

Best Practices of Phek Government College, 2018-2023

Phek Government College as a premier institution of higher education, has adopted best practices which are in tandem with its vision of providing quality education and holistic development of its students. These practices reflect the vision and values of the institution to empower its students to be productive agents of change in the society, at the same time these practices also emanate from the cultural and social specificities of the students and the institution. Some of the best practices of the college include provision of special scholarships such as, Special Merit Scholarship, Special Merit Scholarship for General Category/OBCs and SCs Students, L.Mefutiba Merit Award, mentoring program, remedial classes, teacher-student synergy for a green campus, promotion of skill development, etc. Departmental best practices include conduct of study tours, cash award and Certificate of Recognition given to topper in Education honours, identification of a plant in the campus every month, conduct of mock Parliament, publication of Athenaeum, water quality analysis in the campus, artefacts gallery, word of the week, Best library visitor, etc.

Two notable best practices of the college are highlighted as under:

1) Teacher-student Synergy for a Green Campus

Phek Government College is located in a sprawling 38-acre land, surrounded by lush greenery and rich vegetation. The teacher-student synergy for a green campus gives ample scope for the institution to develop and sustain its best practice of preserving the environment. Environmental preservation and sustainability have become critical issues in our world today. As such, the college as an institution of higher education has an added responsibility of making teachers and students co-partners in the preservation of the environment.

The institution has adopted Teacher-Student synergy for a green campus with its commitment to maintain the pristine and green environment of the campus, as well as to preserve the ecology. As per the practice, the teachers and students of the college are engaged in maintaining the cleanliness and hygiene of the college, nurturing and taking care of the plants and flowers, etc. Toward this end, the Eco and Sanitation Club of the college have assigned the students in

different groups. Each group is placed under 4-5 teacher in-charges and they are responsible for nurturing the plants and flowers in the allotted plots.

Over the last five years, the institution has undertaken various activities towards the promotion of a green campus. The teachers, staffs and students of the college have been engaged in major green landscaping of the college by planting trees, flowers, digging compost pits, cleaning the surroundings etc at regular intervals. The Eco and Sanitation club along with the NSS often organizes social work in the college. On social work days, all the students are engaged in cleaning the college and its surroundings, tending to the flower gardens, weeding and pruning etc. The institution also has a Botanical Garden which is overseen by the Department of Botany and two polyhouses which are taken care by faculty in-charges along with the students. The Department of Botany also identifies a plant species in the campus every month as part of its departmental best practice. In addition to these activities, awareness among the students is also generated through an environmental science paper and field trips, as well as commemoration of important days such as World Environment Day etc.

The Teacher-student Synergy for a Green Campus has proved to be a significant best practice of the institution. The success of the practice can be seen in the manner in which the greenery of the campus is maintained. The practice has infused in the students as well as the teachers and staff of the college, a sense of collective responsibility towards caring for the environment. As a result of the practice, the college is green, clean and tidy. It also has the advantage of being located in a plastic-free town. As such, the college is litter-free and hygiene is well-maintained. Phek Government College was awarded the District Green Champion Certificate by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, for the academic year 2021-22 in recognition of its efforts in successfully elevating the Swachhta Action Plan, and implementing best practices in the areas of sanitation, hygiene, waste management, water management, energy management and greenery management.

Owing to the topography of the district in which the institution is located, landslides remain a challenge to the best practice especially during torrential monsoon season. Additional funds are required to procure resources to conduct further initiatives such as setting up herbarium etc. Machinery, manpower and building materials are required to solve the problem of loose soil and landslides.

Some of the major activities undertaken as part of the best practice are:

1. On 2nd September and 29th September, 2018, mass social work were conducted in the college where the students engaged in cleaning the natural surroundings of the campus and the whole administrative blocks and buildings within the college premises.
2. The institution, in keeping with its pursuit of preserving the environment, observed World Environment Day by planting trees, and cleaning the campus on 5th June, 2018
3. On 7 September, 2019, the NSS organised social work. All the students were assigned different works, and the teachers and nonteaching staff were entrusted with different responsibilities.
4. The Eco and Sanitation Club of the college conducted a one-day flower plantation drive on 9th August, 2019. It also organised social work on 16th March 2019, 6h July 2019 and 21st September 2019.
5. Phek Government College, in collaboration with NIT Nagaland and GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment, Uttarakhand, sponsored by National Commission on Himalayan Studies conducted a one-day workshop on "Sensitization and Developing a Cadre of Para-hydrologist on Spring-Shed Management" on 31st August, 2022.
6. Phek Town Council and administrators organized an awareness program on Waste Management on 4th March, 2022 in the college premises.
7. On 23rd April, 2022, the college participated in the PTCSU 18th Sanitation phase from clock tower to local ground, Phek town, under the banner "One strength, One Voice."
8. On 5th May, 2022, 8th July, 2022 and 29th October the college organized mass social work days.
9. On 4th June, 2022, the college participated in mega tree plantation drive commemorating the World Environment Day under the initiative of the District Administration, Phek.
10. On 8th August, 2022, a mass social work was conducted as per the directive of the District Administration, in commemoration of 75th year of India's Independence.
11. A field study trip-cum-cleanliness drive was organized by the teachers and students of environmental studies of the college, in Mt. Kapamodzu, Phek district, on 26th August, 2022. The main purpose of the trip was to study the vegetation and also to create awareness about the importance of conservation of environment and ecotourism.

