1. Title of the Practice: Responsibility towards environment

Concept of the practice: Higher education can play a crucial role in sustainable development of any nation. As environmental sustainability is becoming an increasingly important issue for the world. The Higher education institutes can provide trained manpower and knowledgeable expertise to solve critical environmental problems. Colleges can act as ladder towards the goal of sustainable development. In the teaching programme, the framework of the curricula should cover the necessary information which can sensitize the students about burning environmental issues. The students should get acquainted with all the skills and information related to environment. The curriculum should not only motivate the students to participate but also to solve the environmental problems. The best way to spread this awareness is through education. A well designed environmental education system would include both theoretical as well as practical exposure towards environment conservation. Covid-19 has caused devastation and has touched almost every sphere and evidence shows that the country has lagged behind on environmental norms too due to this pandemic.

Objectives of the practice: The education for environmental awareness is essential for the younger generation as they are the future of the nation. It enables them to make responsible decisions towards the betterment of the environment. The following are the objectives of environmental education:

- Awareness
- Knowledge
- Attitudes
- Skills and Capacity Building
- Participation

The Context/Challenging issues that needed to be addressed: In India, challenges related to air pollution, waste management, scarcity of water, conservation of natural resources, and loss of biodiversity, amongst others have been increasing. Water availability, shortage of power, non-availability of land for garbage disposal, increase in the number of vehicles, non-effective controls on emissions, absence of water conservation schemes, depletion of tree cover due to mushrooming commercial and housing complexes, add up to the complexities. Major Challenging issues that needed to be addressed are:

- Pollution.
- Global warming.
- Overpopulation.
- Waste disposal.
- Ocean acidification.
- Loss of biodiversity.
- Deforestation.
- Ozone layer depletion.

The Practice (Constraints): To consider environment in its totality (natural, artificial, technological, ecological, moral, aesthetic), it should be considered a continuous life process. It should be interdisciplinary in approach. To focus on current, potential environmental situation, some of the constraints are economic conditions, customs, government regulations, availability of natural resources etc. Inspite of many initiatives, technological advances, growing demand of ACs, increase in traffic, noise pollution, deforestation and 'greenhouse' effect are constraints in environmental sustainability.

Evidence of Success: Environmental education is a process that allows individuals to explore environmental issues, engage in problem solving, and take action to improve the environment. As a result, individuals develop a deeper understanding of environmental issues and have the skills to make informed and responsible decisions. Environmental education is one of the subjects in the curriculum in college. When students study the environment and its functions, they develop a sense of understanding of the environment in the early stage of their life. It is important to increase the awareness of individuals about the environment. With the help of environmental education, students' knowledge about the environment is instilled into every country's citizens. The College has taken following initiatives like-

- Segregation of waste to dry and wet waste

- Rain Water Harvesting System

- Use of Tertiary water for watering college lawn and plants

- Vermicomposting unit to make organic fertilizer

- Botanical Garden for conserving plants of medicinal and economic importance

- Plantation and its maintenance by students.

- Separate dustbins for bio-gradable and non-biodegradable wastes generated in the college for proper segregation and disposal.

- Regular and frequent environment rallies to create Environmental Awareness.

- Leaf composting.

- Workshop on Renewable Energy Resources.

- Installation of Three large capacity Bio composters for the waste management from the students Mess.

- Tree plantation drive and Tree Walk organized by Botany Department in association with Chandigarh tree lovers (citizens' initiative) and Eco club DAV College.

- Installation of Sanitary Pad Incinerators on campus and Demo workshops conducted for Students.

- Launch of plastic free Chandigarh campaign by MP Smt. Kirron Kher.
- Anti- plastic awareness rally to reduce the use of plastic bags below 50 micron within the campus and in the adjacent market place.

- Cleanliness and Plastic waste collection drive at four locations in Chandigarh City(Off campus)
- Installation of solar lights to reduce carbon footprint in the environment.

