

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 Haemoglobin 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).

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

A Center for Study, Research and Preservation of Dialect in North Maharashtra is a newly established in the college. This center is a collaborated work that is initiated by the Faculty of Humanities.

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.

In the year 2019-20, the Center planned and initiated the work regarding the *ShabdKosh of Ahirani*. (Dictionary)

The Context of the *Ahirani Shabdkosh*:

It has been observed that in the era of globalization, the languages and the dialects in the developing and undeveloped countries are at the verge of extinct. The threat to the existence of the major languages as well as the minor languages in the wake of globalization is the direct threat to the civilization and culture of the societies which use these languages. Every language is the outcome of the age old phenomenon. A language is itself is a cultural evolution and culture is transmitted through language. Every major language is a blend of various dialects that exist within it. The dialects which are the direct sources of the major language are vanishing fast due to the spread of global foreign languages. To prevent the decay of dialect and the language itself spoken in this area, it is necessary to revitalize the dialects and regional languages through systematic study and research. This center concentrates on the study and research of Ahirani, one of the major dialects of Marathi in Maharashtra

Objectives:

- To study and conduct the research for preserving Ahirani: the dialect of Marathi
- To collect the vocabulary of Ahirani and publish it in the form of dictionary
- To study the cultural heritage with reference to Ahirani
- To create the awareness among the students and people about the linguistic legacy
- To encourage the knowledge creation and creative writing in dialects.
- To develop an Ahirani Shabdkosh.

Practice:

The Center initiated the work of developing the *Ahirani Shabdkosh*. Obviously it is an augustus enterprise. So the Center planned to collect Ahirani vocabulary systematically. The different categories were made. The vocabulary will be collected according to the different heads and sub heads. The categories and heads are determined as per the various activities, functions, festivals, expected to be collected. The broad areas like agriculture, day to day activities, Women and their

activities, marriages, ceremonies and festivals, folk arts, beliefs and traditions, etc. are chalked out.

Before actual field work, the jurisdiction is decided so that one can concentrate on the core Ahirani Speaking areas. The area which is initially located is Shindkheda, Nardana, Songir, Sakri, Shirpur, Dhule City (Dhule), Amalner, Chopda, Parola, Chalosgaon, Erondol, Pachora (Jalgaon) Shahada,(Nandurbar).

Evidence of Success:

In 2019-20, we tried to collect the general words, phrases, idioms etc.(vocabulary) with the help of students and the expert teachers and through interviews and visits. The collected material is preserved in word form so that it can be edited as per need of classification as per heading and sub headings.

Problems Encountered and Resource Required:

The center is established by the faculties of Humanities Department to take an initiative to study and undertake research to preserve the dialects in North Maharashtra especially, in the districts of Dhule and Jalgaon. The center is run in the college and fund, required for the activities is raised by the faculties and aided by the College Management. There is no financial aid from any government or non-government body.

The faculties involved in the activities are inexperienced but overcoming the inexperience by studying the functioning of the other institutions dedicated for such language study.