

Best Practice-I: Action Research

1. **Context:** The College of education offers program will be done in B.Ed curricula 2 credit course of "Action research" has been introduced recently with the aim of training prospective teachers to make better decisions and engage in more effective practices for carrying out teaching learning activities smoothly through research. This will help prospective teachers to acquire new interests, new motives, and new insight for tackling their day to day classroom problems and hence strengthen the profession as a whole.
2. **Objectives:**
 - i. To help prospective teachers to improve their classroom efficiency
 - ii. To bring improvement in the personal /professional practices of teachers.
 - iii. To provide opportunities for people teachers to become involved in research projects.
 - iv. To improve the practices going on in the school/Academic institutions.

3. About Practice:

Research in education has enabled significant progress to be made in curriculum development and reforms, educating learners with difficulties, understanding the individual differences and preferences and in adapting methods of instruction to the needs of individual learners. Proceeding with the same aim, our institution has introduced a 2 credit course in the form of Action Research in B.Ed-2nd semester. In this curriculum, every student has to do a small research under the guidance of a supervisor assigned to him/her. Action research project area is assigned to the pupil teachers because we believe that by doing so they can make better decisions and engage in better action. The teachers, the supervisors and administrator would make better decisions and engage in more effective practices if they conduct research as a basis for these decisions and practices. The process by which practitioners attempt to study their problem scientifically in order to guide, correct, and evaluate their decisions and actions is what is called Action Research .A teacher conducts Action Research to improve his own teaching. So this type of research has great significance and is very distinctive feature of any institution that can be better defined as one of the best practice to inculcate Research culture and Research mindedness among those concerned with teaching and learning processes. This approach is more disciplined, more objective oriented and more scientific. Action research procedure tries to keep problem solving in close touch with reality at every stage that focuses upon the immediate application and not on the development of theory. It is concerned with the immediate problem here and now in a local settings and the findings of the same is evaluated in terms of local applicability, not in terms of universal validity .This helps the prospective teachers to turn from the traditional methods of teaching to those methods that are modern and effective and ensuring the satisfaction of the needs of the students. It is therefore very important in ensuring professional development for the teachers. Research will help the teachers to acquire new interests, new motives, and new insights that will replenish his/her energies and enthusiasm and revitalize his/her instructional procedures. The thrill of working on the frontiers of knowledge, the satisfaction of experiencing continuous professional growth and the glow of personal pride that arises from doing superior work are the

rich rewards that he/she will experience from studying research findings and applying them in the classroom and hence strengthen the profession as a whole.

4. Evidence of Success

The success of this practice is evident from the fact that it empowers prospective teachers for professional growth and hence is a powerful form of Teacher driven professional development. It is also evident that the external/ experts usually give positive feedback after conducting viva as the results so obtained after carrying out action search can be effectively utilized in the local classroom settings. Moreover, action research promotes purposeful collaboration with schools and other institutions involved in the academic endeavours.

5. Obstacle faced if any

- i. Non availability of standard software and tools required for the smooth smooth conduct of research
- ii. Absence of laboratory room/set up for the conduction of varied activities.
- iii. Lack of manuals and text for conducting action research

6. Resources Required:

- i. A Mentor / critical friend/Expert in the field of conducting action research.
- ii. Reference book and journals assisting action research projects.
- iii. A dedicated experimental school

Best Practice-II: Creation of Knowledge Repository

1. Context:

The college of Education offers to programmes viz. B.Ed and M.Ed. The B.Ed programme is oriented towards academic aspect of Teaching Learning Process whereas M.Ed programme along with academics offers insights into the research related activities. Research Work is mandatory in M.Ed course and every student has to undertake a research issue. The research work is concluded with the publication of the research thesis and the role of knowledge repository begins. The repository keeps record of all the research thesis and ensures its sanctity.

2. Objectives:

- i. To create the repository of research work done by M.Ed Students.
- ii. To act as reference point for the future researchers or knowledge seekers.
- iii. Value addition in the existing world of literature.

3. About Practice:

To provide contour to this facility i.e. knowledge repository and before submission of final copy of dissertation, the concerned research supervisors ensures that research work is free from falsification, fabrication and plagiarism. After this, a database of all the M.Ed dissertations is maintained in the college library and dissertations are stacked in the Amirah's for quick reference (Titles only). In case, a candidate requires a dissertation for reference purpose, the same is provided and proper record is maintained by the library. The practice of maintaining the record of

dissertations in the college library under the **Knowledge Repository** helps in creating the knowledge warehouse and caters to the needs to the needs of knowledge seeker having aptitude towards research.

4. Evidence of Success

The research environment of the institution is backed by vibrancy. The success of this practice is evident from the fact that there is increase in the number of students asking for research dissertation from the library and the research work conducted by the students is published by standard journals in the field of education. It is also evident that there is a significant enhancement in the quality of research problems undertaken by the students of M.Ed as they use **Knowledge Repository** for review of literature and problem formation during preparation of their research synopsis. Though this facility is created from the research dissertation of M.Ed students but this facility as the name suggest is used by B.Ed students , faculty members and researchers. The research publications of faculty members from the college is another fact that highlights the success of this practice as they have access to the **Knowledge Repository**. The process cycle of this practice is gradually improving and the quality of the **Knowledge Repository** is increasing day by day.

5. Obstacle faced if any

During the process of creation of resource/knowledge repository, the college faced the issue of non availability of standard software and tools for the conduct of research. The issues has been raised by the stakeholders in various meeting and it was decided to have required software for data analysis and plagiarism detection for effective and smooth conduct of research in the college.

6. Resources Required:

- I. Dedicated Research Labs and Scholars Room with ICT Facilities.
- II. Programmes on Research Methodology for faculty and scholars.
- III. Reference Books and Journals of high repute from UGC Care-List.