TITLE OF THE PRACTICE-1: Extension of Chemistry Laboratory for the welfare of farmers; "SOIL TESTING AT NO COST".

1. OBJECTIVES OF THE PRACTICE:

- 1. To Reduce the financial burden on farmers by providing free soil testing services.
- 2. To counsel the farmers in the region to reduce production costs and increase crop yield.
- 3. To empower farmers to make informed decisions about their agricultural practices.
- 4. To raise awareness among farmers about the significance of soil health and its impact on agricultural productivity through hands-on experiences.
- 5. To Promote sustainable farming practices for long-term soil health and environmental conservation.
- 6. To facilitate research on soil composition and agricultural innovations and contribute to environmentally friendly practices.
- 7. To bridge the gap between academic knowledge and real-world agriculture and support regional agricultural development.
- 8. To create a comprehensive soil database for the region and enhance the institute's reputation for societal welfare and sustainable development.
- 9. To Encourage knowledge exchange between higher educational institutes and local farmers.
- 10. To enhance the skills of students and laboratory staff in soil testing and interpretation of results.
- 11. To Contribute to the overall welfare and prosperity of farmers in the region.

UNDERLYING PRINCIPLE OF THE PRACTICE:

The practice is based on the principles of accessibility, sustainability, and knowledgesharing. The practice aims to ensure that farmers, particularly those with limited resources, can access essential information about their soil health.

2. THE CONTEXT:

The soil is the most essential component of agriculture. Soil testing provides essential information about the composition and fertility of the soil. It helps farmers, researchers, and agricultural experts make informed decisions about crop selection, fertilizer application, and soil management practices. However, the farmers neglect this important aspect resulting in increased production costs and decreased crop yield.

The initiative aims to support the welfare of farmers in the region by providing them with free soil testing services. The initiative allows farmers to submit soil samples and receive comprehensive analyses of their soil's health, nutrient content, pH balance and potential contaminants. The practice fosters a strong relationship between the institute and the local farming community, empowers farmers with scientific knowledge about their soil's health to make informed decisions about fertilizer application and crop selection, contributes to enhancing agricultural productivity, and promotes eco-friendly agriculture practices.

3. THE PRACTICE:

- 1. The institute established a specialized soil testing facility in the chemistry laboratory to analyse soil samples and assess their nutrient levels and composition. The process/ practice involves following steps.
- 2. The institute has prepared a brochure about the initiative and how to collect soil samples from the field.
- 3. The brochures are distributed among the farmers through students admitted to the college who belongs to rural villages in the region.
- 4. The farmers accordingly collected the soil sample from their fields and brought it to the chemistry lab for soil analysis.
- 5. The soil samples received are analysed by the staff and students using soil testing kits and a standard method of analysis.
- 6. The reports are prepared and farmers are asked to come on the nearest possible date on which they are counselled about crop pattern, and the type and dose of fertilizer based on the soil analysis report.
- 7. The soil analysis initiative at no cost conducted has proven to be a beneficial endeavour for farmers in the region.
- 8. The soil analysis initiative yielded significant outcomes. A total of 58 farmers in the region availed of this service.

Limitations/Constraints faced by the institute in implementing the practice includes;

- 1. Financial burden on the institute due to soil testing at no cost.
- **2.** Delays and possible backlogs due to increased demand from farmers during the crop season and limited capacity of laboratories to handle soil samples.
- **3.** Challenge to maintain accuracy and quality while handling a higher volume of samples.
- **4.** Challenge to promote awareness among farmers about no-cost soil testing service and gain their trust.
- 5. Challenge to develop effective outreach programs to reach farmers in remote areas to inform them about the availability of service.

4. EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS:

- 1. Increased number of farmers availing of the service signifies its popularity and effectiveness.
- 2. Information received from farmers about higher crop yields and improved agricultural productivity.
- 3. Positive feedback and testimonials from satisfied farmers reinforce the program's impact.
- 4. Reduced fertilizer expenses for participating farmers support the success of the program.

5. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED:

- 1. The farmers are very much reluctant upon soil testing.
- 2. The farmers do not want to change their traditional method of agriculture.
- 3. Resource constraints, such as fund and staff availability, to handle an increased workload.
- 4. High volume of soil samples leads to delays in providing results to farmers.
- 5. Require effective communication and outreach strategies to ensure widespread participation.

Resources required in implementing the practice includes:

Soil testing equipment, essential chemicals, skilled technicians, and fund to implement the practice at no cost.







सर्व शेतकरी बांधवांना कळविण्यात येते की, अमोलकचंद महाविद्यालय, यवतमाळ येथील र्धावनशास्त्र प्रयोगशाळेत माहे एप्रिल व मे मध्ये विनामूल्य माती परीक्षण उत्तकम राबविष्यात येत आहे. शेतकच्यांना आपल्या शेतातील मातीच्या नयून्यावरून माती चे आरोग्य, मायकोन्यूट्रियन्ट्स, सामू, रासायनिक घटक इ. बाबत वैज्ञानिक चाचणीद्वारे माहिती देण्यात येईल. माती परीक्षण अहवाव पिकांची निवड, शेतीची उत्पादकता व उत्पन्न वाढ तसेच रासायनिक खते, कीडनाशके इ.चे व्यवस्थापन व शाश्वत शेती करण्यासाठी उपयोगी पडेल.

शेतकरी बांधवांनी या संधीचा अवश्य फायदा घ्यावा असे आवाहन करण्यात येत आहे.

मातीचा नमुना गोळा करण्याची पध्दतः

- मातीचा नमुना गोळा करण्याची पश्दतः > शेतातील ओली जागा. पाणी साचून राहणारी जागा. झाडाखालील जागा. कचरा व खत टाकण्याची जागा. जनावरांची बसण्याची जागा है. ठिकाणच्या मातीचा नमूना थेऊ नये. > साधारण पाच एकरापर्यतच्या श्रोतात वरील जागा सोडून श्रेताचे चार कोपरे व मध्यभाग येथील मातींचा नमूना गोळा करावमाचा आहे. > शेताची वरीलप्रमाणे निवडलेली जागा हाताने खडे व गोटे सरकवून स्वच्छ करावी. > साधारण सहा इंचाचा खड्ढा करावा. खड्ढ्याचा आकार इंग्रजीच्या V आकारासारखा असावा. > खड्ढ्यातील माती बाहेर छाढून फेकुन खाती. > खड्ढ्याताचा करोती वरपासून खालपर्यंव माती खसवून साधारण दोन ओंजळ भरतील एवढी माती एक टोप्प्यात जमा करावी. > वत्रेल प्रमाणे वर नमुद्र केलेल्या जागेची माती गोळा करावी. > सर्व माती एकत्र केल्याव बोटाने चार भाग करावे. > सर्व साती एकत्र केल्याव बोटाने चार भाग करावे. > दरलेली माती निट एकत्र करून त्यातील खडे, गोटे, काडी. कचरा वेगळा करावा व माती हाताने बारीक करावे. > मतीताचा नमूना लासटीकच्या स्वच्छ पियावीमध्ये भरुन त्यात. स्वतःचे नाव, पत्ता, योत सर्वे नंबर लिहीलेला फागद टाकून. तेऱ्याने पियावी घट्ट बंद करावी. > पिखतीला पाण्याचा संपर्क होणार नाही याची काळजी प्यावी.



प्राचार्य अमोलकचंद महाविद्यालय, यवतमाळ.

TITLE OF THE PRACTICE-2: Supply of stationeries on concession.

1. **OBJECTIVES OF THE PRACTICE:** The objectives/intended outcomes of the best practice titled " **Supply of stationeries on concession.**" are as follows:

- 1. To make stationeries items more affordable for students by providing them on concession.
- 2. To support students in their academic pursuits.
- 3. To ensure that stationeries items are easily accessible to all students.
- 4. To create a conducive learning environment. Students can focus on their studies without worrying about the availability/cost of stationeries items, ultimately enhancing their academic concentration and productivity.
- 5. To help reduce some of the financial burden on students.

