



# RAMNAGAR COLLEGE

Accredited by NAAC at 'B' Level

P.O.- DEPAL (721453) :: DIST- PURBA MEDINIPUR (W.B.)

e-mail :- ramnagarcollege1972@gmail.com / anantamohanmishra@gmail.com

Phone & Fax : (03220)- 264241

Ref. No. ....

Date : .....

7.2 Best Practices 02

**Title of the Practice :**

**Focus on Empowering Women through Transformative Education**

**Objective:**


The objective of focusing on women's education in Ramnagar College is to empower women by providing them with equal access to education, knowledge, skills and opportunities. The primary goal of women education in our college includes:

- To provide local access to higher education for women in rural areas.
- Education can increase women's awareness of their rights, boost their self-esteem and provide them the opportunity to assert their rights.
- It mainly focuses on women's sense of self-worth, their right to have and determine the choices, their right to have access opportunities.
- It mainly refers to making women independent so that they can make their own decisions and manage their lives without any familial and social restrictions.
- It empowers women to take responsibility for their personal and social development.
- To promoting women's sense of self-worth, their ability to determine their own choices and their right to influence social change for themselves and others.
- To equip women with practical as well as employable skills.
- To encourage women to engage in community service projects outreach programmes and social entrepreneurship.
- To build gender sensitization and thus to challenge discriminatory practices prevalent mostly in rural communities.

**Context:**

Education is regarded as an important milestone of women empowerment because it enables them to face the challenges, to confront their traditional role and change their life. Education of women is the most powerful tool to change their position in society. As this is a rural area large womenfolk of this area are illiterate, backward, exploited. So education also reduces inequalities and functions as a means of improving their status within their family. Women's education in India has been a significant focus area in recent decades, driven by the recognition that empowering women through education is essential for the country's overall development and progress. India, with its vast population and diverse cultural landscape, has witnessed both




  
Principal,  
Ramnagar College  
Depal, Purba Medinipur

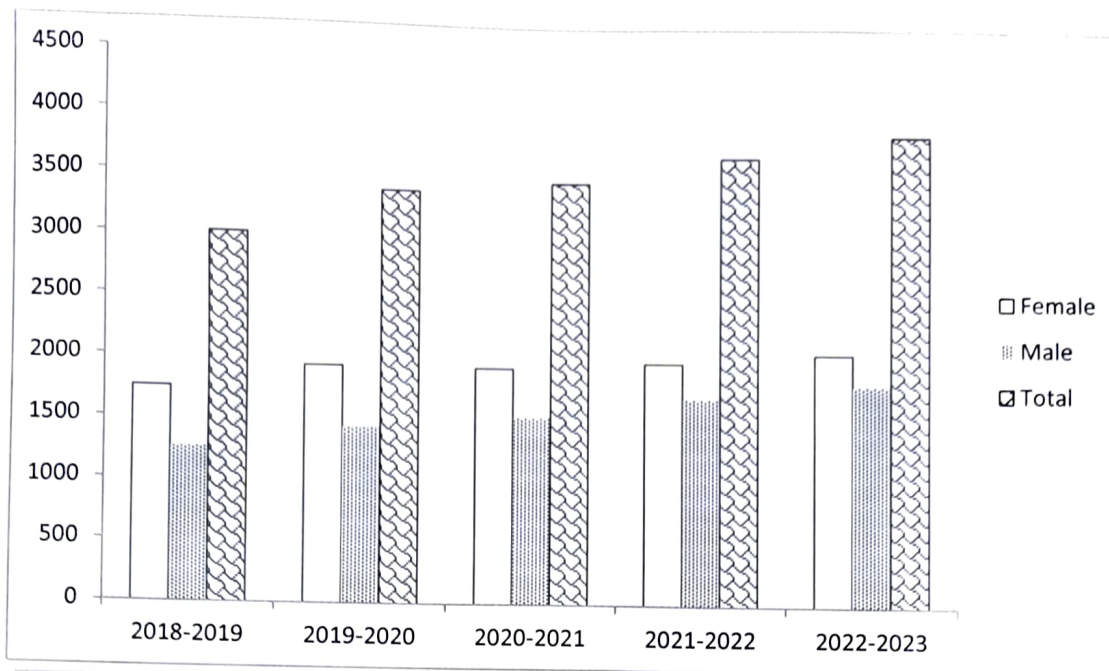
advancements and persistent challenges in promoting women's education. Throughout history, women have faced numerous barriers to education, including social norms, cultural beliefs, economic restraints and discriminatory practices. However, efforts to address these barriers and promote women's education gained momentum during the independence movement and subsequent social reform movements. Over the years, India has made significant strides in increasing women's enrollment in colleges and improving access to education. Empowerment and capacity building provides women an avenue to acquire practical information and learning for their improved livelihoods. The Government has implemented various initiatives like the 'SarvaSikshaAbhijana' and "the BetiBachaoBetiPadhao" campaign to promote women's education and bridge the gender gap in education.