12. National Science Day was organized by the Science Club of the college under the theme, "Integrated Approach in Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future" on 28th February, 2022.
13. In commemoration of World Environment Day on 5th June, 2023 a plantation drive was organized by the Eco and Sanitation Club in the campus with faculty, staff, and students' executives. The club received 57 indigenous tree saplings free of cost from the Forest department; the principal donated some ornament plants. Altogether more than 100 trees saplings were planted in the campus.
14. On 19th July, 2023, a mass social work was conducted along with faculty, students, and staff.

2) Promotion of skill development

Promotion of skill development is a valued best practice of the college. Over the years, students have been encouraged to hone their artistic skills and traditional craftsmanship through various activities. The activities for the promotion of skill development have been formalized through the Skill Development Club of the college. The Skill Development Club is supervised by faculty in-charges along with the student representatives. The emphasis of the Skill Development Club is on 100 per cent handcrafted products and as such, the activities of the club centers around the production of local handicrafts such as *muras*, *daos*, baskets, knitted items, wooden baskets, plates and cups, embroidered pillow and cushion covers, table mats etc. There is overall participation of the students in these activities. These handcrafted products are put up for sale in stalls during Republic Day and Independence Day celebrations in the district. The students also organizes exhibition-cum-sales day wherein their products are exhibited and also put up for sale. Income which is generated through these sales is utilized for further activities.

The institution provides a skill development room wherein students gather and engage in making various handcrafted products. Their handicrafts are put up on display in the skill centre. All these activities are conducted at regular intervals every year. The items produced by the students are collected every year, put up for display or sold during red-letter days and sales day.

Promotion of skill development as a best practice of the college has been extremely beneficial not only to the students but also to the community at large. This best practice has

ensured that the traditional knowledge system of craftsmanship is preserved for posterity. It has sensitized the students to be responsible bearers of their traditions and culture. There is awareness among the students that their rich cultural craftsmanship is very unique and hence, needs to be preserved in an era in which the rich cultural traditions are dying out.

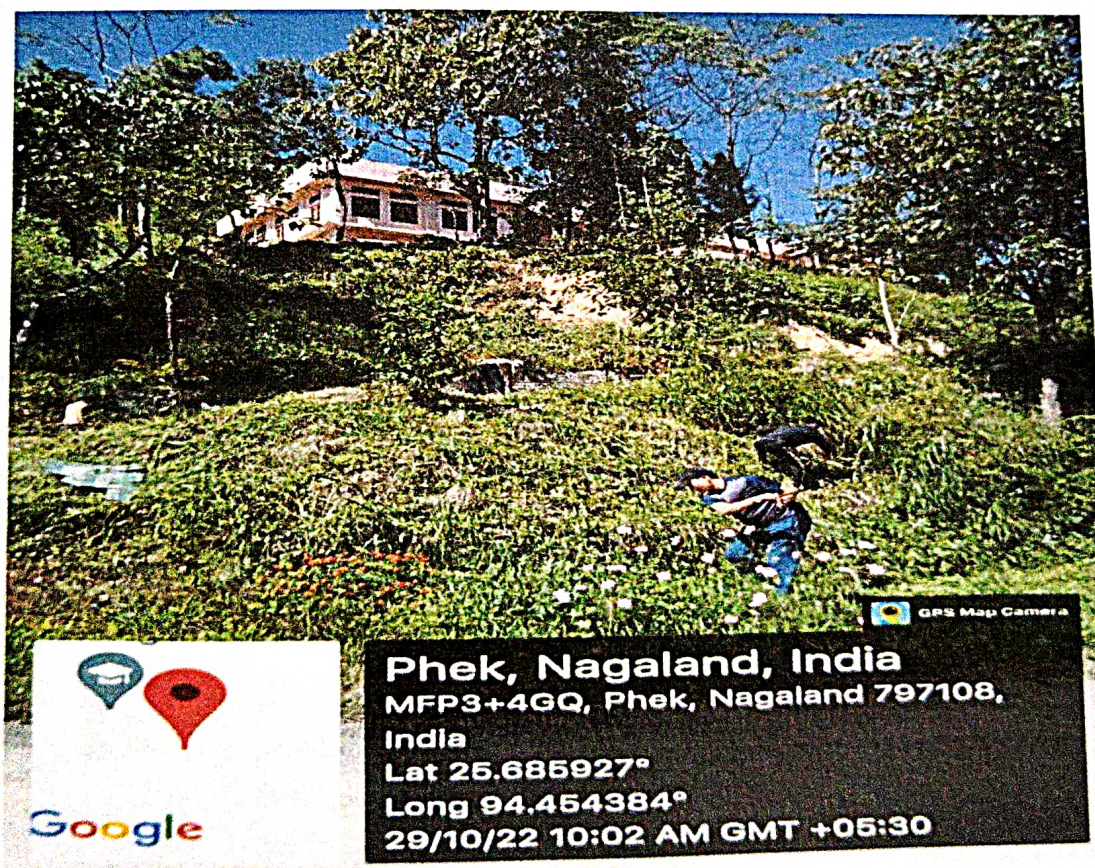
The success of this best practice can also be seen in the manner in which the skills of the students have been honed and diversified. There is an enthusiasm and interest among the students to further improvise on their skills. For instance, the students of the college are skilled in weaving shawls and mekkelas, an art which is gradually dying in an age of globalization. Handcrafted products which are reminiscent of bygone generations are made by the students with much zeal and interest.

