

Constituent college of the KAZI NAZRUL UNIVERSITY, Asansol

(GOVT. SPONSORED **U G & P G** College) ASANSOL – 713303, WEST BENGAL

(INDIÁ)

Dr Amitava Basu, M Com, Ph D Principal

### **Best Practice:1**

Title: Ahalya: The Local River and Surrounding Ecosystem Rejuvenation and Urban Flood Control Project in Asansol

### **Objectives:**

- $\checkmark$  To restore and rejuvenate the local rivers and their surrounding ecosystem in Asansol.
- ✓ To implement effective urban flood control measures to mitigate flood risks in the community.
- ✓ To foster community participation and awareness in environmental conservation efforts.
- To promote sustainable development practices and enhance the ecological resilience of the region.

### **Context:**

Asansol, a bustling industrial city, faces recurrent challenges of urban flooding and environmental degradation, exacerbated by the deteriorating condition of the local rivers and their surrounding ecosystems due to encroachment and pollution. Recognising the urgent need for action, Banwarilal Bhalotia College initiated the "Ahalya: River and Surrounding Ecosystem Rejuvenation and Urban Flood Control" Project as a holistic approach to address these pressing issues.

### **Practice:**

Conducting comprehensive environmental assessments and stakeholder consultations to identify key challenges and opportunities for river restoration and flood control.



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- Implementation of integrated watershed management strategies, including afforestation, soil conservation, and sustainable land use planning, to enhance ecosystem services and minimise flood risks.
- Establishment of decentralised stormwater management systems, such as rainwater harvesting structures, green infrastructure, and wetlands restoration, to reduce urban runoff and enhance flood resilience.
- Collaboration with local communities, government agencies, NGOs, and other academic institutions and experts to mobilise resources, expertise, and manpower for project implementation and monitoring.
- Promotion of river awareness and environmental education and awareness programmes, including workshops, seminars, and outreach activities, to engage and empower community members in environmental stewardship and sustainable development practices.

### **Evidence of Success:**

- **4** Significant improvement in awareness through survey work.
- Increased community engagement and ownership of the project were demonstrated through active participation in restoration activities and environmental awareness initiatives.
- Recognition and commendation from local authorities, environmental organisations, and the wider community for the college's leadership and positive impact on the environment and society.

### **Problems Encountered:**

• Limited funding and resources posed challenges in implementing certain aspects of the project and sustaining long-term maintenance efforts.



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• Mild Resistance from some community members or stakeholders due to competing interests, misconceptions, or a lack of awareness about the project's objectives and benefits.

#### **Resources Required:**

- Financial support comes from government grants, corporate sponsorships, and community donations to fund project implementation and ongoing maintenance.
- Technical expertise and assistance from environmental scientists, hydrologists, landscape architects, and civil engineers for project planning and execution.
- Community volunteers and local labour provide hands-on participation in restoration activities, monitoring, and maintenance efforts.
- Educational materials, signage, and outreach materials for public awareness campaigns and community engagement initiatives.

### **Execution of the Plan:**

- Establishment of a project management team comprising college faculties, outside experts, students, and community representatives to oversee project planning, coordination, and implementation.
- Collaboration with government agencies, NGOs, local authorities, and community organisations to facilitate regulatory approvals, resource mobilisation, and community outreach efforts.
- Implementation of a phased approach to project execution, including baseline assessments, pilot projects, and long-term monitoring and evaluation to track progress and outcomes.



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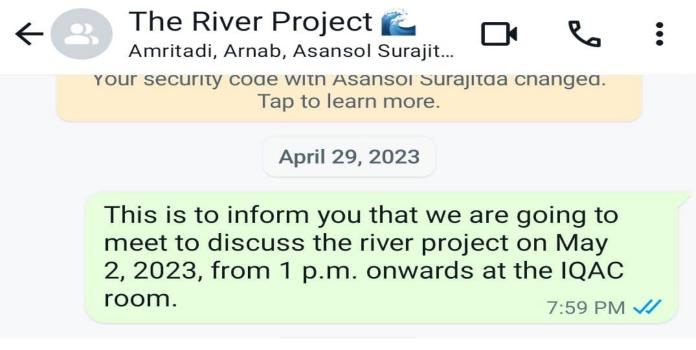
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 Regular communication and engagement with stakeholders through meetings, workshops, and public forums to solicit feedback, address concerns, and ensure transparency and accountability throughout the project lifecycle.

