

Best Practise No. 1:

Title of the practice: Maintenance of biodiversity register.

Objectives of the practice:

The scheme aims at: -

- To know about information of local biodiversity.
- To provide knowledge about plant biodiversity, animal biodiversity, insects birds, crop biodiversity to students and society.
- To motivate students, parents, farmers, NGO's to preserve all type of biodiversity's in there localities.
- To train the students to collect data of all type of bio diversities and maintain it.
- To create eco-friendly atmosphere among students and society towards biodiversity conservation.

The Context:-

Biodiversity is a function of web of interaction taking place between plant and animals. The college is situated in rural area where most of the people are engaged in agriculture, dairy farming, nursery project, poultry farming and fishing activities. Now a days climate change is burning issue. Hence it become essential to study the interaction between plant ,animal, human being with environment. Shrigonda tehsil is also rich in plant biodiversity such as *Mahadev dara* hillside,animal diversity at *Autewadi talav, Ghodegaon talav,Durgaon talav,Ujani dam backwater ,pedgaon river backwater* and *Bhigwan* site. By a group of students of our college from different locality of Shrigonda tehsil institute collect data about plant diversity, crop diversity, animal diversity, birds diversity and maintain in biodiversity register. After data entry in the register ,students analyses the plants species, animals-insects species, crops and information is submitted to respective departments.

It helps to get knowledge about endangered plants, rare plants, any new species in the locality. It provides information about insects, vermes and paste in the different agriculture dominating locality.

The practice: -

In Ahmednagar district , rehkuri sancturi is located near 24 km from Shrigonda tehsil which is famous for Black Bucks.The sanctuary is spread across of 2.17 sq.km.serves as a safe heaven for nearly 400 Black Bucks(*Kalvit*). Every year students of Botany and zoology departments visit to this sanctuary in winter season.Student collect data of plants species and insects species from sanctuary.

They get knowledge about different facilities made in sanctuary by forest department to protect plant diversity as well as animal diversity.

Department of Geography celebrates “Vruksha Sanvardhan Raksha Bandhan” every year on the occasion of Raksha bandhan to spread the message of plant biodiversity preservation among students and society. The college organizes visits to Mahadev dara and Kashi Vishveswar temple to collect plant and animal, insects, birds species data. These are biodiversity spots in nearby our college.

Depart of Zoology and Botany organizes field visit to nursery projects, Mushroom projects, Mahadev dara, Kashi vishveswar temple and different Lake located in Shrigonda Tehsil. Student's collect information about biodiversity. The information is maintained in register. Students demonstrate the information by preparing Herbarium Sheet. During field visit students and faculty members discuss with various agencies such as farmers, forest department, agriculture department and other NGO's about biodiversity conservation.

The regular activity done by Zoology department is Bird Watching activity. Its key activity done by our institution under the guideline of Prin. Dr. D. K. Mhaske. One day in every week bird watching activity is organized for students, faculty members, local peoples in nearby area such as *Autewadi talav*, *Ghodegaon talav*, *Durgaon talav*, *Ujani dam backwater*, *pedgaon river backwater* and *Bhigwan site*, *Visapur Dam*. Now it becomes a one of the Milestone activity of our college.

Evidence of Success: -

As a result of different activities made under maintenance of biodiversity register, students shows key interest in collections of plants species and animal, insects biodiversity and maintain the information in register. Students prepare herbarium sheets and demonstrate in there departments. To collect information, group of students are made from different locality of Shrigonda tehsil and hence data is also obtained as per water availability .As a result of Bird Watching activity students get information about local birds, there fix colonies and Migratory birds.

Problems Encountered and Resources required:

Initially it is observed that students are not actively participate in activity. When groups are prepared in different locality in Shrigonda tehsil to collect information of plants, animals , insects, crop diversity in their native place, they show there key interest. Sometimes detailed information about insect species is not obtained scientifically. From the regular academic schedule of students and faculty it becomes difficult to manage time to do this activity.

Best Practice No. 2:

Title of the practice: Educational rehabilitation of PhassePardhi –one of the schedule tribe-aboriginal hunting caste in Ahmednagar District in Maharashtra.

