

7.2.1 - Institutional best practices

Best Practice-I:

Blood group detection and hygiene awareness camps

The department of Microbiology and Biotechnology of the college has an active student club- 'Plasmid Club'. In biological world, plasmid means - a genome coding extra characters to the organism. Similarly the main objective of this club is also performing various extracurricular activities. The objectives of this student club are: To get acquainted with good study techniques and to make available the study resources for preparation of competitive examination. Creating cooperative environment within students and helping in expression of Students ideas, views, thoughts and enhance the interaction within students, Students- Teachers and by making available Wall magazine - BIOVISION. Making students aware of social issues such as pollution, disease awareness and importance of personal in daily life. Details of the activities of this club are available at the department website: http://www.mbbtshirpur.in/plasmid_club.php

Objectives of the Practice:

Since the college is working in rural and tribal area of Maharashtra, social and public health related issues are major problems of the region. Due to lesser literacy rate, the villages in the interior of Shirpur Taluka don't have access to preliminary health facilities. Several government residential schools are established in this area offering primary and secondary education to tribal students. However, the students from these schools as well as the tribal people of the villages have no basic understanding of personal hygiene, cleanliness, spreading of diseases and other sanitary practices.

The context:

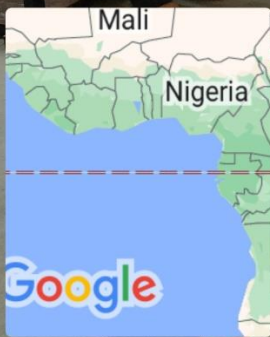
Microbiology students have basic knowledge of personal and public health importance, role of microorganisms in diseases and preventive measures to control the diseases. Moreover, the students have also primary knowledge of human blood groups, detection of blood groups and Hemoglobin content in the blood.

The practice:

Taking the advantage of their knowledge and to inculcate social zeal among the students, the department of Microbiology and Biotechnology of the college is undertaking the blood group detection and hygiene awareness camps in the Ashram Schools of nearby villages from last fifteen years on 6th August. Blood group of several thousand students and tribals were checked in this exercise. So far, the camp has been organized at 16 villages. In this activity, students of the department check the blood group of the young children. They also demonstrate importance of hand washing, bathing, nail clipping etc. Students also prepare posters highlighting the important communicable diseases, their control and treatment. During the camp, students present street plays, door to door visit and make the tribal people aware regarding various health issues. This activity has been appreciated by the media as well as by the management of the college (http://www.mbbtshirpur.in/plasmid_club.php).

This year, an activity was conducted at Nimzari, Tal- Shirpur on 12/10/2022.





Shirpur, Maharashtra, India

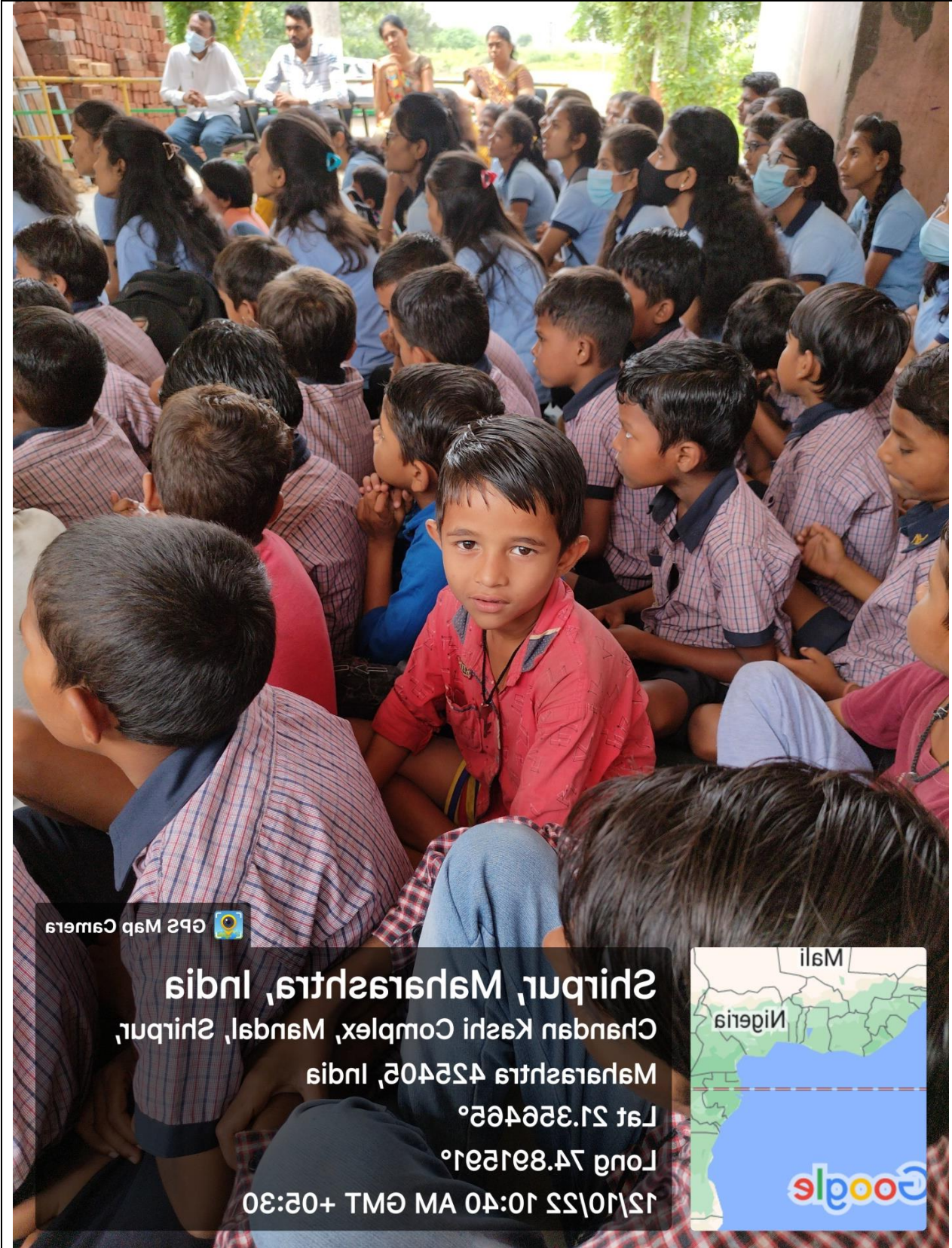
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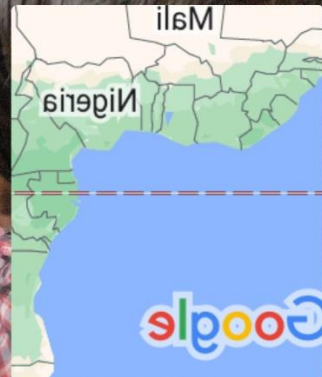
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Evidence of success:

