



ASANSOL GIRLS' COLLEGE

(GOVT. SPONSORED)

Affiliated to The Kazi Nazrul University
Dr. Anjali Roy Sarani, Asansol - 713304



Best Practice

Best Practice 1

- **Title of the Practice: EARN WHILE LEARN (EWL)**
- **Objective:** AGC believes in the capacity building of its students. With this aim, the college has taken many initiatives and practices. **Earn While Learn** is one of them. This practice aims to empower the students economically while continuing their studies.
- **The Context:** NEP 2020 promotes a holistic and skill-oriented curriculum that goes beyond traditional rote learning. This curriculum reform benefits girls by equipping them with practical skills that are relevant in various fields. It encourages critical thinking, problem-solving, and creative abilities, empowering girls to excel academically and professionally. In other words, NEP focuses on capacity building and empowerment. A.G.C. provides scope for capacity building and empowerment in the form of providing vocational training to the students and enabling them to earn and learn simultaneously.
- **The Practice:** EWL has been initiated as a best practice in the form of two Certificate Courses viz., a) Certificate Course on **Tailoring and Embroidery**, and b) **Certificate Course on Art and Craft**. The Certificate Course on **Tailoring and Embroidery** is conducted by Rinku Biswakarma, Chandrakala Sharma, and Puja Sharma under the supervision of the Course Coordinator Prof. Gouri Ghosh. The **Certificate Course on Art and Craft** has been organized in collaboration with Fevicryl. The course was conducted by Ms. Aparna Mukherjee under the watchful eyes of its Course Coordinator Prof. Gouri Ghosh. Students enrolled in these courses are expected to acquire the various skills and techniques of tailoring and embroidery, art and craft. Upon successful completion of these courses, AGC provides scope to showcase their skills and sell their products by arranging various exhibitions.
- **Evidence of success:** EWL is a successfully running practice. It has received an overwhelming response from the students. The college now intends to set up a space devoted entirely to these hand-crafted products made by its students so that potential buyers can easily locate them. AGC in a bid to promote the artworks of the students arranged an exhibition cum sale of these on 1st June 2022, where the students not only displayed their works but also managed to sell some of their creations. For instance, students like Sudeshna Bauri, Payel Paul, and Tanushree Nayak sold their products for about Rs. 890, 1940, and 840 respectively. For the last two years AGC students have been exhibiting their handiworks at the Government sponsored Paschim Barddhaman Book Fair with much success. In the 2023 Paschim Barddhaman Book Fair five students of AGC sold products of about Rs 3,785.
- **Problems Encountered and Resources Required:** At present with the increase in demand from the students, the infrastructure like the number of sewing machines etc., needs to be augmented. Hence, both the courses need more funding.

Best Practice 2

- **Title of the Practice: ACADEMIC INNOVATION AND RESEARCH**
- **Objective:** Research activity is an integral part of the higher education institutes. It is essential for developing the spirit of inquiry and critical thinking among academics. To develop all these qualities among its students AGC has introduced Academic Innovation and Research Activity as its best practice.
- **The Context:** AGC constantly encourages the faculties and students to strive for excellence in Academics, Innovation, and Research. AGC believes that research environment and skill are equally needed for undergraduate students to inculcate the spirit of innovation, inquiry, and critical thinking among them. In this context, AGC felt the need to present a healthy environment for academic innovation and research activities.
- **The Practice:** AGC has a **Research Consultancy Committee**. On 12th December 2019, the Committee was formed and started functioning immediately. Based on the proposals submitted by the different departments, funds of about one lakh rupees are allocated by the college to the departments, who get one whole year to complete their proposed research projects. The most striking feature of this practice is the active involvement of students in these projects. The students under the guidance of their teachers participate in these research projects by handling primary sources, preparing questionnaires, conducting field surveys, collecting data, arranging interviews, collecting specimens, etc. This practice not only develops the critical thinking ability of the students but also helps to develop a kind of cooperative relationship between the teachers as project investigators and the students as research assistants. The teachers also develop their skills regarding supervision of the research project and students develop a sense of creativity and innovative qualities in them.
- **Evidence of Success:** A sum of one lakhs of rupees was released for research activities in the first cycle of the grant. The Department of History completed and submitted its Minor Research Project on **‘Shiva Gajan, Del or Gambhira the Spring Rite of Rural Bengal’**. Some students of the department were selected as research assistants, who successfully conducted their field survey in two villages of Purulia district and interviewed both the participants of Gajan rituals and the onlookers. In the second cycle of the research grant, five departments- History, Economics, Hindi, Nutrition, and English are on the verge of submitting their projects. In the third cycle of grants, the Mathematics, Zoology, History, Commerce, and Chemistry departments have submitted their research proposals and grants have been sanctioned to them. Till now the Committee has achieved success as responses from the majority of departments are spontaneous. The tempo of research activities slowed down due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdowns; however, activities resumed with the return to normal situation. One positive impact of this practice is that

many of our faculties are also on the editorial boards of internationally acclaimed journals. Some collaborative research projects in the near future are expected.

- **Problems Encountered and Resources Required:** Nevertheless, for some disciplines, especially, science subjects research funds must be increased to produce quality research. The research facilities like library facilities and laboratory equipment for science-based subjects like Physics, Chemistry, and Microbiology need to be modernized and augmented. Awareness about the importance of research activities must be spread among the students for more participation of the students.