Objectives of the practice:The scheme aims at: -

- To enrol PhassePardhi students in main stream education.
- To collect information about children of school going age of Phasse Pardhis.
- To motivate PhassePardhi parents for sending their children in school and colleges.
- To counsel and inform Phasse Pardhis about various Government and Non-Government schemes available for their welfare.
- To initiate an action plan for socio-economic rehabilitation of Phasse Pardhis by arranging various awareness programs.
- To improve health and hygiene condition of Pardhi kids.

The Context:- Pardhi a branded criminal caste of nomadic tribes in India found in Madhya Pradesh, Gujrat, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. In Maharashtra they occur at Amravati, Akola, Yawatmal, Buldhana and Ahmednagar. According to 2001 census their population in state is 1,59,875. Term Pardhi derived from Marathi word Paradh means hunting. Pardhis are divided in sub-groups like GavPardhi, Takari, Pal Pardhi, VaghriPardhi and PhassePardhi. Phardhis are prolific hunters who gather their livelihood by gathering and hunting food from nature. These castes were proved problematic for British rule; therefore they de-notified the population as **Born Criminals** by Criminal Tribes Act, 1871. Pardhi's are seen indulging in criminal activity and are less blessed.

In Ahmednagar District especially in Shrigonda Tehsil Pardhi Population is more as compared to other area. Of the different types of Pardhi's, population of PhassePardhi is more in Shrigonda. PhassePardhi gather their livelihood by hunting, some of them have now diverted towards agriculture. Phasse Pardhis are also seen begging in and around the Shrigonda town.

The practice: - Phase Pardhi de-notified born criminal caste by British Rule is sizable in number in Shrigonda. Their population in Shrigonda Tehsil is noticeable because of their peculiar habits and way of living. Pardhi's are seen here and there in Shrigonda and nearby area gathering and hunting their food. Internal Quality Assurance Cell of this college has sensed the problem of Pardhi, through its NSS activity early during first decade of twenty-first century. Since last ten years educational upliftment and rehabilitation of Phasse Pardhi is on priority list of this

college. Our teachers and students from NSS department are collecting information about PhassePardhi. We surveyed their habits, habitats, food, feeding and rituals. Pardhis worship Kalika Mata and make sacrifices of goat and sheep to her. Pardhi's remain deprived of modern education as they never shown any willingness to join it. This college is counseling Pardhi's for giving education to their children. College collects information of Pardhi children of school-going age. Very hesitant population to listen to educated peoples and aloof from others may or may not listen to our mentors and counselees. Their initial enrolment in primary education was very less and situation became worst by their fragile attendance in classes. We allured Pardhi students by providing means of education. College went a step ahead to work in association with local self Govt. Bodies, social workers, researcher in the area like Dr. Balasaheb Bale and social organizations working for the welfare of Pardhi tribe.

Evidence of Success: -

As a result of efforts taken by this college for motivating and enrolling Pardhi children in schools and colleges, nearly 572 students are enrolled for their schooling and college education. Following is the information of enrolment of students in schools and colleges in Shrigonda.

Chart showing number of Pardhi students enrolled in Primary and Secondary Schools in Shrigonda Tehsil.

Class	Male	Female	Total
1	22	33	55
2	27	37	64
3	21	36	57
4	28	40	68
5	31	18	49
6	40	32	72
7	34	17	51
8	19	10	29
9	26	07	33
10	10	01	11
11	12	05	17
12	14	06	20
Total	284	242	526

(Source: - Data from education department of PanchayatSamiti, Shrigonda. Year 2014-15)

Chart showing number of Pardhi students enrolled in Colleges in Shrigonda Tehsil from upto 2019-20

Year	Male	Female	Total
2014-15	19	1	20
2015-16	12	0	12
2016-17	11	1	12
2017-18	12	2	14
2018-19	16	05	21
2019-20	14	08	22
Total	84	15	91

Problems Encountered and Resources required: Pardhi's prefer to live aloof and away from main society. As they do not mingle in main stream population they are least informed about the happenings of present time. They are not aware of facilities and schemes devised by Government for their welfare and education. Whole population of Pardhi's is very much absorbed in old rituals and superstitions. They are far away from fruits of science and technology today. This college along with local self-Government and charitable institute like Mahamanava Baba AmteSewabhavi Sanstha run by Mr AnantZende one of our alumni, tries its best to motivate and enrol Pardhi children in main stream education to bring about socio economic transformation of theirs. For doing this activity college needs constant support of Government agencies and funds from various sources.



Students engaged in survey of Pardhi Samaj.