

Best Practice: 1

Implementation of Online Admission System for Undergraduate Programme

SBMS College, Sualkuchi initiated implementation of Paperless Admission System for Undergraduate Programme as one of the best practices from the session 2019-2020. Apart from realising the vision of paperless application, the aim of implementing this system in admission process is to ensure accurate and fast computerised information along with accelerating productivity.

Objectives:

- To enhance efficiency in transacting admission
- To initiate digital transformation in office eco-system
- To limit and reduce costs concerning admission process
- To accelerate dissemination of time specific information to new aspirants

Context:

Since the inception of the college, traditional practice of admission was followed. Students applied in the physical form issued by the Office and students have to submit physically within stipulated time period. After processing the forms in the office, students were allowed to take admission. However, earlier, this process was very time consuming and lethargic. Students from remote areas had to travel to college number of times for admission purpose. To sort these issues, the institution has adopted the paperless online admission system for the students.

Practice:

A special software is procured for online admission. As the system is new for both students and guardian a special meeting was organised before initiation of whole admission procedure. To be noted that many of our ex students who are now running Internet café in the region are given due instructions beforehand to smoothen the Admission Form submission procedure. A designated help line is established with the members of office so that students facing any problem could be helped at any moment. Daily updates are posted in college information group to inform all faculty member about flows of new students into the institution. Once the last date of online form submission is over Principal of the institution called a special meeting with Head of all departments and circulated all database department wise to proceed further in the finalisation of admission. After getting data access, all HoDs prepared a selection list of students (for both honours and non honours) as per their departmental criteria. Later on office staff sent bulk messages to the selected students and selection list also published in college notice board. Selected students who wished to join into the degree programme paid the requisite fees are enrolled finally after minor modification of subjects, if needed. Again particular documents are verified of those students who got Assam government's free admission facility for parents income limit (Below one lakh per annum). It is indeed a best practice suitable for both the poles: for the institution and for the students in the context of enhancing efficiency, accuracy and cost reduction. Students though initially found the online process little bit troublesome, finally became accustomed to digital setting . It is a continuous process.

Best Practice: 2

Training Cum Workshop on *KholBadya* for the Rural Youth

Introduction:

SBMSCollege, the only higher education institution in the locality has been established on the 1st of August, 1963 arising out of the colossal undertaking of some far-fetched locals along with the timely philanthropic actions of two spiritual icons that is, Late BudramMahanta and Late MadhabMahanta. Both the saints of SreeSreeIswarHatiSatra, one of the oldest Vaisnavitecentre of Assam, advocated the Neo-Vaisnavism promulgated by SrimantaSankar Deva. The college has been titled in the sweet memories of these two great Vaishnavite saints of Sualkuchi. They donated 42 bighas of land for the cause of higher education in Sualkuchi and that is how the fruitful existence of the only higher education seat in the locality was materialised.

During summer vacation, in the year 2019-2020, our institution with the aid of SreeSreeIswarHatiSatra, organised training cum workshop on KholBadya for the rural youths. It was a 21 days programme starting from 10/7/ 2019—30/7/2019 where 32 participants participated in the programme.

Objectives:

The khol is a terracotta two-sided drum used for accompaniment with devotional music. It is also known as amridanga and is played with palms and fingers of both hands. The khol invariably dangles around the neck of the player with the help of a strap and is played with palms and fingers. The khol has a special status and deeply associated with Vaishnavite cult of Assam. It is considered as an integral part of the Ek Saran Naam Dharma culture and is used in Ankiya Bhaona (plays), Gayan-Bayan, Prasanga-kirtan and Borgeets (lyrical songs) in Assam. According to Assamese Neo-Vaishnavites, playing the khol is regarded as a holy activity and is also considered to be one of the most important traditional percussion instruments. It is also a key musical instrument that accompanies Sattriya dance performance.

The main objectives of the programme are:

- Making the learner aware about the khol as an instrument and the basic playing technique
- Knowledge of preliminary understanding of tala, laya and raag , etc
- Making the youths interested towards traditional music as well as Vaishnavite culture
- Developing the interest of the learner in the music and musical instruments associated with 'Bhakti'

Context:

Since, Sualkuchi is a religious and cultural hub of Ek Saran Naam Dharma, and our institution is erected on two pillars of Vaishnavite tradition, hence, has come forward to develop a healthy and orderly society through moral and spiritual education. In order to attract and educate rural youths of Sualkuchi towards this percussion instrument, which is also played with Borgeet, the devotional musical component composed by Shreemanta Shankar Deva and ShreemantaMadhab Deva, the workshop has been intended to focus on.

Practice:

The workshop has been materialised with 32 nos. of participants from the locality. Among them, some of our students and some of them are from the local schools. The instructor was Mr. Manoj Kr. Das who taught them was from BarpetaSatra. It is worth mentioning that

Mr. Das was conferred UstadBismillah Khan Award at national level. A vast repertoire of talas was taught. The varieties of talas which are in use in our Kirtan session were also focused in the workshop. The participants were also made accustomed to the preceding ritual, called Khol-mangol.

The training cum workshop concluded with 3 weeks long programme with a note of keeping continuity for the upcoming generations towards the traditional percussion instrument.