Best Practices- I

Title: Augmentation of Physical and Digital Infrastructure along with Learning Resources

Objective:

- To ensure adequate and best infrastructure to support and elevate the quality of teaching and learning experience.
- To create welcoming spaces for learners and a more positive workplace for staff, resulting in enhanced productivity.
- To guarantee effective and timely delivery of services and information.
- To simplify administrative processes and reduce difficulties for all stakeholders to achieve efficient governance.
- To be relevant in the rapidly changing educational landscape.
- To reduce costs and enable more transparent and effective administration.
- To minimise paperwork and digitalise the academic and administrative processes of the College.
- To promote the holistic development of students and enhance their overall learning experience.

Context:

Infrastructure with good amenities and utilities in a visually appealing landscape is vital in building a positive environment for quality teaching and learning. The infrastructure conditions directly impact the performance of the students and the staff. A high-quality infrastructure facilitates better instruction, improves student outcomes and enhances work productivity, among other benefits. The infrastructure should meet the current and future requirements of new programs and educational advancement, promote innovative teaching pedagogies and provide ubiquitous access to the technology tools for creating a learner-centric environment.

The context for the best practice has been the aim of the College to provide a modern infrastructure that meets global standards coupled with excellent academic resources and a congenial learning environment. Additionally, the College strives to create a collection of learning resources to aid academic and research pursuits, supported by the latest IT resources and technology. These initiatives promote the adoption of best practices to keep pace with the academic growth of the institution for a gratifying academic journey.

Practice:

The College has endeavoured to provide the best physical and digital infrastructure facilities required for teaching-learning and administrative purposes. During this academic year, the College has taken several initiatives to augment Physical and Digital Infrastructure along with Learning Resources to run the educational programmes efficiently and to keep pace with the academic growth of the institution.

Physical Infrastructure:

The College, located in the prime location of Kalyan city, has an eco-friendly and lush green campus spread over 20 acres of land (including B. K. Birla Public School and B. K. Birla Night College).

The College boasts seven well-equipped buildings that sufficiently meet the Teaching-Learning requirements of the students. There are 72 classrooms, 35 of which are smart classrooms equipped with smart technology. Additionally, there are 53 laboratories, of which 7 are computer labs well-stocked with sophisticated instruments and 527 computers.

During 2022-23, the following key projects were undertaken to strengthen the existing physical infrastructure,

- **New Building:** A new building (55,000 sq. ft area) was constructed exclusively for the science faculty and is well-equipped with laboratories, smart classrooms and other amenities.
- **Green Reading Room**: Under RUSA Grants, a Green reading room of 1000 Sq.ft and two Gazebos were constructed to provide a natural collaborative learning space for library users. The frontage of the library was enhanced to create a sitting space for users.
- **Green Campus:** The College has taken several initiatives towards a green campus and environmental sustainability. These include ETP, STP, Solar power, solar street lights, and a Rainwater Harvesting facility.

Digital Infrastructure: The following digital initiatives were taken to automate the functioning and services and facilitate the students and staff with quick and easy access to information.

- **ERP System:** The College has implemented cloud-based ERP software to support all academic functioning and accelerate online services to all the stakeholders. The ERP system with integrated modules is a centralised platform for various administrative functions and services. These include Student Management, Human Resources, Course

Management, Teaching, learning and evaluation, Payroll, Exam. OBE and others. ERP system implementation has transformed administrative functions, improved efficiency, and enhanced the overall educational experience for students, faculty and staff alike.

- **Educational Software:** The College has subscribed to Microsoft Office 365, Qurio App and other educational software to support teaching-learning and evaluation.
- **Wi-fi Campus:** The entire college campus is networked with optical fibre connectivity, and all the buildings have Wi-Fi facilities for internet access.
- **Online Learning Resources:** The Central Library (Knowledge Resource Centre) has fully automated its functioning and services by upgrading the software to a cloud-based advanced version (Libsys10) and LSDiscovery services. The software provides swift access to the bibliographic information and usage details. In addition, the library has subscribed to the following e-resources to assist the users:
  - ✓ INFLIBET N-LIST
  - ✓ DELNET
  - ✓ National Digital Library of India
  - ✓ LSDiscovery Solution with LIBSYS10
  - ✓ Kimbus digital library Portal
  - ✓ Informatics E-Journal eSS-JGATE Complete
  - ✓ Informatics eSS-India Business Insight (IBI)
  - ✓ McGraw Hill ebooks Collection

Evidence of the success:

- Introduction of new programs and courses.
- Higher enrollment of students from almost all corners of the country.
- Stakeholders have expressed their satisfaction with the new developments in the system.
- Timely execution and completion of academic tasks and results.
- Increased number of library users.

Problems encountered and resources required:
- Technical glitches in uploading data and network connectivity
- Regulatory compliance and delay in receiving permission from local bodies and government authorities
- Requirement for a skilled workforce and adequate funding

Photo gallery

Gazebos (Collaborative Learning Spaces)

New building classroom | **New building classroom**

New Building | **New Building**

Girls Common room and washroom for differently abled

Laboratory

Laboratory

Laboratory