The blood group detection and disease awareness camp run by the college has received attention of various government bodies and media. Government hospital also get involves in this drive for screening of sickle cell anaemia and other diseases. Private dentist of the Shirpur city also voluntarily join this camp and provide important information to tribals and school children regarding dental and oral hygiene. The details of number of camps, location, total number of individuals involved in the camp etc. is available at departmental website: http://www.mbbtshirpur.in/blood_group_camp.php.

Moreover, the faculty and the students proactively worked in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Students organize several rallies, media campaigning, clean campus drive etc. The Department of Microbiology coordinated the vermicomposting of solid waste in several housing societies during the Swachata Drive of Shirpur Warwade Municipal Council. The efforts of our students and faculty are appreciated by media as well as by government bodies. (Details of the practice are available at: http://www.mbbtshirpur.in/blood_group_camp.php)

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

This activity is fully run by a student club. It requires little financial support which is provided by the department from the student registration fees. However, there is tremendous scope to work on these issues especially in rural and tribal set up. More involvement of government organization and NGOs is anticipated so that the college can reach to wider group of people in remote areas.

Best Practice-II:

A Center for Study, Research and Preservation of Ahirani: A Dialect in North Maharashtra

The College has initiated the dialect preserving practice under the A Center for Study, Research and Preservation of Ahirani: A Dialect in North Maharashtra.

The Context of the Center:

The Center is set up with a view to study the dialects especially, Ahirani: A regional variant of Marathi, which is popularly spoken in the North Region of Maharashtra. The center concentrates on the study and research of the dialects and at the same time to preserve the dialects.

Objectives:

During the academic year 2021-22, the centre had the following objectives:

- To initiate the actual work of Ahirani Bhasha Shabdkosh
- To organize the field visits
- To undertake interviews
- To collect the vocabulary, idioms, phrases, etc.
- To work on finding the Marathi synonyms of the Ahirani vocabulary

Practice:

The work of collecting the Ahirani vocabulary, idioms, phrases were assigned to teachers of the faculty of Humanities. Fortunately, most of them use Ahirani as their mother tongue. It was

decided to go for the collection of words from different areas such as agriculture, social and political subjects, culture, festivals, marriage, domestic ceremonies, health, village life, the words newly derived but shaped by Ahirani etc. The faculty planned for the collection of vocabulary. As per the planning they involved the students of Humanities in the process of collection of words. The most of the students of the faculty belong to the rural area where Ahirani dialect is spoken at their household. In the first initial gatherings, teachers and students could collect the vocabulary.

In the later phase, the teams of teachers personally visited the villages and talked with the elderly persons. They talked with farmers, laymen, women, grocers, artisans, etc. in the select village. The words which are commonly used by the people and even those words which are not commonly used are noted down.