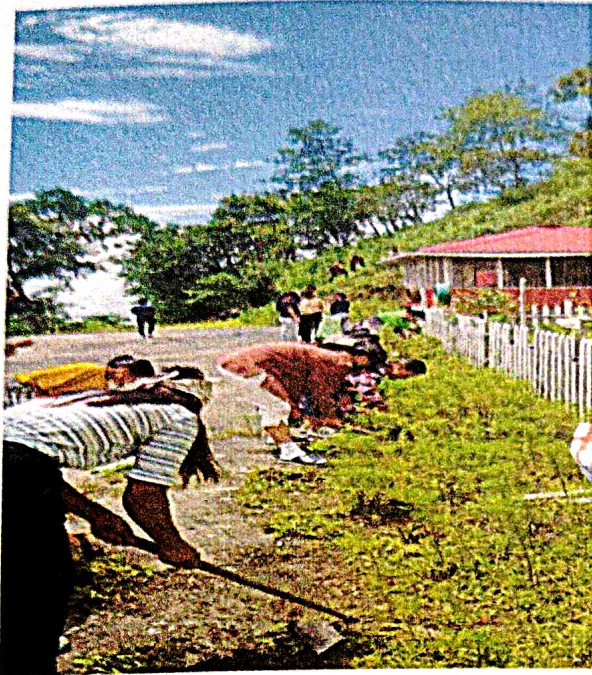
This best practice of the college has certain challenges. Due to paucity of funds, sufficient materials for all the students cannot be provided. Promotion of skill development can also be augmented by the provision of more specialized tools and equipments through which the students can improvise on their skills. The remote location of the institution also poses a challenge to the availability of ready tools and materials. More resources in the form of equipments and tools, and funds are required to make this best practice a platform for generating employment avenues and opportunities.

- 1) One of the notable achievements during the academic year 2019-2020 is setting up a gallery in the college library under the theme 'Promotion of Skill Development' in February, 2019. The students handcrafted the products which were collected and displayed in the gallery. The products consisted of traditional bamboo basket, decorative wooden house, hand-knitted caps, socks and mufflers, embroidered pillow covers, wooden table and spoons, daos, framed pencil sketches, hand-woven Naga bags, apron, hand painted canvas bags, wooden wall decorative piece, chopping block, weather shield, sieving tray, planters and multipurpose mat. Towards the end of the academic year, the students were also asked to submit their handcrafted products, which were then displayed in the gallery.
- 2) On 15 August, 2019, during the Independence Day celebration in Phek district, the students set up a stall where they displayed and sold their handicrafts. The students also prepared local cuisines for sale.

