

Best Practice –I

Title of Practice: Installments in college fees

Objectives of Practice:

- (1) To bring economically backward students in education stream.
- (2) To encourage poor students to continue education.
- (3) To improve access of basic and advanced education for rural and poor students.

The context:

Even our college belongs to urban area most of the students in our college belong to rural area and maximum students belong to poor family. Most of the students from economically backwards are unable to pay admission fees; so that they might be away from educational canal. This scheme was introduced with the sole objective, that education cannot be stopped due to lack financial support. To bring them in again back to education we have implemented this scheme.

The Practice: In our region one of the reasons for drop out in Higher Education is economical problem in student's family. It may leads to drop in Gross Enrollment Ratio in Higher Education. This scheme is basically applicable for the needy students. The college identifies the needy students from following way.

- The college gets information from poor students or student approach to college with their problem about fees.
- They are asked to write formal application to the Principal for demanding the installment in their fees.
- The principal appoints the staff to cross verify the students real time need.
- If application is found appropriate; Principal allows the student to pay fees in the installments.
- During this process the students commits the expected next date to pay remaining amount to college.
- The college gently reminds these student prior to commencement of due date to make arrangement.
- If certain student fails to pay remaining installment fees in due time period due to financial crisis and requires still more time. Then college permits student to extend the due period or it increase the number of installments.
- In some extreme cases the students are not able to complete their fees within their academic year, they carry forward their fees even to next academic year.

As the college is completely self financed and its all financial activities are mainly depended on fees collected from students. Sometimes the college may face deficit in its financial activities. But still college thinks for students and continues this practice for years together.

Evidence of Success: The college had taken a large number of initiatives for benefitting poor students. In each academic year students with poor family background from Arts, Commerce and Science faculty studying in our college approaches to staffs and Principal for college with

their problems in payment of college fees. The college gives the installment in their fees. On an average in every year 10-20% of total enrolled students are benefited with the installment in college fees. They are provided with provision to pay college fees in two, three or four installment according to need. Some of the students are paid their remaining fees of present academic year in next academic year also. This has benefited 10-20% students to continue their education without interruption.

Problems encountered and Resources Required

As some students are unable to repay the next installment on time, sometimes college will suffer from insufficient fund required for smooth functioning in college. So college requires mobilizing their funds from different account heading for temporary basis. With prior permission and pre-intimation to Management college utilizes its seed money for various activities until students complete their remaining fees. Under extreme condition some of the students were assisted by financial support from Poor Boys Fund of college.

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