Evidence of Success:


The current year was quite eventful. The actual work of collection began at this stage. The teachers with the help of the students could collect fair number of words. The most of words are related to the fields of farming, domestic activities, and ceremonies. As Ahirani speaking communities are mainly involved in the agrarian activities, the number of vocabulary and idioms are naturally related to the farming. The ceremonies and festivals are again the integral parts of the agrarian society. So the words related to the festivals and ceremonies are also collected in considerable number.

Problems Encountered and Resource Required:

The challenge, the researchers, encountered with is the epiphany of the vastness of the project. It is a huge challenge to collect the words from all the walks of life. One more problem, the researchers came across that Ahirani is a dialect having its own dialects within it. It varies in the North Maharashtra region. It varies in the districts and at tehsil level. Even the two dialects of Ahirani are marked with the considerable distinction.

The work of collecting the vocabulary of Ahirani will continue. The further work is to select the words for dictionary and to find out the synonyms of those words and phrases in Marathi.



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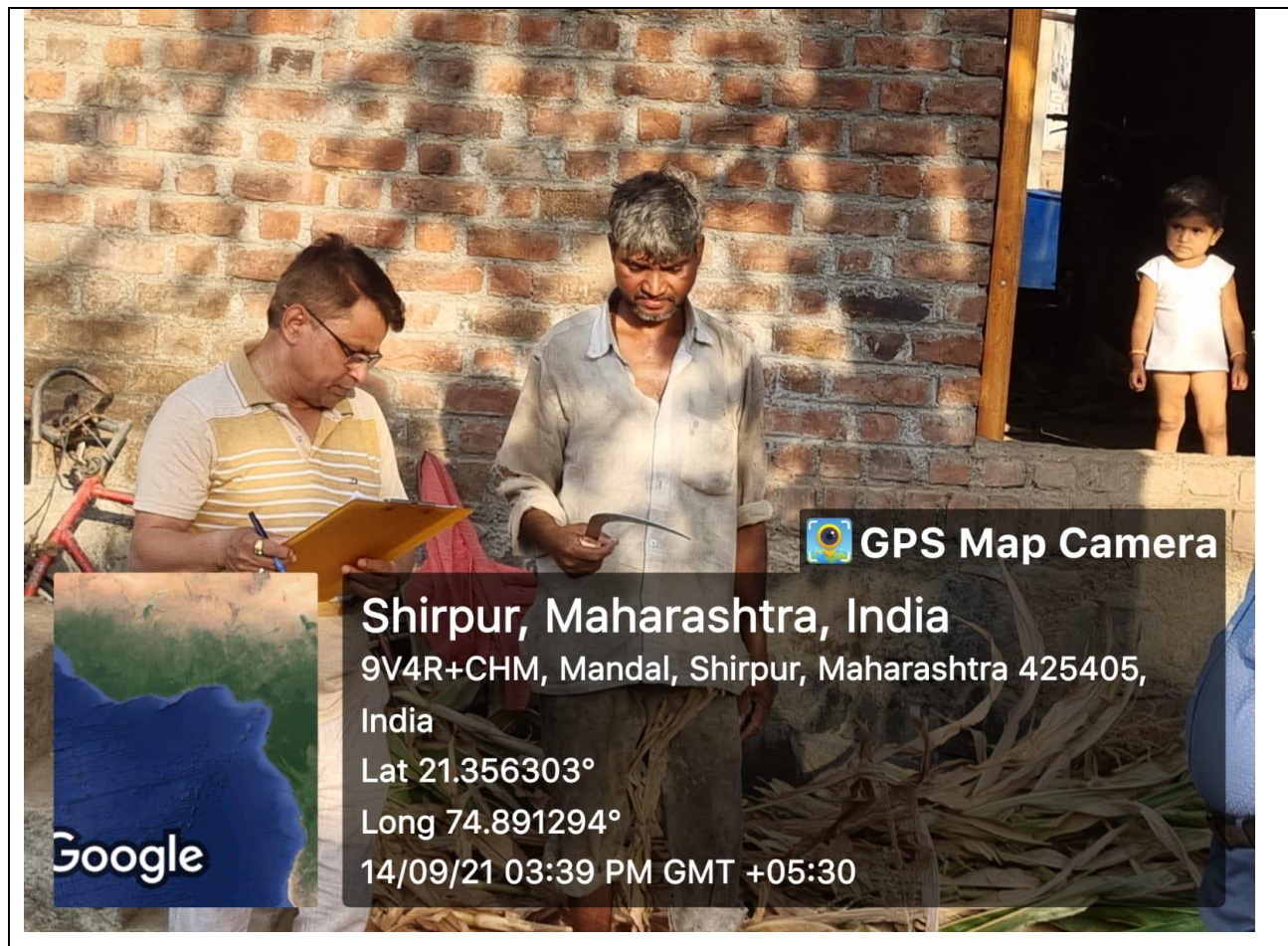
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