Through the "Ahalya: River and Surrounding Ecosystem Rejuvenation and Urban Flood Control" Project, Banwarilal Bhalotia College demonstrates its commitment to sustainable development, environmental conservation, and community resilience-building, serving as a catalyst for positive change and transformative impact in the region.

### **Photo Gallery for Evidences:**



### Meeting Notice for the Ahalya Team



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The River Project 🜊 Amritadi, Arnab, Asansol Surajit...

May 11, 2023

#### Minutes of the Meeting on the River Project: May 2, 2023, 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Attendees: staff members from various departments and an external resource person.

Purpose: to discuss the river revitalization project in the context of the Asansol Corporation area and to identify funding sources for the project.

#### Key Points:

The project aims to revitalise the river in the context of the Asansol Corporation area and identify funding sources for the project. The team has already received groundwork from Surajit Sulekhaputra and is now looking to manage the project within the stipulated timeframe.

The team has decided to take on a pilot project to proceed with the survey in detail of the problem that has caused urban flooding in Asansol in recent times.

The pilot project will undertake a survey of one tributary flowing near the college, using quantitative analysis to gauge the problem that affects the river as a whole.

The outcome of the survey can be shared with local, regional, and national bodies for support.

The geography department (Hindi Shift) has agreed to come up with a project to fulfil the pilot project and survey work with the participation of students.

Other departments are also requested to come forward to take part in the survey and pilot project.

The committee will sit down again and chalk out the pilot project once the heat wave is reduced.

Overall, the meeting focused on how to proceed with the river revitalization project and identified a pilot project that will help gather important data for the larger project. The committee also requested participation from other departments and will meet again to further plan the pilot project.

3:00 PM 📈



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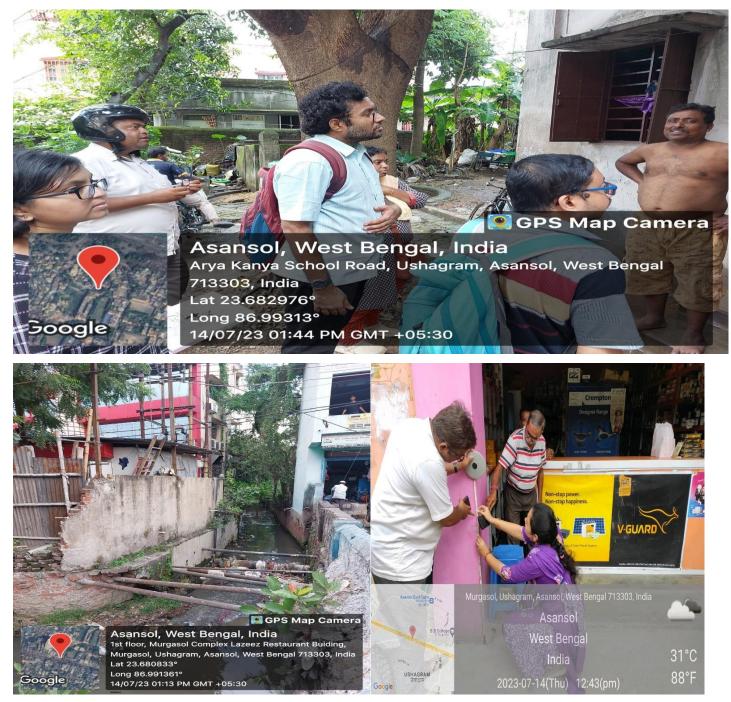
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#### **Geo-tagged Photos of Pilot Survey**



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### **Best Practice 2**

### Title: "Bibliovorous: The Library Usage Resurgence Plan"

### **Objectives:**

- ✓ To reintroduce the close reading culture and library usage after the COVID closures and to heal and entice the users with the actual forms, shapes, and scents of physical books and reading materials in addition to their contents.
- To promote library usage and recognise exceptional library usage among students and faculty members at Banwarilal Bhalotia College.
- ✓ To foster a culture of learning, engagement, and community involvement within the Central Library.
- ✓ To incentivize regular library visits and encourage positive behaviours among library users.
- ✓ Our long-term goal is to open the door of the central library to the entire learning community of the vicinity and run the programme among them in order to enhance reading culture among citizens of Asansol.

