

BEST PRACTICE I

1. Title of the Practice

Waiver of the examination fees for M.A./M.Sc. Semester I, II, III, IV examination, 2020-21 due to the prevailing **Covid-19 pandemic situation**.

2. Objectives of the Practice

The global pandemic has taken a colossal hit on all the sectors of the economy. The times have been challenging for the education system around the world.

The exemption from payment of exam fees is a mechanism that our institution has put in place to **assist parents to access quality education for their ward**, irrespective of their background or financial constraints.

3. Context

Barasat Govt College sits in a large rural and semi urban hinterland with very high population density. The livelihood of this large populace is mostly farming, small trading, menial jobs etc. and most of them are not employed in the organized sector of the job market. Hence the double blow of the covid pandemic along with the super-cyclone Amphan has made a huge dent at the roots of their economic subsistence. This in turn has affected their children's education and hopes for a stable future.

The students seeking education in our institute mostly come from very humble economic backgrounds and many of them are 1st generation learners. The college has a very low fee structure for the students, but that too is beyond the means of many, during these lean times. In this context our college authority in consultation with the PG committee of the college and the IQAC has decided to waive the examination fees of the PG students of all semesters irrespective of their subjects. A similar fee waiver was implemented for the UG students as per government directive.

4. Practice:

College decided to **waive the examination fees of Rs. 630/-** for M.A./M.Sc. Semester I, II, III, IV examination, 2020-21 due to the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic situation through the following notifications dated 11.9.2020, 10.11.2020 and 26.2.2021



NOTICE 20-21 wavive
pg exam fees.pdf

5. Evidence of success:

The move has been highly successful as evidenced by minimum dropout rate of PG students. All students enrolled in our PG programs of Zoology, Botany, Physics and Bengali have appeared for their semester examination and has been able to continue with their studies in spite of initial trepidation and anxiety regarding financial constraints.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Although the institute suffered a financial loss due to this fee waiver, the long term benefit of providing education to numerous students far outweighed the meagre financial constraints. Unfortunately we could provide this assistance of exam fee waiver only to the PG students and to the hundreds of UG students studying in this college. Our institution does not have the academic autonomy in the undergraduate courses, the examinations are held by the University and they are the ones who collect the exam fees. The PG course is run independently by the college and hence the decision of fee waiver could be taken by the college authority independent of the university.

BEST PRACTICE II

1. Title:

Students' academic contribution during covid times through online magazines, paper presentation and publication.

2.Objectives of the Practice

The global pandemic has dealt a huge blow to the pursuance of academic activities. The closure of college campuses, the anxiety and dread of disease, the economic backlash of lockdowns have demotivated the student community.

Online creative endeavors by students within and beyond their academic curriculum have been known to motivate and inspire students.

3.Context

The sudden onset of the covid pandemic has had a devastating toll on the mental and physical wellbeing of students. Young people at the height of their physical and mental abilities have been forced to stay indoors, bereft of friends and companions. This has demotivated and dispirited the student community. Many have lost their ability to concentrate and focus on their studies. Many of them have been slow to adapt to the new online mode of teaching and has been easily distracted by non-academic activities via social media and online steaming platforms. To encourage, inspire and remotivate such students most departments of our institutes have taken up several online creative projects. Moreover, during the ongoing campus closure due to covid lockdown field trips, field studies, educational excursions as well as hands on training in lab work could not be organized. These projects have provided an alternative to such activities.

4. Practice:

- PG Students from the department of Physics and Zoology have published their dissertation work in peer reviewed and UGC approved journals.

Title of paper in journal	Authors	Journal	Year of publications	Post graduate Students involved
Dynamics of pest complex of brinjal in the farmland of Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama Campus, Narendrapur, West Bengal	Sumana Saha, Susmita Adhikary & Dinendra Raychaudhuri	World Scientific News, 146 : 255-273 [ICV : 98.95]	2020	Susmita Adhikary
Diversity Spectrum of Spider Fauna in Backyard Rice Agroecosystem, Narendrapur, West Bengal, India	Sumana Saha, Ampita Bhadra & Dinendra Raychaudhuri	World Scientific News, 147 : 61-75 [ICV : 98.95]	2020	Ampita Bhadra
Dung beetles: key to healthy pasture? An overview	Sumana Saha, Arghya Biswas, Avirup Ghosh & Dinendra Raychaudhuri	World Scientific News, 153 (2) : 93-123 [ICV : 98.95]	2021	Arghya Biswas, Avirup Ghosh
Dung inhabiting insects, their diversity, abundance and bio ecology of coprine beetles "	Sumana Saha, Avirup Ghosh, Arghya Biswas & Dinendra Raychaudhuri	Journal of Entomology and Zoology Studies, 9(2) : 537-546 [ISI Master List – Thomson Reuter; NAAS rating : 5.53; ICV 80.67; Impact factor : RJIF 5.48]	2021	Avirup Ghosh, Arghya Biswas
New approach to the study of nonrelativistic bosonic string in flat spacetime	Rabin Banejee, Sk. Moinuddin, Pradip Mukherjee	Phys.Rev.D 103,046020	Feb 2021	Sk. Moinuddin

- PG students of zoology department have made oral presentations in International Webinar based on their project work

Abstract for paper presentation	Authors	Title of Seminar	Date of Seminar	Post graduate Students involved
Title of abstract : Covid-19 Lockdown: migrant workers, effects on agricultural sector & wildlife	<u>Susraba Chatterjee</u> and Srikanta Guria	Two-Day International Webinar on Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic and Lockdown on Industry, Trade and Commerce International Webinar by Victoria Institution (College) with IQAC & Kishore Bharati Bhagini Nivedita College (Co-Ed) with IQAC	30/08/2020	Susraba Chatterjee

- A program on World Environment Day, Start Today, Save tomorrow: An initiative of P.G. Dept. of Zoology was held on 5th June, 2020
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKE3mqX2GTw>
- Several e magazines have been published in the college website www.bgc.ac.in by the UG students of the department of Chemistry, Political science, Geography, Bengali, Philosophy, History and Zoology.
- An online poster competition on the themes (i) fight against corona virus and (ii) glimpses of the post pandemic world was organized by the zoology department on the eve of the World Zoonoses day in the month of June, 2021.
<http://bgc.ac.in/news/newsdetail.php?action=detail&tab=1&%20%20eventID=%20947>
- Most departments of the college for example political science, chemistry etc. has organized online students seminar where students were encouraged to speak on topics of their choice
- The students of the English department started a blog <https://pandemoniumbgc.wordpress.com/> to express their experiences of online education and of bonding with their peers in college on the virtual platform.

5. Evidence of success:

This practice has been very helpful in inspiring and motivating students. It has not only cultivated their creative talents but also encouraged the building of soft skills like public speaking, communicating in English, artistic talents, editing and use of various software. The overwhelming response and active participation of students in these projects are an evidence of their success.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The projects could be undertaken by the students by the help of their personal mobile phones and laptops with no additional expenditure other than mobile data or wifi connectivity. Remote areas have intermittent data connectivity, thus preventing students of this areas to actively participate in interactive sessions.