

ManaShruthi: Enlightening rural landscapes.



IDEAL COLLEGE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

(Affiliated to University of Calicut)

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Objective of the Practice

- Cultivating a zest for reading and learning in rural regions.
- Providing accessible and high-quality educational resources and support, ensuring that more individuals in rural areas can read and write proficiently.
- Bridging educational gaps in rural areas by providing comprehensive leaning support.
- Encouraging community encouragement to support the learners in education.
- Supporting lifelong learning by promoting a culture of personal development beyond formal schooling.

The Context:

Social welfare in general and promoting literacy in particular are the central concern for the college since its establishment. Having recognized the significance gap in the educational resources in rural areas, the college initiated the project ManaShruthi to promote literacy and lifelong learning. This project targets rural areas where schools and public libraries lack essential books. Hence providing them sufficient books and educational resources must be a greatest patronage in terms of education.

The Practice:

ManaShruthi project is a dedicated effort to enrich the educational landscape of rural areas by providing sufficient books and learning materials to their schools and public libraries. Key components of this initiative include: organising book donation campaigns within the college and larger community to collect books, conducting literacy workshops to engage rural students and



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stimulate their interest in reading, encouraging students to make regular contributions to maintain the quality flow of resources.

Evidence of Success:

- ❖ Students collected more than thousand five hundred books and distributes to different rural and school libraries including GUPS School Vellanchery, KMG UP School Tavanur, GUP School Chamravattom, M. Govindan Smaraka Library Tavanur, AKMHS library and library council Ponnani.
- ❖ The initiative has received positive feedback from local communities, educators, and authorities, highlighting its impact on rural education.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- ❖ Ensuring a continuous supply of quality and useful books and educational materials remains a challenge. This challenge is compounded by limited funding and the need for content that is appropriate for the rural population. To address this, challenge students conducted different book donation drive to achieve the desired result.
- ❖ Overcoming social barriers and resistance to change in some communities requires on going effort and engagement. In many rural areas, traditional attitudes and resistance to change is the main impediment to adopt the new educational practices.
- ❖ Engaging the local community and encouraging regular library use can be difficult, especially in areas where reading and library habits are not well established. Establishing a culture of regular library use in communities, in fact is a difficult task.

Notes:



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The institution focuses on the comprehensive development of the students, preparing them to address complex social issues. The project ManaShruthi exemplifies the commitment to educational equity and community service. By promoting literacy and supporting rural education, the institution aims to empower communities and create abiding positive change.