### **Practice:**

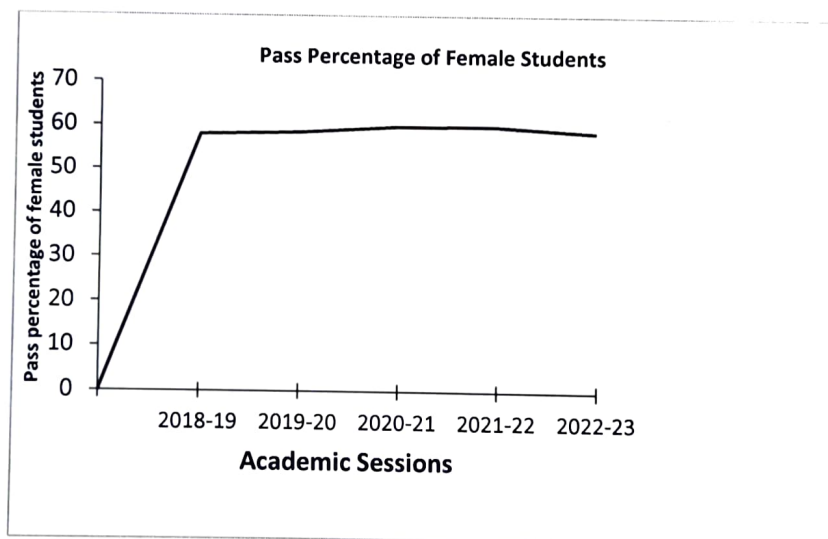
As Higher Education is one of the most important means of empowering women with the knowledge, skills and self confidence. It also brings a reduction in inequalities and helps in improving their status within the family. Higher educational achievements of women can have ripple effects within the family and across generations. Keeping this in views, Ramnagar College has adopted a best practice to focus on women's education in rural areas. Treating each student as an Individual aims to open up a unique career path for them and help them build a professionally and personally fulfilling life. College demographics indicate that a significant number of students come from rural areas. Some come from financially disadvantage families and first generation learners. With a strong commitment to inclusive education and sensitivity to the challenges of diversity, the college provides a level of playing field and opportunities for daily growth for all students in a culturally sensitive manner. Ramnagarcollege takes initiatives to provide different scholarships sponsored by Government and non-government organizations to pursue the higher education of students who are financially weak and also different facilities for girls students to increase their number in the institutions. As a result of which women students can pursue their degree without any interruptions. The number of admission of girls students has been increasing in last few years which can be shown in the graph below



  
Principal,  
Ramnagar College  
Depal, Purba Medinipur



**Fig: Year wise Increasing Rate of Female Students**



**Impact of the practice:**

- **Socio-economic Advancement:** Educating women has a positive impact on economic development. An educated women has better job prospects, higher earning potentials and increased economic independence. Thus, in turn reduces poverty rates and enhances overall prosperity.



