7.2.1 Best Practices

I. <u>Vertical Gardening</u>

A garden wall is a vertical greening typology, where a vertical build structure is intentionally covered with leaves, flowers and vegetation. A vertical garden is a technique used to grow plants on a vertically suspended panel by using hydroponics. This unique structure can either be free standing or attached to a wall. As well as being a beautiful, space saving and a sustainable addition to our cities, vertical gardens are natural air filters that helps to create a cleaner environment.

- Objective of the practice

  With the view to beautify the college campus with the given challenge of limited space and to purify the polluted air, the management has taken the unique step to erect a vertical garden. It does not just look great, but also provides a range of environmental benefits.

- Context

  Studies have shown that the surface of vertical garden can be up to 10 degrees cooler because it absorbs the heat from the sunrays and slows down air movement. The improved and cooler air benefits the students and staff members. This space saving and a sustainable addition in the college is a natural air filter which even metabolize harmful toxins like carbon monoxide, benzene, formaldehyde and trichloroethylene, creating a healthier environment for all stake holders.

- The Practice

  The plants in the gardens take the carbon dioxide out of the air and replace it with oxygen. Burhani college has built a splendid and beautiful vertical garden with a recycling waterfall in the year 2019-20. South Mumbai is a place where scarcity of land prevails in every corner. And vertical gardening could help in tackling this scarcity.

- Evidence of Success

  The improved and cooler air and a visibly enchanting view have been welcomed and appreciated by everyone who has experienced it. Beautification of the surroundings, water management, optimum use of space and purer air have all been achieved by this one step of vertical gardening.

- Problem encountered and resources required

  The cost of the vertical gardening project and requirement of skilled manpower were challenges that were overcome by the exemplary willpower of the Burhani college management.

II.   100% moderation of answer-sheets

- Objective of the practice

  In the academic year 2018-19, Burhani College Management took a vital decision of 100% moderation of answer-sheets for Degree college students. This decision was made in favour of students.

- Context:

  Answer-paper evaluation is one of the huge administrative tasks for any college. After the first round of evaluation by teachers the second round is to moderate all the answer-sheets. If there is any difference in the marks awarded by the in-house teachers and the moderator, the decision of moderator is final.

- The Practice:

  Moderation helps teachers to make dependable evidence based decisions. Moderation is the process of teachers sharing, working through and agree their understandings of expected curriculum level of student's achievement and success. It supports teachers to compare their own judgment to either confirm or adjust them.

- Evidence of success:

  Moderation improves the decisions teachers make about students' result. Teachers vary in their beliefs, understanding, expectations, experience etc. Moderation leads to consistency of judgment.

- Problems encountered and resources required:

  100% moderation calls for allocation of resources and time. Results can be delayed if any subject moderation is left incomplete by the moderator. If the moderator is less qualified or less experienced than the in-house teacher, it can distort the result. In case of large difference in marks issued by moderator, higher marks need to be assigned to the student. This criterion varies as per the institutional rules and regulations.

III.   Drive for economized use of paper

- Objective of the practice:
  As a part of environmental concern Burhani College promotes lesser usage of paper.

- Context:
  College believes in "Save Paper, Save Trees, Save Earth"

- The Practice:
  Two sided printing of documents is mandatory at College. Students and staff are motivated for e-communication and exchange of soft copy

- Evidence of success:
  Noticeable reduction in usage of paper at College

- Problems encountered and resources required:
  Lack of required infrastructure and technical skills with students.
  University norms of submission of projects in hard copy form.
  University norms of conducting examinations involve a lot of paper work.
  Increased usage of electricity and internet which resulted in increased cost and other environmental issues.