Best Practice 4

Title of the Practice: Empowering Students with Industry-Ready Skills through **NPTEL** Courses, **Add on Courses**, **Certificate courses.**

Objectives of the Practice:

The core objective of this practice is to encourage students to enroll in Courses - National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) courses, Add on Courses, Certificate courses during academic breaks or semester gaps, ensuring that their learning never stops. This initiative is designed to support students in acquiring industry-relevant skills, enabling them to thrive in their academic pursuits while preparing for the demands of the job market.

The Context:

Integrating these courses into the academic routine offers students a significant advantage in enhancing their learning, developing skills in high-demand areas, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. By enrolling in NPTEL courses, students gain exposure to diverse subjects beyond their regular curriculum, fostering a deeper understanding of their field of study and the world around them.

The Practice:

By incorporating NPTEL, Add on, Certificate courses into their learning routine, students develop a mindset that education does not stop at graduation. They learn that continuous learning and professional development are key to achieving long-term success. This practice also helps

students build a collaborative environment where they can work together, share resources, and support one another in completing their courses.

Institutional Support and Practices:

1. **Awareness and Encouragement**: To ensure that students are aware of the courses available to them, the institution actively promotes these programs through orientations and mentoring. Faculty members play an integral role in encouraging students to enroll in these courses, explaining the importance of continuing education beyond the traditional academic framework. This proactive approach helps students recognize the value of enrolling in these courses and inspires them to take the initiative in their own learning.

2. **Dedicated Support**: The institution ensures that students have the time and resources necessary to succeed in their courses by providing dedicated slots during breaks, holidays, or after regular class hours. These time slots are allocated to ensure that students can focus on their online courses without the added stress of overlapping academic commitments. This structured approach allows students to manage their time effectively, enabling them to complete their courses without sacrificing their regular academic responsibilities.

3. **Access to Resources**: To support students who may not have access to reliable internet or computer facilities at home, the institution provides them with access to computers and high-speed internet on campus. This access ensures that all students can participate in the courses without any technical barriers, enabling them to complete modules, assignments, and exams with ease.

4. **Mentoring and Guidance**: Faculty members serve as mentors to students enrolled in these courses. They provide academic support by helping students understand course content, answering questions, and guiding them through complex topics. This mentorship ensures that students do not feel isolated during their online learning experience and helps them stay motivated and on track to complete their courses.

5. **Monitoring and Progress Tracking**: To help students stay on top of their coursework, the institution tracks student progress throughout the duration of the courses. Regular check-ins, reminders, and progress reports are provided to ensure that students are staying

focused and not falling behind. Periodic assessments also serve as motivational tools, encouraging students to push forward and complete their courses on time.

6. **Incentives and Recognition**: In order to further motivate students, the institution offers incentives for completing NPTEL courses. These incentives include academic recognition and use the achievement as a highlight in students' academic profiles. This recognition is a valuable addition to a student's academic profile and can significantly enhance their employability.

7. **Study Groups**: The institution encourages students to form study groups to discuss course content, share ideas, and solve problems collaboratively. By working together, students can benefit from each other's strengths and help each other overcome challenges, making the learning experience more engaging and effective.

Evidence of Success:

Students who complete NPTEL courses demonstrate higher levels of problem-solving ability, critical thinking, and practical knowledge. The certifications earned through these courses add value to their resumes, increasing their chances of securing internships and full-time employment. Many students also report feeling more confident in their abilities and better prepared for industry challenges.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

Balancing regular college coursework with these courses are difficult for students, especially when faced with time constraints and academic pressure. Some students struggle with personal challenges, particularly those from low-income backgrounds. Without the direct supervision of a teacher or the accountability of a classroom environment, some students struggle with motivation and self-discipline. This can lead to incomplete courses or lower levels of engagement.