## Best Practice - I

Title of the Practices: Need Based Financial Support to Economically Deprived and Section of Students.

Best Practice – I Need Based Financial Support to Economically Deprive Section of Students.

Objectives of the practice:

Lingaya's University was established in the outer skirt and rural belt of Faridabad with a mission to provide higher education to all those who hail from rural habitation and making them a partner in the mainstream of education and learning. It was imperative for the university to conduct social mapping and to mobilize local community and leadership to understand the potential of their youth at the one end and university readily will provide all possible support to the local students with an addition support to the girl students who wish to pursue professional and technical education.

Students joining various courses of the University belong from the rural areas with low socio-economic strata. Their parents are unable to provide them a sustained financial support because they are farmers or small businessman or working in a company on lower profile.

Thus, University visualized and recognized hardship encountered by parents if they send their siblings to the university, Accordingly Lingayas University acknowledged their concerned and devised and initiated scheme and mechanism to provide financial support to the students with the following objectives:

a) To extend financial support to the poor students, especially from the rural areas, to save them from discontinuation of their studies owing to poverty.

b)To support financially all the deserving poor students without any discrimination of caste, creed or gender. (c) To promote the 'equality' among the students (d) To inculcate the values of 'generosity' and a 'sense of social responsibility' among the students with the expected outcome, that the students should be able to complete their degrees with good marks. (e) The selected student's status would be reviewed year after year on their academic performance. The Context The noble objective had its teething as well as challenging troubles in its designing and implementation. (a) Pooling up of the required resources was a tough task. (b) The University struggled a lot in deciding the eligibility criterion for the aid. (c) After comprehensive deliberations with students and teachers, it was decided to extend the benefit to all the poor students, who do not have the advantage of government or endowment scholarships, wit hout any discrimination of caste, creed or gender. (d) Verification of the financial backwardness of the aspirants was yet another challenge. The University has insisted on strict adherence to the rules framed. about this

interference in the implementation of the practice.

fund in spite of the influential sections' and caste associations' undue

The Practice

## Practice:

In and around the areas of the University, rural life throwing the people into miserable conditions of abject poverty, illiteracy and ill-health. In a situation of such dire poverty, whatever meager resources available are used primarily to make both ends meet.

- (a) So, sending their children to the University for higher education becomes almost impossibility for the poor parents in the rural areas, in the context of higher education demanding higher amounts of money.
- **(b)** Though, sometimes, they do venture to admit their children to University but they are unable to give sustained financial support throughout the course of study
- (c) So, it is evident that without financial support from an external source, the rural youth cannot hope to successfully complete their higher studies.

The University, true to its legacy of pro-poor-student attitude since its inception, has taken a firm resolve to extend all possible financial support to the deserving students and help them to realize their fond dream of acquiring higher education.

To achieve the vision, the University instituted Education Trust collected as voluntary donations from Management and other Sources like NGOs. The financial support is extended to all the deserving poor students without any discrimination of caste, creed or gender. The students whose parents do not have fixed reasonable source of income and do not enjoy any other financial assistance in the form of social welfare or endowment scholarships are eligible for the aid. A duly constituted committee of University scrutinizes the applications received from the aspirants for the aid from the University. It finalizes the list of eligible students for the aid after due verification of the documentary evidence enclosed and strictly following the guidelines framed

for the purpose, and submits the same to the Vice Chancellor for sanctioning the actual amount of the aid. Endowment Scholarships and the individual teachers' help is also taken for the financial assistance. The interest earned on each endowment is given as scholarship to such of the students as specified in the endowment like, meritorious and poor students, Sports students, topper of marks among girls, students who stand first subjects at the terminal examinations and so on. Apart from the monetary aspect, endowment scholarships are a proof of academic achievement and hence, the students are developing a keen spirit of competition to secure the endowment. Drawing inspiration from institution's legacy of pro-poor-student attitude and action, wherever possible, they are paying the tuition fee and examination fee of regular and industrious students who are unable to pay the fees owing to poverty.

## Evidence of Success

Some beneficiary details and their higher studies-

In the year 2017-18.

No. of Students Benefitted- 839

Amount of Financial Assistance- Rs.27,330,217.00

Scheme and practice of Financial Assistance will continue for successive years

This way the practice has a positive impact on the academic abilities and attitudinal changes among the beneficiaries. The review results of the aid indicate that the humble assistance not only enables the poor students to acquire higher education but also moulds them to be responsible citizens to continue the legacy of helping the students of successive batches. The above are only a few illustration cases mentioned to drive home the point.

| Problems Encountered and Resources Required | In the beginning of designing the best practice, some groups of the students opposed the idea that the welfare scholarship holders too should be given the opportunity.  |
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|   | <ul> <li>(a) They also expressed growing apprehension that the funds collected for the purpose would be misused.</li> <li>(b) As a result, most of the students and staff did not come forward to contribute to the fund.</li> <li>(c) Some even blamed that the idea of the Endowment Scholarships is not based on social justice.</li> <li>(d) The University had to overcome many of these impediments to persuade the alumni and other philanthropists in favour of instituting the endowment scholarships to encourage more students to develop a keen spirit of competition to secure the endowment scholarships.</li> </ul> |

 $\label{eq:Best Practice - II}$  Title of the Practice - Development of Infrastructure and  $\,$  Learning Resources.

| Best Practice – II - Development of Infrastructure and Learning Resources. |  |  |
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| Objective of the   | To create learning ambience with respect to physical infrastructure and  |  |
| Practice:  | learning resources LRC & ICT.  |  |
| The Context  | To provide modern infrastructure of international standards, excellent academic facilities and congenial learning environment. Also, to create learning resources to facilitate academic and research pursuits of the university supported by latest IT resources and technology.  |  |
| The Practice (Go point-wise and focus on practice and its outputs          | The university has provided the best possible facilities in terms of infrastructure required for teaching-leaning process and also for administrative purposes. Such as  a. The lecture theatres, classrooms, laboratories and tutorial rooms, office spaces are highly conducive for overall academic environment of global |  |

standards. b. Besides offering the best hostel facilities to students, residential facilities to faculty and staff. c. Lingaya's University also boasts of its sports grounds and auditorium d. The university has a spacious and well stocked LRC with e-journals and databases. e. The LRC users are provided open access to the resources available. At any time about 100 users can sit and work in the library. f. The ICT support services include well equipped technology/science labs workshops, computer labs with latest hardware/software. science/Technology. g. Computer labs equipped with latest equipment/machines/ hardware, etc. and a collection of licensed software h. The lecture theatres, classrooms, laboratories and tutorial rooms, office spaces are fitted with latest ICT facilities for supplementing teachinglearning process. i. In addition to this the university uses an integrated software for all functions such as financial accounting, materials management, human capital management, campus management, student life cycle management including admissions, registration, evaluation activities, etc. j. The university also has a dedicated power backup to avoid disruption of

## Evidence of Success

teaching & learning.

The excellent infrastructure has been able to attract students from almost all corners of the country including from other country like Afghanistan and African countries. The average number of login to e-resources exclusively through LRC is about 500 per month. Easy dissemination of knowledge,

|               | information through ICT starting from lecture room experience to exams has greatly helped students and concerned parents. |
|---------------|---|
| Problems      | The greatest problem encountered has been in infrastructure development   |
| Encountered   | due to rural surroundings. In spite of limited space the university has   |
| and Resources | managed efficiently all its academic infrastructure.  |
| Required      |   |
|               |   |