

INSTITUTE'S BEST PRACTICES

Title of Best Practice 1: 'Eradication of Non Environment Friendly Habits' of Usage of One time Usable Plastic (OTU)'.

Objectives:

- 1) Avoiding usage of Prohibited one time usable plastic.
- 2) Inculcating habits for environmental sustainability among students and society.
- 3) Awareness about government rules, fines.

The context: Andhalgaon has witnessed water blockages many times. The market of Andhalgaon is adjacent to small river 'Jam'. The vegetable sellers and other vendors are habitually throwing OTU plastic in water drainage system. Many vendors provides plastic bags to consumers. Many roadside vendors are selling poha-chivada etc. and serving in prohibited OTU thin plastic of less microns.

College efforts for creating awareness about Environment damages, diminishing qualities of land, water, air etc is challenge through discussion, guidance, posters etc. did not bring desired results.

Practice: College has identified certain probable reasons acting as an hurdles to avoid the use of OTU plastic. College created awareness among the students through slogans, guidance. College kept check on use of such products campus and outside the college and motivated the students for with voluntary participation.

Voluntary fund raising from students is new step to ensure their participation, inculcation of habits. Students raised fund of Rs. 600 through donation box kept at prominent place in college. After the required amount is collected donation box is removed. From this amount college Purchased small size steel plates & spoons. Then students along with teachers and other staff visited already identified spots and persons who are selling eateries by road side and serving their customers in prohibited Plastic Zilli. Then some guidance, counseling, request is done for avoiding the use of prohibited plastic having very low thickness. After that Steel plates and spoons donated to the road side seller by taking assurance from him / her that they will not

serve eatables in prohibited OTU. In 2019-20 college got big breakthrough in breaking ice by stopping use of prohibited OTU plastic through two roadside sellers. College continued this activity till date and motivated, helped 12-14 roadside eatery sellers.

In next phase college concentrated on vegetable market and distributed small cloth bags purchase from Mahila Bachat Gat. College last year started this activity and convinced vegetable seller to say No to OTU plastic bags. This activity gave a new ray of hope.

Evidences of Success: Students' participation created remarkable awareness at their home and neighborhood. Banner put by students near the Andhalgaon market area. As of now 14 roadside eatery sellers, from Andhalgaon and nearby villages stopped use of prohibited OTU plastics. On an average use of 100 to 150 plastics papers per sellers and around 1100 to 1500 plastic paper per day. Thus on yearly basis stopped use of around 3 to 4 lakhs prohibited OTU. It is a significant success, though it go unnoticed by others but college is satisfied and continuing this activity.

College has distributed 100 cloth bags to the vegetable sellers and to a few customers to avoid the use of prohibited OUT.

Problems encountered: To change the mind set.

Even after realization old habits not changed easily.

To ensure participation of students, staff members, and people.

Approach on person to person basis.

Resources required: Rupees 500/1000 per year for Steel plates, spoons, cloth bags and efforts of students and staff of college.

