VPM's B. N. Bandodkar College of Science (Autonomous), Thane

Best Practice 1

Earn and learn scheme though industry linkage

Objectives of the Practice

- To provide opportunity of earning for needy and interested students while they are pursuing their graduate studies
- To give early work culture exposure to the students through industry linkage

The Context

- MOU was signed with an Indian multinational cyber security software company, headquartered in Pune, Maharashtra.
- As per the company format the college required to select the volunteers to work for Cyber suraksha - earn and learn scheme. One teacher coordinator was to be appointed per 10 teams for.
- Each team was required to deliver 5 presentations in schools and colleges for sensitizing total of 50000 students about cyber security.

The Practice

In the year 21-22, the college had hosted a seminar on Quick Heal cyber security. The interaction with the company officials led to the possibility of having a linkage that can provide an opportunity for the students to participate in a scheme on creating cyber safety awareness among schools and colleges and can have the possibility of earning through this noble cause.

Getting the final approval from higher leaders of the institute, the meeting was conducted by the company officials to brief about road map, time line and execution plan of Cyber suraksha – earn and learn scheme. Zone wise online teacher orientation was conducted. Teachers then conducted the orientation sessions for student volunteers interested in participating in program. It was made mandatory for student volunteers to successfully complete the online certificate course "cyber shield', before they undertake awareness activities in identified schools.

5. Evidence of Success

- Multiple sessions were conducted by different teams in specific schools or junior colleges. Number of students across total 52 schools, were sensitized regarding cyber safety. Feedback reports obtained from almost all schools revealed their appreciation about the awareness sessions.
- Twenty two volunteers and teacher coordinators were paid Total amount of INR 2,49,200/- that was obtained from company foundation for being part of Cyber security awareness under earn and learn scheme.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

It was required to have a dialogue with company officials for proper planning and implementation of the activities through students. The teacher coordinators had to plan and

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conduct the training sessions for students. Strict vigilance, timely interventions were expected from the teacher coordinators to ensure quality. It was expected to develop the feedback mechanism to check effectiveness of the program. Administrative support and services were required for data maintenance and data sharing communications with company officials.