Title of the Practice

Create Environmental Awareness for Climate Change

Objectives of the Practice

- 1. To create environmental awareness with the objective of its protection and preservation
- 2. To develop the awareness of the natural, social, and cultural environment
- 3. To understand and solve the environmental problems due to climate change
- 4. To consider the environment in its totality

The Context

Environmental studies envisage exposing students to the real situation in the surroundings to help them connect, be aware of, appreciate, and be sensitized towards the prevailing environmental issues.

The list of issues surrounding our environment goes on but three major ones affect the majority of the overall: global warming and climate change, water pollution and ocean acidification, and loss of biodiversity.

The Practice

Environmental studies are one of the compulsory subjects of curriculum as it provides green space for socio-economics with the benefits in health and environment for the students.

As a part of this practice, we celebrate environment day every year and different experts have been invited to deliver expert talks on current environmental issues and many plantation drives also took place during those places. Although this year the environment day was celebrated via online mode due to pandemics it was not as beneficial to students as in previous years. But we shall try to motivate the students in future. This year the plantation and development of mini forest at IKGPTU Amritsar have helped in creating a new mindset in students as their primary duty towards the environment.

List of various events conducted:

Sr. No.	Date	Name of the Activity
1.	07, August 2019	Expert Talk
2.	09, Nov 2020	Expert talk on water crisis in Punjab
3.	04 June 2021	World Environment Day
4.	26 th July 2021	Vertical garden
5.	26 th July 2021	Establishment of Mini Forest

Evidence of Success

Students were motivated to plant at least two trees under the context of the subject of mentoring and professional development. Further, as the students were well motivated for planting the trees, a tree plantation drive was organized and about 50 trees were planted. The planted trees started growing and are providing lots of fresh air for the inhabitants of the place, students and staff.

Further, great success was achieved by developing a vertical garden on the main wall of the building which enhanced the beauty of the building as well as started providing fresh air free of pollutants.

A mini forest comprising a 10,000 square feet area with the mission to establish a maximum green area in the campus was also established. The theme was "Mini Jungle at my Institution". The mini forest campaign has a great variety of native, self-sustainable plants. There was an urgent need to build an abode for plants and trees through such projects in society that not only house humans, but also houses other living species. The higher education institutes can play a key role in mobilizing society towards environment conservation. Variety of plants in these mini forests, more carbon is absorbed and removed from the atmosphere.

This is extremely important in cities where air pollution is the problem. Planting mini forest in the urban area can help to decrease the levels of air pollution much more drastically than by just planting a few trees of the same species because the loss of biodiversity is the key consequence of the climate crisis and then often lead to species becoming endangered.

The former honorable vice-chancellor of the IKGPTU appreciated and lauded the efforts taken by the staff of the campus for setting up a process of this magnitude and further assured that IKGPTU will take concrete steps for setting up such projects in various campuses and he will also inspire its affiliated college throughout Punjab to plant maximum in their campus under campaign: "Mini Jungle"

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Identification and preparation of land and space to establish the Mini Jungle and vertical garden.
- Lack of expertise for the preparation of land, fertilization, and testing of soil.
- Skills and expertise required for the maintenance of the plants.
- Proper watering resources required for the plants
- The full-time skilled person required for the maintenance of the Mini Jungle.

Web link to best practices:

• https://www.cityairnews.com/content/ikgptu-will-establish-mini-forests-in-its-all-campuses-vc-prof-dr-ajay-k-sharma