The Practice (Uniqueness)

- College has adopted green campus and polythene free campus under Clean India, Green India. Success is visible in the form of solar lights, Rain Water Harvesting system and solar water heaters which have been installed in the college hostel. Facility of solar electricity is also made available in the college campus. The college has a water reservoir with a capacity of 7000 litres. All the waste of the college and the hostel is disposed-off in an appropriate manner to ensure environmental safety. Department of Botany and Eco-Club of the College are very active and celebrate "Van Mahotsava" has been organized every year with great zeal and gusto. The college campus has a comforting lush green environment. A number of villages in the periphery of Chandigarh have been adopted by NSS Unit of the college for creating awareness regarding tree plantation, women empowerment, drug addiction, health and nutrition, sanitation and hygiene etc.
- Sustainable Development through "Swachh Bharat": Installation of separate metallic dustbins for proper waste segregation has been done in the whole college campus. Students have been time and again made more aware about the need of waste segregation through due practices like hosting cleanliness drives, lectures, posters and showing relevant movies and documentaries etc. A biological waste processing machine has been installed in the campus. Vermicomposting process for manure formation has also been started within the college campus. This not only helps in proper waste management but also provides good quality eco-friendly manure for the lush green lawns in the college campus. To make the campus eco-friendly, the college maintains gardens like palm garden, botanical garden etc. In our institution we are trying our utmost to enlighten students about Conservation of Environment, Management of Solid Waste, Indoor Environment, Global Environmental issues, Indian Laws on Environment, Biodiversity, Noise and microbial pollution and Local Environmental issues. Seminars, discussions and talks are a regular feature. It is through the process of environmental awareness that the students participate in the process of development without harming the ecological balance because they are aware of the consequences of environmental degradation. The environmental awareness changes the human attitude towards nature. It creates consciousness and a sense of responsibility towards environment in the society. The college wants its students not only to excel in academics but also be enlightened and aware in order to help them in developing a cosmopolitan outlook. The college would like them to become responsible and mature citizens of this great country.

Title of the Practice: Library: The Hub of knowledge and Heritage

Concept of the practice: Colleges form the integral part of higher education, and libraries in colleges are the primary source for learning process. With the shift of emphasis from teaching to learning, libraries must play their role effectively. Library prepares the students as an intelligent aware, informative and enlightened to play the role of a responsible citizen. It assists the research works and lays down the initiative base for research work in students. It provides the latest up-dates to the teachers in their respective subject areas. It enhances the understanding of different subjects or disciplines among the students. A college library's functioning supports the objectives of the college i.e. study, teaching and occasional research. The college library provides the reading material to satisfy the information needs of students and faculty.

Objectives of the practice:

- The College's library is the most important adjunct of a college. It aims at realisation of institutional objectives
- To provide online access to globally generated information to the students and researchers.
- To improve Services to Online and Remote Learners
- To improve research support services
- To provide efficient access to a broad range of top-quality information resources.
- To provide latest collection of text books, course related materials and journals on print and electronic media;
- To maintain good collection of reference books, magazines, newspapers and Internet facilities to provide wider access to information beyond the prescribed syllabi.
- To train the students in the use of library catalogue, reference sources, and net-based information access;
- To preserve documents for future use by using modern methods of preservation.
- **To support a culture of learning by providing appropriate resources and services.**
- **To provide accessible and inclusive learning spaces.**
- The Context/Challenging issues that needed to be addressed
- **Managing continuous transition from a print to a digital-based collection**
- Creation, control, and preservation of digital resources.
- To understand impact of information technology on library services.
- Keeping up with changing technical requirements. .
- Funds

Evidence of Success: The library of DAV College is well stocked and well equipped to fulfil the knowledge and information needs of the readers. Consistent efforts are always made to upgrade its all-round infrastructure. The Library provides conducive atmosphere and sufficient seating facility to its readers for browsing and relaxed reading. A stimulating environment is provided to encourage readers enhance their academic worth. The building of the library is multi-storeyed, well ventilated and air-conditioned as well. On the ground floor there is circulation section, stack areas, meditation room, property counter, outer reading hall and Lal Chand Research Library. The outer reading hall of the library is kept open late in the evening before and during the examinations. The Open shelf system is provided in the stack areas from where the students can get the books issued. There is a rich collection of books in the streams of humanities, social sciences, sciences, IT, language, literature, commerce and management. On the first floor of the library there is reference section and the textbook section. All kinds of reference material like dictionaries, encyclopaedias yearbooks, directories, maps, gazettes and gazetteers, reference books belonging to specific disciplines are housed in the reference section of the library. In the textbook section one copy each of textbook of every subject is kept in this section. On the top floor of the library there is periodical section, biography section and digital corner. This section houses magazines, multi-faculty journals, newspapers, biographies and autobiographies.

