

Adarsha Comprehensive College of Education & Research, Pune- 4.

B.Ed. 2018-2019

Best Practice 1

Title of the Practice: Programme for pre-service teachers for teaching school subjects using 'ESA model' and their teaching competency

Objectives of the Practice:

1. To develop a programme for pre-service teachers for teaching school subjects using 'ESA model' and present it in a form of a product (handbook).
2. To implement the programme and take a feedback from the teacher educators and the pre-service teachers regarding the programme.
3. To evaluate the teaching competency of the pre-service teachers in terms of designing the lesson plans and classroom performance using rubrics and compare it with their reflections.

The Context:

The pre-service teachers after the 2017-2018 academic year, suggested in their feedback that 'Activity related to Experiential learning can be conducted in the college' and that 'Orientation and training regarding additional models of teaching' be organized for the students, which are beyond the prescribed B.Ed. syllabus. Hence, the Principal of the college, Dr. Lalita R. Vartak decided to develop a training programme for the first year B.Ed. students of the academic year 2018-2019 based on the Engage-Study-Activate (ESA) Model of teaching. This model is based on experiential learning. The practice was planned and implemented as a research project, which was also submitted to National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) under 'Innovation in Teacher Education for Pre-service teachers.'

The Practice:

- ✦ **Development of the programme:** A programme was developed by the Principal of the college to train 30 pre-service teachers in using the ESA model of teaching during their school lessons.
- ✦ **Finalization of the programme:** Quantitative and qualitative feedback was taken from the experts (who were teacher educators) using the feedback sheet regarding the

developed programme. The opinion score was calculated based on the quantitative analysis of the responses given by the experts and the programme was finalized.

- ✦ **Implementation of the programme:** The programme was implemented on the pre-service teachers over the period between December, 2018 to January, 2019. The programme included topic like: Background of the ESA model, Steps for implementation of the ESA model, Guidelines for developing lesson plans based on the ESA model, Sample lesson plan and details about rubrics used in the assessment of the developed lesson plans.
- ✦ **Taking feedback and analysing the data:** Feedback sheets, rubrics and reflection sheet were used to collect the data from the teacher educators and the participating pre-service teachers regarding the programme.
- ✦ **Writing the report:** The report of the entire programme was written and completed by March 2019.

Highlights of the Best Practice:

- ✦ **Suitable for all subjects:** The programme included orientation and planning of lessons based on the ESA model of teaching which is very flexible and can be used to teach all school subjects.
- ✦ **Beneficial for pre-service teachers:** The language used during the training programme was opined by the participants as easy and simple to understand. The pre-service teachers found the programme very beneficial as there was a lot of activities involved. There was a good combination of theory and practice.
- ✦ **Effective use of technology:** The programme also trained the pre-service teachers in incorporating technology in the form of PowerPoint Presentations and Microsoft Word documents for preparing worksheets. The participants were also shown how to use multimedia while conducting lessons.
- ✦ **Sequential presentation of the content:** The programme was well planned over the period of two months with proper allocation of time to both the ‘knowledge acquisition phase’ and the ‘skill acquisition phase’.
- ✦ **Sample lesson plans:** The sample lesson plans were very useful for the pre-service teachers to develop their own lesson plans using the ESA model.

Evidence of success:

- ✦ The feedback obtained from the participating pre-service teachers and the teacher educators showed that the programme developed for teaching school subjects using 'ESA model' was effective in developing the teaching competency of the pre-service teachers with respect to designing the lesson plans and their classroom performance.
 - ✦ The participating pre-service teachers also developed lesson plans using the ESA model of teaching for their school lessons. They were able to conduct these lessons in various schools effectively.
 - ✦ Principal, Dr. Lalita R. Vartak who conducted the training program and submitted the activity as a research project received an award for it from the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi. Thus, the implementation of the training programme was recognised and appreciated at the National level also.
 - ✦ In the following year, one of the pre-service teachers who was a participant in the training programme, Ms. Anisha Kotibhaskar a Second-Year student of the 2018-2020 batch, secured the second position winning a trophy, certificate and a cash prize of Rs. 2000/- in the 'Innovative Teaching and Learning Practices Contest' held at MIT ADT University's School of Education and Research in collaboration with Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education on February 26, 2020. She had planned her lesson using the ESA model of teaching.
- Similarly, another participant and a Second-Year student of 2018-2020 batch, Ms. Tanaya Gokhale won the third position for 'Excellent Lesson Performance' and cash prize of Rs.500/- in a University Level Competition organized by Pratibha College of Education, Pune. Both these students used the ESA model and won prizes for their lessons at inter college competitions. Hence the training programme was a great success.



Problems encountered:

During the initial session of the programme, there were some glitches with the videos, which were rectified in the future sessions. Some the participants found it a little difficult to manage the time while conducting their lessons using the ESA model. However, with practice they were able to overcome the hurdle and could complete their lessons.

Resources required:

Pictures, PowerPoint Presentation, Laptop, LCD Projector, Handbook for training pre-service teachers for using the ESA Model of teaching, Worksheets, Audio and video clips.

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Best Practice 2

Title of the Practice: Celebrating the philosophy of Nai Talim in education.

