

BEST PRACTICE-2

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND GENDER EQUITY

The Kumbi college maintains equality irrespective of cast, creed and provides opportunity to different communities by achieving women empowerment and gender equity. Gender equity implies fair and equal treatment irrespective of gender i.e. male and female, according to their respective needs. It concerns the rights and benefits, obligations and opportunity among the students in the same college. The majority of students of our college belong to the weaker sections including scheduled caste, scheduled tribe, and other backward classes without proper access to education, health and other productive resources. Therefore, they remain largely as the marginalized, poor and socially excluded and affected by the backwardness and discrimination. Being the most vibrant and dynamic segment, the youth including girls, are our most valuable human resource. We cannot afford to neglect our female force to be the victims of discrimination, exploitation, and segregation.

Objectives: (100 words)

- To bring awareness about redressal mechanism in case of sexual harassment, ragging, eve-teasing and dowry system to expose the ill-effects of the evils by conducting seminars.
- To use opportunities for positive discrimination for girl students. Involve social activists and legal experts to enlighten the students on human rights and fundamental freedom for women's equal rights and opportunities.
- To organize debates and discussions on gender equality and women empowerment to enable the students realize gender sensitization and harmony in family and society.
- To tackle health hazards for girl students exclusive health camps by lady doctor's free treatment of women-related health problems and conducting awareness programs on the importance of sanitation, personal hygiene, prevention of seasonal diseases and HIV/AIDS.

Context: (150 words)

The college resolved several awareness programs and activities to empower female students to face the vicissitudes of life boldly and successfully for a life of peace, harmony and dignity. As the gender sensitization programs designed revealed several disparities and inequalities, that we might not have noticed earlier, people especially the other gender, urged discussing gender and gender roles would break up families and destroy society. Similarly, the various legal protective provisions for women were misunderstood as undue favour meant to belittle men. Under these circumstances, the college has thought it appropriate to forge ahead with the objective implementations, the objective for which an exclusive cell is created. The program officers and the volunteers of the NSS units had to visit certain families and

persuade the parents that all the programs were meant for the betterment and empowerment of their dear daughters.

Practice: (400 words)

To achieve the aim for gender equity and women empowerment, the college established a NSS Unit-2 with a senior woman teacher as program officer. There are more than 130 female volunteers out of total 300 volunteers in the three NSS units of the college. The program officers and the volunteers of the NSS units including coordinator, IQAC of the college meet every month and decide the conduct of awareness sessions for sensitizing the gender equity and women empowerment to know why and how they are given subservient role in spite of their equal or even more abilities. They also draw an annual action plan for organizing various awareness programs, seminars, workshops and interactive sessions. The program officers, coordinator and the volunteers are responsible for the implementation of the programs in consultation with NGOs, Legal and Health Experts and Government officials for the protection of women's rights and actively empower women creating conditions for gaining confidence in their abilities. It aims at curbing the social evils like eve-teasing, ragging and dowry system providing necessary counseling and guidance by social and rights activists, counselors and psychologists so that the girl students become aware of unjust gender equity, discrimination, the human rights, the legal provisions available for their protection, importance of higher education for higher enlightenment, mental and physical fitness.

The College has organized several productive programs so far extensively utilizing the services of the widespread network of NGOs, which have a strong grass-root level presence with deep insight into women's concerns contributing to the inspiring initiatives for the empowerment of women. The latest among them is Observance cum Workshop on International Women's Day, at the college auditorium on 8 March 2021. Dr. L. Muhindro, SK Women's College, presented a talks on theme "Women in Leadership: Achieving an Equal Future" and Shri L. Gopal Singh, HOD, Political Science and Coordinator, IQAC of the college address his views on the theme "Choose to Challenge" regarding the challenge of women's participation in present trends.

Evidence of Success: (200 words)

Women empowerment and gender equity concerns the rights and benefits, obligations and opportunity among the students in the college. As such, the girl students are spontaneously participated in the different programs and activities of the college with the boy students in every aspect. The following steps include of success to indicate the fulfillment of the targeted aims in the college.

Grievances Redressal Cell: There is a special cell Students Grievance Redressal Cell at the college to redress the problem that arises from time to time among students. It properly and judiciously administers any crisis created by both boys and girl students at the college campus.

Study Tour: Whenever there is any Study Tour for the belittlement of students organized by the college, girl students are also given the same opportunity for participation as boys; one instance is -Two female volunteers namely Kh. Taniya Devi and Nengboi H Mangte of the college participated in the Mountaineering and Trekking adventure camp at Kullu Manali, Himachal Pradesh in the year 2018.

National Integrity Tour: Being a vibrant and dynamic step for creating female forces of Nine girl students and Nine boy students of Kumbi College with two teacher-guides participated in the National Integration Tour for 14 days trip to Delhi and Agra as a part of Indian Army Flagship Social Initiative Program “Operation Sadbhavna” on 8 November 2019.

International Women’s Day: Every year the college has been observing International Women’s Day on 8 March at the college premises, which was attended mainly by girl-students in which resource persons delivered effective talks on the theme.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required: (150 words)

- To implement and monitor the annual plan in the autonomous ambience has become a tough task in view of tight academic schedule.
- To ensure all round support and participation of woman teachers and students in the programs is a tough task.
- To organize various programs during working hours, sometimes, has led to sacrifice the classes.
- Sometimes, the girl participants have put to disappointment as the resource persons did not turn up for the camp.
- Though the girl student’s participation has increased, families of girls sometimes do not allow their participation in activities, especially off campus ones.

