

Best Practices

The Scholarships and Concessions

The unique practice in the college is that a great number of scholarships and concessions are provided to the students in the college. The college has maintained this practice since long time. These scholarships and concessions are given to the needy, meritorious and deserving students. Considering the economic conditions of the students, it would be difficult to manage for them to continue their higher education without the help of these scholarships and concessions. A number of people, dignitaries, former principals, NRIs and politicians have contributed to run this practice successfully. Following scholarships and concessions are provided to our students.

- a. Thirty scholarships of Rs 10,000 each are provided to the students studying in BCA 1st, 2nd and 3rd year. The donators of these scholarships are the associates of the ASP (Association of American Sikh Professionals) and NESSC (New England Sikh Study Circle) from America. Through these scholarships, the NRIs are helping to uplift the rural students of this area, who otherwise cannot afford to continue their higher studies, especially in the field of computers and IT due to their financial constraints. Their performance in the previous class is not taken into consideration while awarding these scholarships. The associates of ASP and NESSC also help to run concessional transportation for the students of our college.
- b. Scholarships and concessions of worth **Rs 492720-** are provided every year to the economically weak students of the college from its own resources.
- c. Concessions of worth **Rs 6000-** are given to the needy students from the, Late Col Ishar Singh Bajwa Memorial Trust.
- d. **Rs. 44000-** scholarships are given to the hard working students from the Bawa Harkishan Singh Memorial Trust.
- e. **Rs. 44000-** scholarships are given from the Bal Family Educational Trust.
- f. Two scholarships to meritorious students are given by the Abrol family members, in the loving memory of their son, (late) Flight Lt. Mohit Abrol. Mohit Abrol was an excellent student of the college.
- g. The college also helps the maximum students to apply for and avail the center/state governments' scholarship schemes for minority, SC, BC and ST students.
- h. The college provides concessional transportation to students from its limited resources.

Although the practice is being run successfully, yet it has some limitations. This practice creates a cut throat competition amongst students which sometimes leads to unnecessary tension and conflict in them. Sometimes students start depending too much on the scholarships, which actually depend upon the availability of donations from other people. Another constraint in this practice is that the college is located in the economically and educationally backward area, so the institute has limited financial resources. Thus most of our students expect huge concessions and scholarships. Therefore it is not possible for the college to grant these scholarships for infinite time period from its limited resources. The practice is successful, since in spite of the costly education, students are continuing their study in various programmes, with the help of these scholarships and concessions. The practice has not only helped the students economically, but it has also uplifted them socially. Now being a graduate, these students are now capable to understand the importance of education and by doing some job they can also improve their economic condition. These scholarships have provided some of our students an opportunity to get training and job in different sectors, like software companies and banking organizations. The practice of providing thirty scholarships of Rs 10,000 each to the students of BCA/BSc IT has attracted students towards the computer courses. Thus the students of this area have now begun to understand the importance and relevance of these courses in society. Trends show that more students have become aware about the computer courses or the courses offering computer as an optional subject. The practice is successful in the terms of pass percentage also, since the success rate in the computer courses is much more than the other courses. These trends indicate that the students even with rural background can excel in the computer courses and the courses offering 'computer' as an optional choice, if they are supported with the facility, like scholarships and concessions. A number of problems came into the way of implementation of this practice. The very first problem was related with the situation of the college in economically and educationally backward area. It is an area, where large numbers of people do not have that kind of earning, which they can facilitate the cost of education for their wards. The other big reason behind the problem is that the people are educationally backward too. Many of them are not ready to accept the education in spite of the present practice of scholarships and concessions. Another problem with the implementation of this scheme was related with over expectation of the students. Every other student expected huge concessions in fees and tended to have the scholarship. With its limited sources, it was an uphill task to manage this practice. The government policies in the past

have made the situation from worse to worst. The cuts and delays in the 95 grant have resulted in the partial or mismanagement of the financial resources. However, the visionary management, college alumni and the NRI donors from America have supported the college with their untiring efforts.

College Property for Public Service

The unique practice in the college is that the college allows people, children and sportsmen of all ages to use college play grounds, before and after the college hours. The college gates are opened daily, at 4.00 am for public. People and players start entering the college grounds early in the morning. Most of them use college track for their activities and others exercise in the hockey ground, football ground and gymnasium. Men and women of different age groups walk and jog as per their convenience. Sportsmen practice daily in the games of their choice. In the morning, games like, races, high jump, long jump, hammer throw and Kabbadi are practiced by both the professional and amateur sportsmen. Some people also carry out yogic exercises, like 'Pranayaam' (breathing exercises) and 'Aasans' (body postures). Lots of people also play cricket, football, volleyball and badminton. Men, women, boys, girls, children and sportsmen of all ages keep coming in and going out of the college grounds till 8.30 am. After the college hours, the same practice resumes around about 4.00 pm and it lasts till 8.00 pm to 8.30 pm. In this way, the college facilitates people to enjoy their leisure time and helps them to get maximum benefits in their lives during these hours. The college grounds are also made available to people for social cause, like gatherings, rallies and religious programmes. It was not that easy to start this practice. Since many problems had to be resolved before actually putting this idea into practice. The first problem was related with maintenance of the college grounds. Another problem was related with security of college building and its property. Children or teenagers knowingly or unknowingly could damage the property and other assets of the college. Some antisocial elements could harm the college building, property, parks etc. The problems related with water, electricity, separate toilets and washrooms for men and women needed to be solved beforehand. Some people viewed it wastage of money and some thought it a thankless job. Another aspect was related with the identification of sources, for sustenance of these amenities and facilities. These constraints and limitations stood strongly on the way and they made it almost impossible to implement the practice. Later on, with the management and administration with the cooperation of some strong

headed dignitaries surmounted the constraints and limitations. With their courage, confidence and strong will power, they began and managed the practice successfully. The practice was started, viewing that people, children and the sportsmen, of all ages of the area could be provided an atmosphere, which would develop love for sports and health in them. Since the practice is still continuing incessantly, it can be said that the performance in developing love for sports and health among people, is excellent till now. This is so because the people are increasingly coming in the college grounds to keep themselves fit. Sportsmen practice daily in the games of their choice. In the morning, games like, races, high jump, long jump, hammer throw and Kabbadi are practiced by both the professional and amateur sportsmen. Lot of sports persons with district, state, national and international achievements have emerged due to this practice. The first and foremost problem was related with the maintenance of the college grounds, the second problem was related with the security of the college building and other amenities and the third problem was to find the sources for the creation and maintenance of the facilities. The problems related with water, electricity, separate toilets and washrooms for men and women needed to be solved forehand. To solve the first problem, night/day watchmen, security personals were required.

(Kulwinder Singh)
Officiating Principal

OFFICIATING PRINCIPAL
SIKH NATIONAL COLLEGE
QADIA