### **Context:**

The Central Library of Banwarilal Bhalotia College aims to revitalise library usage and increase student and faculty engagement through the implementation of the "Bibliovorous" program. By publicly recognising and rewarding exceptional library users on social media platforms, the college seeks to enhance the library experience and reinforce the importance of utilising library resources for academic and personal growth.



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#### **Practice:**

- Identification of exceptional library users based on criteria such as frequency of visits, quality of time spent learning, willingness to volunteer, and positive attitude.
- Weekly announcements on the Central Library's social media platforms, particularly Facebook, highlight the names and achievements of two to three "Bibliovorous" individuals.
- Selection of semesterly recipients for the esteemed title of "Bibliovorous" through a thorough review of user data and feedback from library staff.
- Collaboration with college departments and student organisations to promote the programme and encourage participation among the student body.
- Provision of incentives or rewards for "Bibliovorous" awardees, such as library merchandise, certificates of recognition, or exclusive access to library resources or events.

### **Evidence of Success:**

- There has been a significant increase in library footfall and visitor numbers compared to the previous year.
- Positive feedback and testimonials from "Bibliovorous" awardees express appreciation for the recognition and motivation to continue utilising library services.
- ✓ Growth in library usage metrics, including the number of visits, duration of stay, and diversity of users, indicates a resurgence in library usage and engagement.
- ✓ Enhanced sense of community and pride among library users, as demonstrated by increased participation in library events, activities, and initiatives.



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#### **Problems Encountered:**

- Initial challenges in defining and communicating the criteria for selecting "Bibliovorous" individuals led to ambiguity or confusion among potential nominees and stakeholders.
- Difficulty in maintaining consistency and fairness in the selection process, particularly in cases where multiple deserving individuals are nominated for the same recognition.
- Resource constraints, including staff time and social media management, are required for the effective implementation and promotion of the programme.

### **Resources Required:**

- Staff time for reviewing user data, selecting "Bibliovorous" awardees, and coordinating social media announcements.
- Social media management tools or platforms for scheduling and publishing "Bibliovorous" programme updates and announcements.
- Incentives or rewards for "Bibliovorous" awardees, such as certificates, library merchandise, or sponsored prizes.
- Collaboration and support from college departments, student organisations, and library stakeholders are needed to promote the programme and encourage participation.

### **Execution of the Plan:**

Establishment of clear and transparent criteria for selecting "Bibliovorous" individuals, incorporating input from library staff, faculty members, and student representatives.



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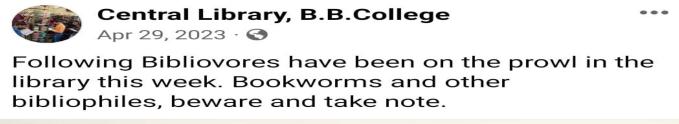
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- Development of a structured nomination and selection process, including nomination forms, review committees, and evaluation criteria, to ensure fairness and consistency.
- Promotion of the "Bibliovorous" programme through multiple channels, including social media, college magazine, and word-of-mouth, to maximise awareness and participation.
- Regular monitoring and evaluation of the programme's effectiveness, soliciting feedback from users and stakeholders, and making adjustments as needed to improve outcomes and sustain momentum.

Through the "Bibliovorous" programme, Banwarilal Bhalotia College demonstrates its commitment to promoting library usage, recognising student and faculty achievements, and fostering a culture of lifelong learning and engagement within the academic community.

#### **Photo Gallery for Evidences:**



Bibliovorous for this week are as follows:	
Vidya Burnwal, Semester 2nd, Department of Commerce	-
Deep Das, Semester 4th, Department of Physics	
Ashutosh Kumar Prasad, Semester 4th, Department of Mathematics	

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