*[Signature]*  
**Principal,**  
**Ramnagar College**  
**Depal, Purba Medinipur**

- **Empowerment and Personal Development:** Women's education in colleges empowers them by equipping them with knowledge skills and opportunities for personal growth. It enhances their self-confidence, critical thinking and decision making skills enabling them to become independent and pursue their aspirations.
- **Gender Equality and Social transformation:** Women's education changes societal norms and discriminatory practices, promoting equal opportunities for women in all aspects of life. By educating women higher education plays an important role for breaking down gender barriers and fostering a more inclusive society.
- **Health and Well-being:** An educated women tend to have better access to healthcare information, make informed decisions about their reproductive health and adopt healthier lifestyles.
- **Role Models and inspiration:** Women's education in colleges provides aspiring female students with visible role models. Women pursuing higher education, excelling academically, and taking the leadership roles inspire other women to believe in their own abilities and aspirations.

### **Evidence of Success:**

The activities have a positive effect on the students especially girls. Programs on legal awareness, physical training, self-defense, special training on home management, hospitality management and cooking help in developing personal, social and professional skills needed by girls. There are no incidents of stress related issue in the college campus. Also there is no incident of sexual harassment and grievances registered in the women cell. Beautician course was introduced in the academic year to make the girl students financially independent. Workshops are organized to aware the students about different fellowship scheme and student credit card provided by West Bengal Government in the college campus

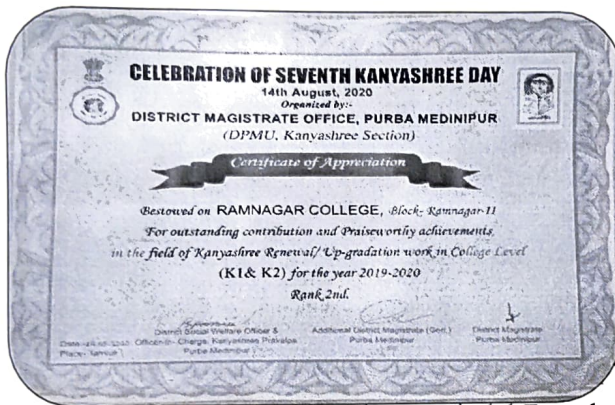
Promoting women's education in rural areas is crucial for empowering women and ensuring gender equality. Here are some practices that our college undertakes to promote women's educations.

- **Easy access to education and supportive policies:** Our College provides local access to higher education for women in rural areas. They receive quality education without having to relocate or face transportation challenges. Except the courses where admission to a course is merit based, we try to provide educational access almost all women applicants through general courses and thus provide a supportive activity to promote women education.
- **Skill Development and Vocational Training:** This college offers skill development programmes and vocational courses specifically tailored to the needs of rural women. These programmes equip women with practical skills such as beautician course ,soft toy



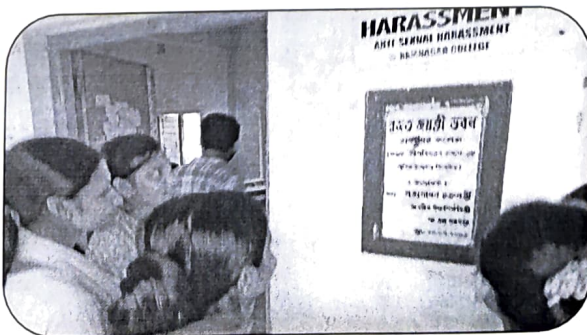
*Calina*  
Principal,  
Ramnagar College  
Deopal, Purba Medinipur

making skill etc that are relevant to local industries and employment opportunities. By providing vocational training, the college helps women gain employable skills and improves their chances of finding meaningful and sustainable livelihoods.



