

Institutional Best Practices:

1. Environmental concern: an eco-friendly green campus
 2. Fostering interdisciplinary research and studies
 3. Transparent code of conduct and digitization
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Title of the Practice 1

Saving ecosystem: A need of society for sustainable development

The Context

Situated near a geographically unfavorable terrain with limited underground water and rocky bed, the University water consumption should have to be self-sustained. Sometimes even in monsoon season, it rains very little. Due to this the region is considered as drought prone area. Keeping these things in mind, the institution gives utmost priority to protect its greenery and water resources, so it is imperative to build up water table resources.

The Practice

- Zero discharge water system: not a single drop of water goes out of the campus. A perfect mechanism is developed for recycling of used water and harvesting rain water for sustainable development and restoration of ecosystem.
- Day light conservation: Minimum 30% of living area has been covered by Day light as prescribed in NBC 2005. construction throughout the campus are delicately designed to utilize most of the day light, in turns, limiting the use of electricity.
- Double toughened glass to maintain cozy environment inside the room, thus reducing electricity consumption and save the environment with a tag line '**less consumption less emission**'
- Sewage treatment plant for reuse of water and maintaining eco system.
- Heat resistant tiles (HRT) on the roof to maintain the temperature: Due the use of heat resistant tiles the university has capped the use electricity to a huge extent.
- Eco Friendly Fly Ash Bricks has been used. In addition, during the construction phase the master layout plan has been designed in such an efficient manner with almost zero deforestation.
- Use of Low VOC (Volatile Organic Compound) paints/adhesives/sealants. Minimum ozone depleting substances.
- Use of Exhaust Stack for diesel generator of height approx. 30 mtr complying CPCB norms.
- Use of green refrigerant gases in HVAC system. Further, use of VRV based HVAC system to reduce power consumption.
- Soil conservation: utilizing soil taken out during construction for plantation and leveling of uneven terrain inside the campus. Thus, saving the ecosystem and developing a divine environment for students.
- Preserve and protect landscape during construction/compensatory depository forestation.
- Automatic light in washroom to switch off when not in use.
- Use of biological materials inside the campus for plantation to avoid any use of synthetic substances in order to maintain soil fertility and ecological balance, thus minimizing pollution.
- Non-use of plastic materials inside the campus

Evidence of Success

- Creation of self-sustainable water resources.
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Title of Practice 2

Implementation of interdepartmental research activities for students and orienting faculties to foster interdisciplinary research and studies

Objective of the Practice

Providing an option to the students to select courses from the prescribed courses for developing their soft skills to face the challenges in the real world. It provides a 'cafeteria' approach in which the students can take course of their choice, learn at their own pace, study additional courses as per the current demand in the job market. This ensures a promotion of an inter-disciplinary approach for teaching and learning process.

The Context

Understanding the need and necessity of an interdisciplinary approach in research and studies, the university has initiated an interest based knowledge sharing to ascertain a proper skill development and foster multidisciplinary research activity based on one's interest. Even students are allowed to participate and contribute to it. In this regard, a mentor is allotted to each and every student to look into their interest on one to one basis and help them chose a right course and discuss innovative ideas to explore. It certainly helps the students for shaping their future and interns helps in developing a skilled workforce for future. To fertilize innovative brain by timely provided ingredients, the university ensures that the faculty are oriented to promote interdisciplinary approach through inter-departmental, inter-university and international collaborative research activity.

The Practice

- Collection and analysis of the feedbacks from various stakeholders for preparation of a concise and comprehensive action plan.
- Time to time Meeting of IQAC team for recommendations and communication thereon with the university competent authorities.
- Assigning department wise coordinators for local recommendations and/or suggestions.
- Constitution of Innovation cell for promoting and supporting innovative ideas.
- To keep abreast with the advances in their areas of research specialization, the faculty are encouraged to attend conferences organized by Professional Societies, Institutions; workshops on frontiers of science, individual training in National laboratories and premier research organizations. The University provides partial and full partial support to faculty for attending conferences. In addition, faculties are promoted to submit major research projects to National and International public funding agencies.
- To fulfil the basic requirements for such activity and improve collaboration with various national and international institutions, the University provides partial support to faculty for organizing Seminars and Conferences.
- In order to inculcate such research culture, the curricula of both postgraduate courses are tagged with Project/internship works as a complete paper in at least in 1 semester for most of the curriculum. For every student will have to take up a research project

based on his interest. A specialized supervisor in the selected field is allotted to the students for their supervision and/or guide. In this way Master student learns how to identify research problem, planning of experimental strategies, their execution, compilation data and their analysis, interpretation and logical conclusions. Moreover, during this, the students gets an ample exposure to various research laboratory and eminent scientists and scholars across the country.

