



**St. Joseph's College For Women (Autonomous)**

**Visakhapatnam**

**NAAC Reaccredited & ISO 9001:2015 Certified**

**BEST PRACTICE-I**

## **SJC- SEED CENTRE**

**Title of the Practice:**

**Skill Development Through SJC-SEED Centre (St. Joseph's College Skill Enhancement & Entrepreneurship Development Centre)**

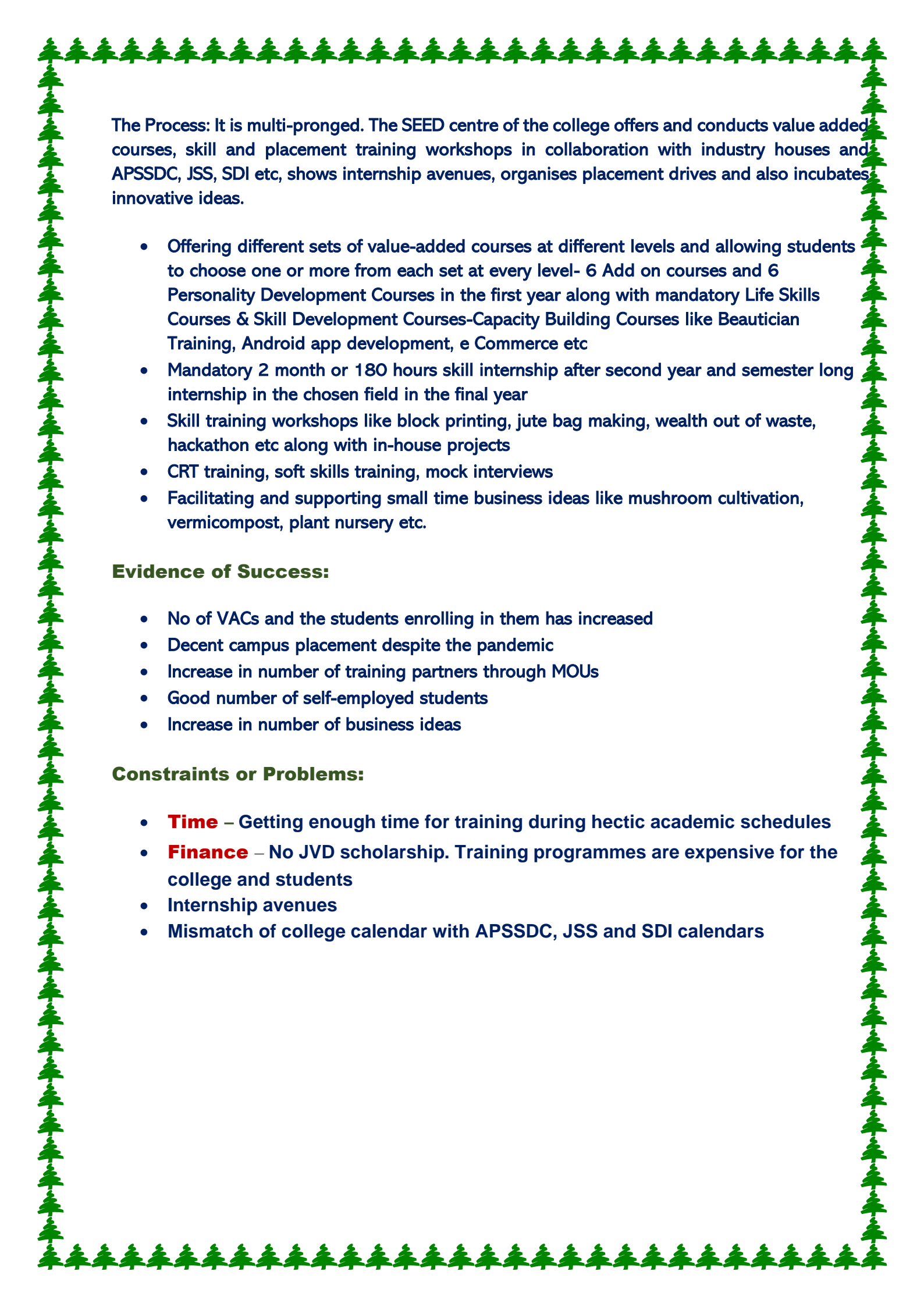
**The Objectives of the Practice:**

**This student-centric practice aims to**

- Identify and nurture the innate skills of students
- Equip them with employability skills
- Improve their employment prospects
- Sow the seeds of self-employment and
- Kindle their entrepreneurial tendencies

**The Context:**

The mission of SJCW(A) is 'Women Empowerment Through Holistic Education'. It is realised through the KNOWLEDGE Intensive and SKILL Oriented Curriculum. The KNOWLEDGE part of the curriculum is ensured through the customised theory and practical course framework (CBCS) at UG and PG levels. But SKILL orientation needed special focus because skill development requires a higher level of involvement and participation BY the trainer as well as the trained. Also, knowledgeable students need not necessarily be skilled and vice versa. Skilled graduates can find good placement/be self-employed and/or can begin their entrepreneurial journey. Skill preference varies a lot with respect to the student as well as the employer. Several employers seek diverse (non discipline specific) skills in students.



The Process: It is multi-pronged. The SEED centre of the college offers and conducts value added courses, skill and placement training workshops in collaboration with industry houses and APSSDC, JSS, SDI etc, shows internship avenues, organises placement drives and also incubates innovative ideas.

- Offering different sets of value-added courses at different levels and allowing students to choose one or more from each set at every level- 6 Add on courses and 6 Personality Development Courses in the first year along with mandatory Life Skills Courses & Skill Development Courses-Capacity Building Courses like Beautician Training, Android app development, e Commerce etc
- Mandatory 2 month or 180 hours skill internship after second year and semester long internship in the chosen field in the final year
- Skill training workshops like block printing, jute bag making, wealth out of waste, hackathon etc along with in-house projects
- CRT training, soft skills training, mock interviews
- Facilitating and supporting small time business ideas like mushroom cultivation, vermicompost, plant nursery etc.

#### **Evidence of Success:**

- No of VACs and the students enrolling in them has increased
- Decent campus placement despite the pandemic
- Increase in number of training partners through MOUs
- Good number of self-employed students
- Increase in number of business ideas

#### **Constraints or Problems:**

- **Time** – Getting enough time for training during hectic academic schedules
- **Finance** – No JVD scholarship. Training programmes are expensive for the college and students
- Internship avenues
- Mismatch of college calendar with APSSDC, JSS and SDI calendars