Minority scholarship, Sitaram Jindal Foundation scholarship and scholarship for SC,ST,OBC etc. Among all these, in every academic session, a large number of students (approx 4% of the female students enrolled under Kanyashree prakalpa. Our college has received prize for its outstanding contribution and praiseworthy achievements in the field of Kanyashree renewal in last 5 years. Thus by providing financial aid through different scholarships, we try to help and to remove financial barriers and make education more accessible to those girls who may face economic constraints.

- **Safe and supportive environment:** Creating a safe and supportive environment for female students within the college campus is essential. Our college has implemented measures to prevent gender-based violence, such as security systems, well-lit pathways and policies against harassment.



*Principal,*  
**Ramnagar College**  
Depal, Purba Medinipur



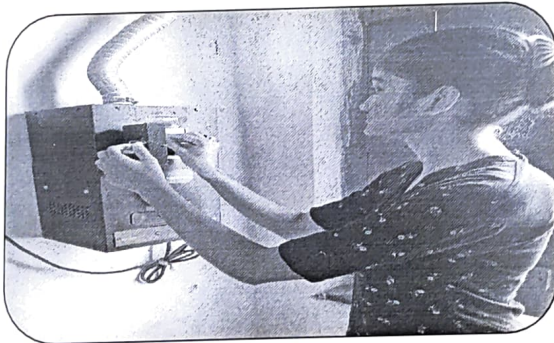
Principal,  
Ramnagar College  
Depal, Purba Medinipur

Principal,  
Ramnagar College  
Depal, Purba Medinipur

- **Gender separate Facilities:** The infrastructure of this college provides gender separated facilities such as girl's common room, hygienic sanitary facilities with sanitary napkin vending machine and hostel inside the college campus ensuring privacy and comfort for female students.



- **Health and Awareness:** In this college, different departments conduct workshops on health education, hygiene practices, nutrition and reproductive health. By providing such information, we try to aware women about their health and well-being.



- **Active participation in NCC and NSS:** Our college encourages female students for participating in NCC and NSS which helps them to develop not only their personal and social development but also exposes them to real world challenges and opportunities to make a meaningful impact.



Principal,  
Ramnagar College  
Depal, Purba Medinipur



In order to promote women's education and empowerment , an institution plays a crucial and important role to provide the women community the access of education, skill,knowledge and opportunities. Though the Ramnagar College is situated in a very rural area always put emphasis to serve as a platform not only for the development of women's education but also their overall development by considering it as one of the best practices undertaken by the college.

### **Problems Encounter Resources required:**

In some activities there is a limitation on the intake of student participants which poses as a hindrance owing to the enthusiasm of the students



*Calvin*  
Principal,  
Ramnagar College  
Depal, Purba Medinipur


- 1) Sensitization lectures by the heads of the departments and other senior faculty to emphasize on the need of these activities for the development of students.
- 2) Motivating students to participate in all these activities in huge numbers.
- 3) Some communities especially in rural areas, prioritize early marriage for women or prioritize investing in the education of male family members. As this is a rural based college, these type of activities put a barrier for women's opportunities for higher education.
- 4) The absence of female mentors and role models can be demotivating for the women for guidance, support and inspiration for higher education.
- 5) To provide more support and counseling to the needy and meritious students.
- 6) To remove financial barrier for the learners on the way of higher education.
- 7) To identify the students who are not obtaining any government provided scholarship but actually need some kind of support.

In order to overcome them, we collaborate with local communities to challenge and change social norms that hinder women's education. We also organize awareness campaigns and community outreach programmes to aware the families about the benefits of educating women. Apart from providing different scholarships, some dedicated faculty of our college provide information and guidance on financial planning, part time job opportunities, and students loan options to manage their financial constraints.

### **Notes:**

In conclusion, education plays a crucial role in empowering women and girls. It provides them with the knowledge and skill necessary to gain autonomy, participate in decisions – making, processes and contribute to their communities.



  
Principal,  
Ramnagar College  
Depal, Purba Medinipur