Evidence of Success

- An increased number of students opting for higher education to explore their innovative ideas and contribute to the socio-economic growth of the nation.
- Regular updation of the syllabus to update recent trends.

Problem Encountered and Resource Required

The important criterion and necessary resources and/or prerequisites for achieving the goal for promoting multidisciplinary research and achieve an excellence in the field various key issues has to be keep in mind. The university experienced many issues which hinders the promotion and implementation of such activity. One of such issue is regarding inclusion of every such activity in the curriculum so that the students engage themselves and keep their zeal alive. Moreover, sometimes regional, economical, national issues and lack of sufficient fund possess a serious problem for smooth running of such activity.

Title of the Practice 3

Innovative measures and reforms taken for improving the quality of education, process of teaching and learning, bringing efficiency and transparency in administrative and financial matters, community outreach etc.

Context

Central University of South Bihar has extended its full support to Digital India initiatives and has kept its commitment supporting digitization of every branch of its functioning like Academics, Examination, Administration and Finance & Account.

The University is in the process to align its functioning in tune with the National Mission and Vision under the banners of Digital India.

The Practices

❖ Administration

- Ragging free campus: A strict norm is adhered for ragging cased inside the campus and in the hostel areas.
- A proper grievance redressal schemes is active and several committees are constituted for redressal of any cases related to sexual harassment, ethics and research based on animals and human beings, etc.,
- The University administration provides full autonomy to the faculty creating conducive ambience for research and teaching without compromising with the accountability and responsibility naturally attached with the public money. There is a strong connect between the University administration and other prime stakeholders leading to free flow exchange of ideas resulting into formulation of such policy lessen the channels and steps in reaching to a positive decision.

❖ Digital initiatives

- **Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM)**
In pursuance of *UGC (Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through SWAYAM) Regulation, 2016* Central University of South Bihar in the 15th meeting of its Academic Council held on 19th August, 2016 vide Resolution No. 31/AC-15/16 resolved to implement it and accordingly all the Head of Departments/Centers have been entrusted to identify the courses from SWAYAM Platform to be offered under different Programme keeping in view of their academic requirements.
- **National Digital Library (NDL)**
After the launch of NDL project, University has registered all its members in the NDL Portal.
Each member has received User ID and Password to access the resources.
Instructional course has also been organized in the University to acquaint students about the resources and services of the National Digital Library.
- **National Academic Depository (NAD)**
In pursuance of Government of India initiatives for digitalisation of academic awards to be known as National Academic Depository (NAD), Central University of South Bihar has established a NAD Cell and appointed a Nodal Officer for execution of Service Level Agreement with NSDL Database Management Ltd. (NDML). The University is in the process to enter into an agreement with NDML.
- **E-Shodh Sindhu consortium**
Being a member of *E-Shodh Sindhu Consortium*, more than 10000 e-journals are available to the Central University of South Bihar Library from Annual Reviews, *Springer, Taylor & Francis, Wiley-Blackwell, Oxford University Press, Project Muse, Cambridge University Press, JSTOR and Science Direct [10 subject collection from Elsevier Inc.]*.
- **Cashless Transaction Drive**
As part of promoting cashless transactions and converting India into less-cash society Central University of South Bihar within a short span of time not only adopted cashless transactions for almost all types of payments including depositions of fee by the students but also ran a massive awareness campaign for “Cashless India” from 12th December, 2016 which continued till 31st March, 2017.

Under this drive the students visited different areas in Patna and Gaya and made people aware about digital transaction through street plays, posters, banners, slogans and quiz competition. The groups of students also held the helpdesk at nearby banks for making the customers aware about the digital transaction.

Central University of South Bihar secured its place among the top ten (10) Institutions of the country in the number of registered participants under Vittiya Saksharata Abhiyan (VISAKA).

