## Thiagarajar College, Madurai – 625 009

## Best Practice 1:

Title of the Practice: Entrepreneurship Development

Objectives of the Practice: To empower students with entrepreneurial expertise for personal growth, fostering a culture of innovation and self-sufficiency and to contribute meaningfully to the society.

The Context: To design and implement entrepreneurship development programs that empower students to succeed in a dynamic and competitive world.

The Practice: Entrepreneurship development as a best practice in the college integrates a dynamic blend of activities designed to foster innovation, creativity, and business acumen among students. The initiative includes Boot Camps for start-ups, Guest Lectures on digital transformation and innovation in business, and experience-sharing sessions by successful entrepreneurs on digital marketing. It also emphasizes experiential learning through competitions on business ideas and hands-on training on tools like Google My Business. Mentoring sessions on innovations, panel discussions on the commercialization of patents by students and faculty, and guiding students to apply for programs like the MSME Idea Hackathon further enrich the entrepreneurial ecosystem. Additionally, organizing Innovation Review sessions for students' ideas ensures continuous improvement and readiness for real-world challenges, empowering them to transform innovative concepts into successful ventures.

Evidence of Success: High participation rates in activities such as mentoring sessions and showing growing interest and engagement in entrepreneurial initiatives.

Problem Encountered: Societal and familial expectations discourage students from pursuing entrepreneurial ventures, favouring traditional career paths instead

## **Best Practice 2:**

Title of the Practice: Skill Development Program

Objectives of the Practice: To equip students with industry-relevant skills that improve their employability and prepare them for diverse career opportunities.

The Context: With an aim to bridge the gap between educational qualifications and the practical skills required in industries by offering targeted training and hands-on experience to students.

The Practice: The **Skill Development Program** at the college stands as a hallmark of excellence, offering diverse initiatives to enhance students' practical expertise and entrepreneurial abilities. Key activities include the Life skill programme, refining personal & communication skills, **Certificate Programme on Banking Finance Interface (CPBFI)**, Tally, savings & investments to equip students with financial acumen; a **Webinar on Human Approach – Easiest Technique for Problem Solving**, fostering critical thinking; and a **Skill Development Programme on 'Heartfulness Enabled Leadership Mastery'**, promoting mindful leadership. Training workshops such as the **Development of Entrepreneurship Skills – Vermicomposting Start-Up** and **Medicinal Plants Cultivation, millet food production, lithium battery production, Portrait Mehndi Art** provide hands-on experience in sustainable ventures, self-employment opportunities. To nurture innovation, the college organized competitions like **TC – Innovation Challenge 2024**, and the ideas deposited in YUKTI repository of MoE. Advanced Technical skills were cultivated through **ICT Certificate courses** on softwares, AI, cyber securities. These initiatives collectively empower students with the skills and confidence needed to excel in their chosen fields.

Evidence of Success: A notable rise in the number of students securing internships and placements in reputed organizations due to enhanced skills.

Problem Encountered: Students do not see the immediate value of skill development programs in the context of their academic studies, leading to low participation and disengagement.