Library is fully tech-enabled in operations and services. There are 10 computers which enable us to perform the in-house operations in an efficient, time and cost saving way. It has been using Campus Whiz software for Library automation. In house binding and Xerox service is also provided. It is college's endeavour to provide right and timely information to the readers from the vast collection and the updated OPAC. The students can also avail the Internet facility through Wi-Fi. Library also provides access to e-resources through the databases like NLIST and J-Gate Social Sciences and Management to our esteemed faculty members and the college students. Library issues Unique Smart ID cum library cards to all the bonafide students and to all the staff members and the faculty

of the college. It also provides back sets of Journals and Magazines, University Syllabi, Old Question papers of University exams.

RUSA has proved to be a boon to the library enabling us to bring in better access, quality and expediency in tech-driven way. Financial assistance has been provided to upgrade the infrastructure of the library. Large number of books has been added to the collection. Data card printer, Information KIOSK has been installed in the library premises. The whole setup of RFID comprising RFID Security Gates, Staff Station, Book Drop Box, RFID KIOSK (Self check-in and Self-Check-out), RFID Tags, RFID enabled Id cards, RFID Hand held reader have been incorporated in the library solely with the huge financial assistance from RUSA. This high end set up has made worthy readers more tech savvy in fulfilling their knowledge and informational needs.

Best Practices followed by Library during pandemic:

In the on-going crisis of corona virus which hit India from March onwards and is still going on, it has been our endeavour at DAV College to provide up to date **library services** to our worthy readers. We are utilizing the digital mode to keep the library services going. Access to readers for online subscribed databases like JGATE, EBSCO, NLIST is being provided. The library staff apprised the students through e-mails too about the ways and means to use these databases in their academics and research work. Some of the publishers also provided access to e-books which was duly sent to the students and faculty too. Besides these, webinars were also conducted from time to time covering training programs on JGATE and NLIST and other useful topics for research scholars and students. WhatsApp group of PG students has also been formed so that they can reach out to the librarian for any of their library related queries. Fully adhering to SOP, the library has been operational even during the lockdown period w.e.f. May 18, 2020. The students could visit the library for their academic needs. Since then the portals of library are open to the faculty, research scholars and students.

- Another service provided by the library in the pandemic phase is the setting up of **Library Helpdesk** on the Student portal of our college. "https://student.davchd.ac.in/frmContentPage.aspx?Id=79LDGE6hr+r6TRi/jyI7eG3A==" The email ids of the professional staff of the library are provided on which students are forwarding their queries. Library services as per the requirement of the students are duly been provided by the staff.
- The library extends its services through its website "**https://www.davchd.ac.in/library**". From the infrastructure to the services -online and offline both it is an extremely helpful platform for the students. They can also search the question papers of previous years and syllabi as well. Various ICT links have also been provided on the website which are helpful for the students in their academics and career.
- Additional Services: Library is marching ahead in the mission of providing reader friendly, tech savvy services expeditiously and efficiently:
    - In house Xerox facility
    - OPAC (KIOSK)

    - CDROMs covering literature and various other subjects are also provided in the Periodical Section of the Library.
    - 24 computer systems have been installed in the digital corner of the library for our faculty members and the research scholars of our college to access the e-resources.
    - Keeping in view the special needs of visually challenged students, the library has set up an exclusive corner for them. JAWS software has been procured so that they can seek

their knowledge and information needs. Reading material in Braille has also been kept for them.

- Two special corners have been established i.e., Gandhian Literature and Arya Samaj Collection. Activities are conducted from time to time to bring this collection into limelight and promote its readership.
- Meditation room is another hallmark of our college library.
- LCD has been installed in the entrance area of the library which provides a complete vies of the library as well as the latest addition in collection and services.