- **Improving technology-enabled training**
The University is connected with NKN and providing all modern facilities to students in class rooms and we have joined the NMEICT mission of MHRD being co-ordinated by the IIT Kharagpur to integrate all the existing digitized and digital contents across educational institutions of the nation to provide a single-window access with e-learning facility. Some other technology enables green initiatives are

- ✓ Use of ICT enabled class rooms for teaching.
- ✓ Online system of registration for examination of University
- ✓ A paperless process for issuing admit card for examination for saving paper and thus tree.
- ✓ tickets for the examinations etc., have made the process paperless and thus helped save paper

❖ **Community Outreach**

- **Community-based projects:** As a part of our course in some interdisciplinary programmes like Development Studies/Social Science, we send our students for the field work to get engaged and closely work with the community. In our curriculum, Rural Field Visit is a compulsory activity (Non-Credit) which students undertake in the first semester. Apart from this, in all the applied papers like Public Health, Rural Development, Strategies for Social Intervention etc, we send our students to the village to study and understand the problems existing in rural and urban areas which are in our vicinity. These activities are under the credit course and students earn points. For instance, as a part of Public Health course (core course, 02 credit), the current third semester students of Development Studies went to a nearby slum in Gaya to investigate the health conditions of people living in slums. They prepare interview schedule and conduct interviews and meetings with the community. We work on social innovation and creating social awareness among the community.
 - **Community development cells:** Community Development Cell has been constituted in CUSB. The Cell is working on gender equity, education, livelihood and health in neighboring regions. Five villages near Gaya have been primarily selected for village adoption programme. One village among these villages will be selected by the Committee members for various activities.
 - **Adoption of villages:** The University is located in one of the most backward regions and it is our responsibility to bridge the gap between rich and poor, rural and urban and bring transformation in the rural development of the region. University has adopted five villages near Panchanpur and it is looking into the key issues like education, health and sanitation, entrepreneurship and agriculture. It aims to uplift the nearby villages and make them self-sufficient.
 - **Assigning students to teach in nearby schools:** In a short span of time School of Education of the University has grown into an important entity to impart school education to the neighboring society by means of assigning its students in nearby schools. On our initiative, the School of Education of the University has received a letter from District Education Officer, Gaya with a copy to the Principals of Governments Schools, allowing the students of School of Education, CUSB to impart teaching in all Government Schools at Gaya. Also the School of Education has made collaborations with number of Schools at Gaya and the students of education programme are assigned to teach in these schools. Apart from that the University under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan has identified the core areas/challenges of education in five adopted villages need to be addressed towards achieving quality education and coordinator of UBA is working on this in coordination of School of Education.
- **Academics**
- The University adopts a continued and dynamic process for updating and develop the course curriculum of its existing and proposed programs through its academic

bodies like Board of Studies (BoS), Academic Council to be made relevant with the requirement of Society, Industry, Academia leading to qualitative growth in development of nation.

- Holding expert meetings and BoS to develop course structure and/or updation in the course structure of various Programmes.
- While formulating the curricula the University takes care the prevalent policies of MHRD/ UGC like common minimum curriculum for Undergraduate courses, including necessary technical and soft skills to enhance employability of graduates
- Interdisciplinary research approach is being promoted amongst the faculty members to promote a multidisciplinary research culture for innovation.
- In order to facilitate research and assist faculty member the University has formulated a Manual for Sponsored Research Project. The purpose of this manual for sponsored research projects is to make aware the faculty, administrators and staff at CUSB to the processes involved in obtaining and administering the research projects in the CUSB. This enables faculty and staff to administer and conduct externally funded research projects in a time bound manner in accordance with the University policies as well as funding agency norms.
- As a policy Central University of South Bihar also encourages the members of its faculty/Administrative staff to increase their academic interaction within the country and abroad. To ensure and facilitate such activities, particularly to have active academic exposure and to improve the professional networking among peers through academic events such as conferences, seminars etc., the University offers financial support through the recommendation of **Teacher Deputation Committee (TDC)**.
- Mediation center: A need to relax the stress and contribute in nation building with full strength

Evidence of Success

- Stress free campus with negligible numbers of complaints.
 - Improved success rate of the students due to creative and innovative teaching.
 - Administrative workflow with minimal paper work
 - Reduction in the paper used thus saving the tree and ecosystem.
 - Increased number of project proposals submitted to various funding agencies.
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