The underlying principles of the practice includes:

The supply of stationeries on concession aligns with the principle of fairness and equal opportunity, financial support to students and academic inclusivity.

2. THE CONTEXT:

Expenditure on higher education is increasing day by day and it has been observed that, the significant number of students stop their education due to financial issues. The majority of the students enrolled in the college belongs to rural, tribal and economically weaker section of the society. In order to reduce the financial burden of students on education, the institute has decided to supply necessary educational materials like practical books and assessment copies on concession rates. The practice aims to alleviate financial burdens on students and promote a conducive learning environment. The practice, is a proactive step towards enhancing student welfare, academic success, and promoting inclusivity in the educational landscape.

In implementing the practice, the following contextual features are addressed.

- 1. Conducted the survey of the financial background of the students and their ability to afford stationeries at regular market rates.
- 2. Involved various stakeholders such as students, faculty, administration, and suppliers in the decision-making process.
- 3. Established partnership with reputed supplier who agreed to provide the required quality products on concession.
- 4. Developed an efficient distribution system to ensure easy access to stationeries to avoid time-consuming or cumbersome process.
- 5. Established mechanisms to monitor the effectiveness of the program such as feedback from students and faculty, and to ensure the continuous supply of stationeries on concession in the long term.
- 3. **THE PRACTICE:** The institute has entrusted responsibility of implementing this practice to Amolakchand Mahavidyalaya employee's cooperative consumer store. The implementation of practice involved the following steps;
- 1. The employee's cooperative consumer store of the institute displayed the notice for students regarding supply of stationeries on concessional rates.

- 2. The tenders/quotations are called from local suppliers taking into account the number of students admitted in the college under the terms and conditions set by the consumer store.
- 3. The Executive body of the Employee's Co-operative Consumer store approved the tender of Vyankatesh Book Depot, Yavatmal who has quoted the lowest rates (about 25% less than the market rate) and quality products.
- 4. The supplier set up a stall for sell of stationeries in the campus.
- 5. As per the agreement, the vendor sells the stationeries to the students at a rate of 20% less than the market rates.
- 6. Overall, the students get benefitted by Rs.2 lacs to Rs.2.5 lacs every year through this practice, and consumer store earned Rs.30000/- that is utilised to cover expenses of this activity. During this academic year,3500 students benefitted by the initiative.

4. EVIDENCES OF SUCCESS:

- 1. The Positive feedback from students and staff indicate appreciation for the support provided.
- 2. The supply of stationeries on concession helped to eliminate access barriers for students who did not have the financial capacity.
- 3. The supply of stationeries, promoted inclusivity and ensured that all students have equal opportunities to succeed academically.
- 4. The availability of stationeries on concession has contributed to increase students' engagement in the learning process.

The limitations/constraints faced by the institute in implementing this practice includes:

- 1. The additional fund to supply stationeries on concession.
- 2. A logistical challenge to maintain a consistent supply of stationeries.
- 3. The practice addresses only a specific aspect of financial burdens faced by students.

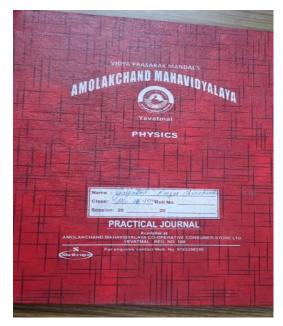
7. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED:

Some problems that are encountered while implementing the practice includes:

- 1. Identify reliable and cost-effective vendor/supplier.
- 2. Establish an efficient system for distribution of the stationeries.
- 3. Maintain the sustainability and longevity of the programme.

The resources required to implement the best practice includes:

Fund to provide the stationeries at a concessional rate, a mechanism to coordinate the implementation, reliable and cost-effective stationery vendors, an information system to distribute the stationeries and a feedback mechanism to measure the impact and effectiveness of the practice.





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