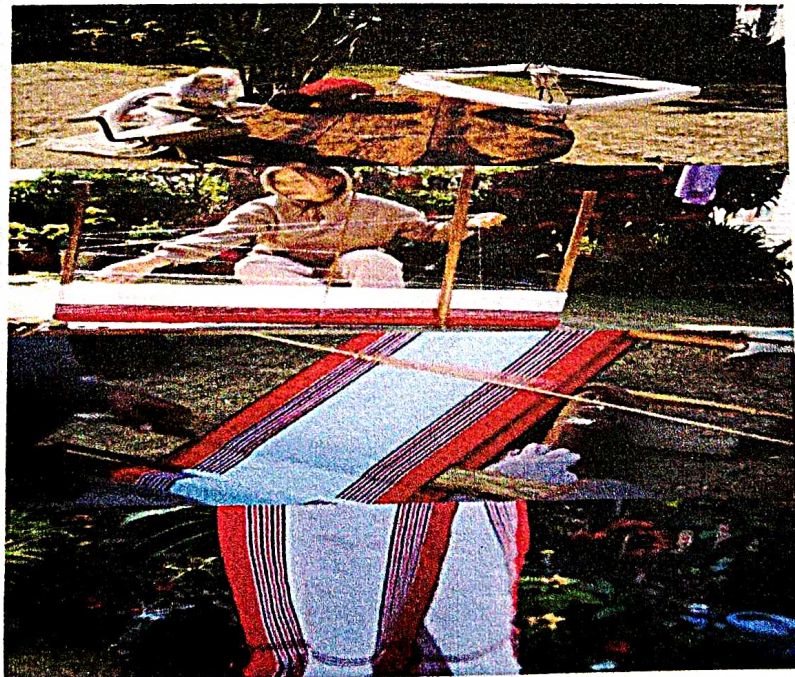
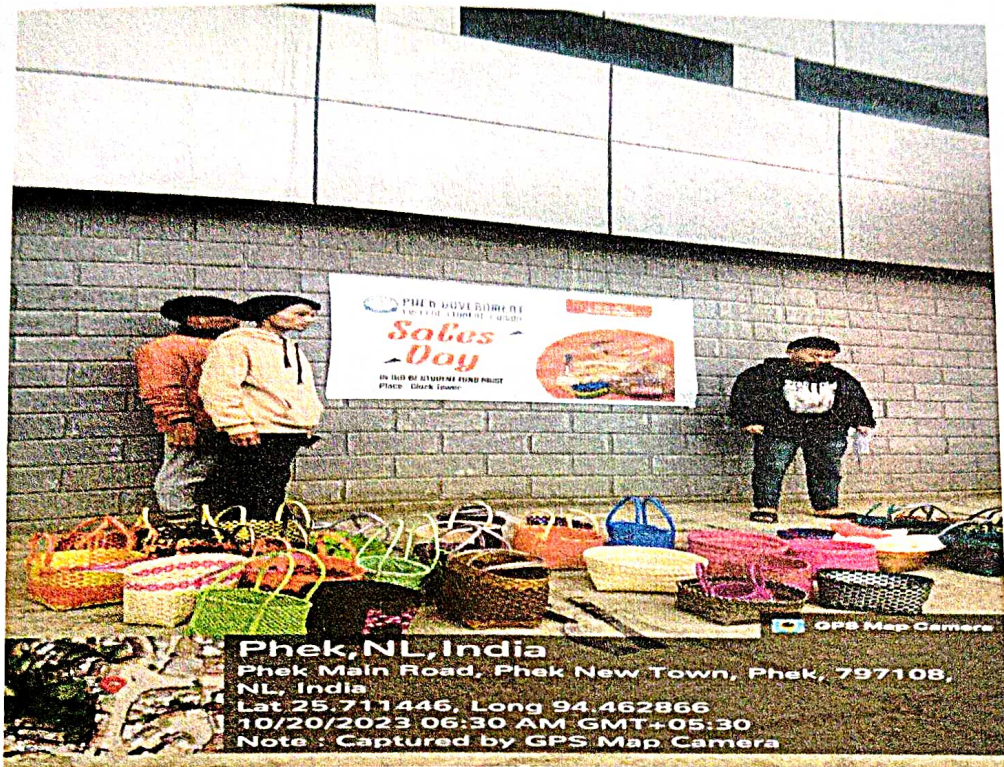
- 3) In the year 2022, the students engaged in making local handicrafts such as baskets, daos, knitted items, pillow cases, wooden tables and decorative items etc. these were collected, displayed and put up for sale during the fete day organized by the college on 24th September, 2022, in Phek local ground.
- 4) The club collected handicrafts and art works from the students and organized a fete day at Local Ground Phek on 24th September 2022.
- 5) On 12th October, 2023, the Skills Development Club in collaboration with the Students Union of the college collected handicrafts and art works to be displayed at the artifact gallery of the college.

Best Practices pictures



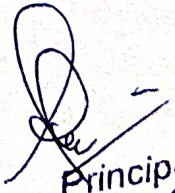











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