students of SNDT College of Home Science are made aware and benefit from the government schemes and welfare of the youth.
- d. To contribute to national development by participating in the Government schemes for the welfare of the citizens.

3) The Context:

SNDT College of Home Science strives towards empowerment of women through employment. There is availability of jobs in and around Pune. Organizing Employment Meet ensures that the prospective employers are brought to the doorstep of the candidates. The college is centrally located on a spacious campus. The college has good infrastructure and a dedicated team of staff members. Government has launched various schemes for the unemployed youth. Though, the concerned agencies and departments have the finances and core staff required they need infra-structure and a large number of staff and volunteers to implement these schemes. In view of this, it was decided to host the Employment Meet and also offer the voluntary services of staff members and students.

4) The Practice:

The College organized the Employment Meet on Sunday 17th February 2019 in association with District Skill Development and Guidance Centre and Deendayal Antyoday Program for National and Urban Upjivika Abhiyan. 28 industries and organizations from Bhosari, Pimpri, Chinchwad and Pune City participated in the Employment Meet. The teaching and non-teaching staff members of the college along with the student volunteers worked to ensure the smooth organization and success of the Job Fair.

5) Evidence of success:

Industries from Bhosari, Pimpri, Chinchwad and Pune City participated in the Job Fair. 28 personnel from different industries/Entrepreneurs were present. 2437 unemployed youth enrolled for the Employment Meet. Candidates were allowed to appear for more than one interview. 1616 candidates were interviewed which included students from SNDT college of Home Science. 645 candidates were selected in the first round. The Employment Meet was given publicity in the local newspapers –Pudhari, Lokmat, Maharashtra Times, Sakal. Feedback was taken from the industrialists who appreciated the seating/room arrangements in the Campus. It was reported by them that the team of staff and student volunteers had planned and worked efficiently to ensure the success of the employment meet.

6) Problems Encountered and resources required

It was observed by the various companies who participated in the employment meet that the degrees of applicants and job skills expected do not match. This was reflected in the small number of candidates selected in the employment meet. The financial assistance for the employment meet was provided by the concerned Government Departments.

(2) Edible Landscape Garden

1) Title: Edible Landscape Garden

2) Goal:

- i. Segregation and utilization of bio degradable waste generated on the campus.
- ii. Inculcate awareness among the students about the hazards of irresponsible disposal of garbage and use of pesticides.
- iii. Introduce and promote the concept of sustainable living.

3) The Context:

The reduction in the green cover is resulting in global warming. There is a need to take up green initiatives to counter these negative trends. In view of this, an Edible Landscape Garden was conceptualized. This would serve the purpose of utilization of the bio degradable waste generated on the campus. It would also introduce the concepts of urban farming and sustainable living amongst the young students who would spread the message in the society. Another outcome anticipated was that the project would support the consumption of organic food which would prevent health issues created by use of fertilizers and chemicals in agriculture.

4) The Practice:

A live eco project of Edible Landscape Garden has been initiated in collaboration with Eco Factory Foundation of Pravin Masalewale. This gives hands on experience to the students of creating wealth from waste. The college is situated on a spacious campus and has ample vacant land around the buildings. The campus has two hostels with mess and a canteen; these generate a large volume of bio degradable waste every day. Biodegradable waste on the campus and hostel, and bio-pesticides are used for developing this organic garden which leads to sustainable living. The fruits and vegetables produced in the garden are sold to staff and students on the campus at nominal price and the income thus generated is used for the development of the garden.

5) Evidence of success:

The students and staff members actively participate in upkeep of the Edible landscape garden. The garden is thriving and there is a steady produce of seasonal vegetables and fruits. There is an increased awareness among the students about the importance of sustainable living and reducing their carbon footprint. Several locations have been identified on the campus to expand the project.

6) Problems Encountered and resources required:

It was initially difficult to cultivate the plants and trees as the land was uncultivated. Professional horticulturist and gardener were required to set up the garden. During the vacations only a few students and staff are present on campus, it is a challenge to sustain the activity during this period. The college has employed a part time gardener to overcome this problem.