Objectives of the Practice:

- ✦ To orient the pre-service teachers to the background and concept of Nai Talim.
- ✦ To expose them to various classroom activities based on Nai Talim.
- ✦ To conduct college level activities and give the pre-service teachers a first-hand experience as learners following the principles of Nai Talim.
- ✦ To train them in conducting school lessons based on the principles of Nai Talim.
- ✦ To give the pre-service teachers an opportunity to interact with former students/Alumni of the college.

The Context:

On the occasion of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi- The father of the nation, the Adarsha Comprehensive College of Education and Research, Pune (ACCER) organized a number of programmes based on the thoughts and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi. This idea was conceptualized by the Principal of the college Dr. Lalita R. Vartak as a yearlong celebration of the life and Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi. This was done to make the pre-service teachers become aware and appreciate the principles of Nai Talim given by Mahatma Gandhi. Opportunities were given to the pre-service teachers to experience learning by doing various activities.

The Practice:

The various activities conducted by the college to help the pre-service teachers get a



wholesome experience of education based on Nai Talim were as follows:

- ✦ **Essay writing competition:** An essay writing competition was organized in which the pre-service teachers could write essays based on the life and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi in English, Hindi and Marathi.
- ✦ **Poster competition:** The college conducted a Poster competition where the pre-service teachers could prepare posters based on the thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ✦ **Quiz competition:** A quiz competition based on the life of Mahatma Gandhi was organized by the college. The pre-service teachers participated in the quiz competition which dealt with the different thoughts of the Mahatma related to education and life. (The list winners of the competition are given in the College Magazine 'Reflections 2018-2019 Page No. 8-9).
- ✦ **Gandhi Jayanti:** Instead of inviting guest lecturers, the college gave opportunity to four of pre-service teachers to share their views on the thoughts and philosophies of Mahatma Gandhi. The celebration and the competitions were organised by the GMC Chairperson, Associate Professor Ulka Amale.
- ✦ **Skits:** The pre-service students enacted skits prepared on the philosophy of Nai Talim, during the co-curricular activity. This was performed by the pre-service teachers in their respective Micro teaching groups. Judges were invited from the schools of the sister concerns and the performances were assessed and evaluated.
- ✦ **Educational visit:** The pre-service teachers were taken to Aga Khan Palace where they were given a tour. The visit gave the pre-service teachers an idea of the main events in the life of Mahatma Gandhi. They also saw different artifacts which depicted the life of the Mahatma and his wife Kasturba Gandhi during their house arrest under the British rule.
- ✦ **Lecture sessions:** Two lecture sessions were conducted by the college. The resource persons were former students or alumni of the college. They were Dr. Gargee Mitra (Deputy Head, Symbiosis Schools Central Directorate) and Dr. Surendra Herkal (Principal, MAEER's MIT Saint Dnyaneshwar B. Ed. College, Alandi). The resource persons oriented the pre-service teachers regarding the theoretical and practical aspects of Nai Talim.
- ✦ **College Magazine:** The pre-service teachers were encouraged to write different articles on the life and thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi in the college magazine titled 'Reflections 2018-2019'.

Highlights of the Best Practice:

- ✦ **Theoretical knowledge:** The lecture sessions provided theoretical background regarding the concept and need of Nai Talim. The pre-service teachers were also oriented regarding different teaching practices based on Nai Talim by Dr. Gargee Mitra.
- ✦ **Practical application:** Different curricular, co-curricular activities and extracurricular activities were organized by the college, where the pre-service teachers got an opportunity to experience Nai Talim as learners.
- ✦ **Learning by doing:** As the pre-service teachers actually participated in the various activities, they learnt how to apply the philosophies of Nai Talim in classroom interactions.

- ✦ **Comprehensive:** The activities conducted were planned for the all-round development of the pre-service teachers. These activities catered to the various aspects of personality development of the pre-service teachers at the personal and professional levels.
- ✦ **Alumni involvement:** The lectures conducted by the two resource persons i.e. Dr. Gargee Mitra and Dr. Surendra Herkal were alumni of the college. They also contributed to the college magazine by writing articles based on Mahatma Gandhiji's thoughts and philosophies. (College Magazine Reflections 2018-2019, Page No. 31-43).
- ✦ **Inspired creativity:** The pre-service teachers were able to showcase their creativity while participating in the various competitions. Further, each pre-service teacher got an opportunity to come up on the stage and perform in skits. These skits were written and performed by the pre-service students in their respective microteaching groups.

Evidence of success:

- ✦ **College Magazine:** The exposure to the different activities based on Nai Talim gave the pre-service teachers enough matter for learning. This was reflected in the articles written by them in the college magazine.
- ✦ **Views of the judges:** The judges who were invited by the college to assess the performance of the skits presented by the pre-service teachers, expressed that the thoughts and philosophy of Nai Talim was well understood by the performers as was evident from the skits. Hence 'learning by doing' a basis of Nai Talim was experienced by the pre-service teachers.
- ✦ **Lessons conducted by students:** Pre-service teachers also conducted school lessons based on Nai Talim during their internship programme. An article was written by the students about their experiences of applying the Nai Talim in classroom teaching and learning. The title of the article is 'Reflecting on the thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi while teaching'. (College Magazine: Reflections 2018-2019 Page no. 17-18)

Problems encountered:

Since there were a number of activities conducted based on one theme during the entire academic year, a lot of planning and co-ordination was required. However, no major problems were encountered.

Resources required:

Human resources: Staff in charge for different competitions and activities, Invited speakers during the lecture sessions.

Physical resources: Laptop, LCD projector, stationary.