

Institutional Distinctiveness

Kampur College: 20-21

Introduction

Every educational institution has substantial contribution in the field of academia and even somewhat beyond. Over the years, Kampur college has been working for graduating the students from different backgrounds. However, a chunk of students mostly job seekers in defense sector prefer to continue their physical practices as well as study in a parallel way. For these students, Kampur College has initiated a visionary and effective programme “Thinking Beyond the Academia” and has been benefiting a large number of students in achieving job and subsequently have an indirect contributing towards the nation.

Background

Kampur College is the lone higher education institution located in the South West region of Nagaon district. The students are mostly from neighbouring villages and others are from outskirts of Kampur i.e. Jamunamukh, Rajagaon, Puthimari, different locations of West Karbi Anglong District etc. The agriculture-based people are remained economically underprivileged for various reasons i.e. unusual flood induced disastrous situation created by river Kapili, Barpani and Haria and accordingly disturbances of wild animals particularly elephants from time to time. It is noticed and somewhat correct that socio-economic background matters in the larger process of imparting education. Hence, for the sake of financial security, students usually target for defense as well as paramilitary forces. Even couple of students have successfully passed the exams and joined in Police, CRPF, Indian Army, Assam Commando and so on. Considering the significance to ensure job security, the initiative “Thinking Beyond the Academia” is an essential step towards the students of Kampur College.

It is found that Kampur College is the only option of poor and economically backward students. Secondly, being a single stream College, having only Arts, the choice as well as competition among the students remained limited. In such an obnoxious situation, a competitive environment among the students is tried to create applying some strategies from the college end. Even the notion of thinking beyond the academia has changed the pattern of teaching learning process in a socio-economically constrained society.

Methodology

There is an admixture of reference group theory as well as expectancy value theory to accentuate the essence of ‘Thinking Beyond the Academia.’ Understanding human psychology, motivation, proper guidance are essential elements to create an environment for the students. Besides it gives immense opportunities to learn leadership, discipline, punctuality, health conscious and so on. Most of the students are in dire need of financial security and which enables them to face the harsh reality.

Strategies

The initiative “Thinking Beyond the Academia” is a multifaceted phenomenon. Here one can comprehend physical fitness to job opportunities, social services to national security and finally even student can realize a competitive environment whether it is in the

classroom or somewhat beyond. Seeing its importance, initially the College entrusted its responsibility upon a faculty member, later on a Cell named 'Students' Guidance and Career Counselling Cell' and NCC to utilize and reshape the young energetic blood. However, every faculty member has significant contribution in the process of mobilization, motivation and even guiding the student as per their capacity. In the recent past, the NCC has been attending different camps in regular intervals, the Students' Guidance and Career Counselling Cell has been organizing workshop and lecture programmes from time to time. Even the neighbouring institutions are tried to incorporate in the entire process. One pertinent point is to be mentioned here that the Covid 19 induced lockdown situation and consecutive flood havoc in Kampur had abysmal impact in the entire process.

Institutional level: Basically, the College encouraged the students to reach the zenith position for securing their life. The students have different choices and even they are provided all round facilities accordingly. But the military as well as paramilitary job aspirants have distinct strategy having proper physical training. From the point of physical fitness, students are remained fit but failed in the written exam time and again. Hence, college has initiated special classes for these aspirants.

At present the students are encouraged to go for higher ranked jobs through competitive exams like APSC, UPSC. So, level of choice has been changed in the last couple of years.

Beyond the Institution

The college is been organizing programmes, even campaigning in different schools that police and military is not the only option. Even the interested students are informed about the opportunities in higher level through APSC and UPSC.

Here, the ex-students who are in service have substantial contribution in mobilizing the aspirants. The entire process is developing on the basis of their support and cooperation.

Realization

Kampur College is working for all round development of students. Over the years job opportunities are shrinking down and subsequently people are choosing different alternative ways as per compulsion. Although a competitive atmosphere is tried to create, students are motivated for facing other competitive exams i.e. UPSC, APSC, SSC and many more. But a few students are running after defense job. Hence, engaging in defense forces provides a scope to realize:

1. Service towards the nation: Most of the students are getting job in defense forces or paramilitary forces. So, they are serving for the sake of national security and which is a great contribution from the College end.
2. Job security: the deserving students are getting job without any discrimination. People are getting job in the very early stage of life and can be settled accordingly.
3. Competitive atmosphere: the programme has created a competitive atmosphere in different capacities. Although, a few numbers of students are getting job, but it has substantial impact upon the other aspirants. Here, reference group theory of sociology can be realized literally.
4. Going beyond the conventional choice: The trend of competition is changing from General Duty to Sub Inspector, from
5. This is a need-based initiative. Actually choosing such profession is a situational demand.