# BRASS Fund, a distinct idea of the college:

# **Introduction:**

A meaningful life isn't found, but created through our actions. And it starts with looking for ways to help others.

There's a link between helping others and finding meaning in life. Helping others isn't a one way street where we do something good for someone and then we both go about our way. When we've touched someone's life in a positive way, we feel connected to them; it's a bonding experience. It builds trust through cooperation which not only brings them closer to us, it brings us closer to them.

When we choose to help others, especially if it's face to face, we're entering their lives in a positive way, reinforcing social connections as we go.

If we take a little time to think about what we do and how it helps people in some capacity, we'll feel better about it – even if it's just a little.

Doing good for others makes us happier which, in turn, makes us healthier.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF CREATING BRASS FUND:**

The main objective of creating this fund is to give back to the Society.

To help the needy students through financial aid so that there is a reduction in drop outs.

To chalk a planned approach for the upliftment of the locality as well as extend best possible support in times of need.

Keeping this objective in mind we took an innovative decision vide GB resolution vide 4(b)(v) dated 22.05.2019 to create a unique and dedicated fund in the name of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and named it BRASS, B.R.Ambedkar Social Service, Fund, purely distinct in nature, to help our students in the way of building a stronger connection with Social community in general and with the stake holders of the college in particular.

## The Context:

"Our society has progressed a little bit with education. Some persons have reached high posts after getting education. But these educated persons have betrayed me. I expected that they would do social service after getting higher education. But what I see is a crowd of small and big clerks who are busy in filling their own bellies. Those who are in government service have a duty to donate 1/20th part of their pay for social work. Only then the society will progress otherwise only one family will be benefitted. All hopes of society are centered on a boy who goes for getting education from a village. An educated social worker can prove to be a boon for them." ......DR.B.R.AMBEDKAR. He also said, "My appeal to the students is that after completing education instead of becoming a petty clerk they should serve their village and nearby people so

that exploitation and injustice arising out of ignorance may be ended. Your rise is included in the rise of society." This thought of Dr. Ambedkar is the motivating spirit behind the creation of this distinct idea, BRASS Fund.

#### **SALIENT FEATURES:**

This Fund was created with the aim of implementing the ideas and vision of Dr. B.R.Ambedkar into practice. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar had devoted his life to the upliftment of the downtrodden and the deprived sections of the society. The College too aims to tread the footsteps of this great visionary on whose name the College has been named. Hence the concept of BRASS fund was floated to help the poor and deprived students of the College as well as those people of the society who are in dire need of money for various purposes. This fund caters primarily to those people who need funds for any critical illness which requires huge expenses. It also stands beside the people fighting with natural calamities such as rain, flood, cyclone, earthquake and fire and for the forced social customs/rituals which need some mandatory expenditure. Recently the cyclone Amphan devastated the lives of many people. People were rendered homeless. The cyclone wreak havoc all over the state and the college too had to bear the brunt of this calamity. However, though the College was partially damaged due to this cyclone, it immediately started mobilizing the BRASS fund so that it can be of help to its students and also the people of the locality who were severely affected by the storm. Those people were provided with essentials like rice, pulses, soap, cooking oil etc out of the fund. Also their damaged houses were repaired from the contributions of the fund. This fund also caters to those students (present or alumni), who have met with any fatal accident and require funds for their treatment. Since the College is situated in an area which is inhabited by extremely poor strata of the society, the BRASS fund comes as a blessing in disguise not only for present students but also our ex-students who reside in various parts of the State. The message that the College wishes to convey to the ex – students through the BRASS fund is that the College will always be beside them though they are no longer studying here. They can come back to the College whenever they are in urgent need for funds for any physical ailment or any calamity and the College will try its best to help them and be by their side. The BRASS fund is also an effective means of cooperation with the society. Through this fund the College wants to convey the message that it is not only a centre for learning but also a humanitarian organization which is always with the people of the society and the relationship it shares with the society is that of mutual cooperation. Through the cooperation, the College aims to contribute towards building a healthy environment which is perfect for the future generation. The Fund also helps needy student in their studies by providing them with mobile phones which is very much needed nowadays in this age of technology in order to further their studies.

## **Fund Generation:**

Initially the Fund was generated transferring Rs10/ for each admitted student from 'Students Welfare Fund'. Later it got inflated by the contributions from staff, both TS &NTS, and different generous people from the different strata of the society scattered all over the country. This fund is maintained in a separate account.

## **Recommending Body:**

Committee comprising of Vice Principal, Bursar and Accountant under the leadership of the Principal of the college.

## **Activities:**

- ✓ Provided wheel chairs.
- ✓ Provided monetary help to our ex-student and parent for treatment of their disease.
- ✓ This fund played a very momentous and substantial role in helping the families of our students and the families of our adopted villages affected by the severe cyclone Amphan in the month of May, 2020. Many affected families and our students were reached out with monetary help and many were provided foodstuff during such crisis period.
- ✓ Many generous people came forward to help us in this magnanimous deed by donating generously to this fund with money and foodstuff.
- ✓ Provided smart phones to needy students who were unable to attend online classes.
- ✓ Reached out distressed families during Covid situation.

## Note:

This novel and noble idea, distinct in nature, will go long way in transforming the vision of the college in reality. Though the scarcity of fund creates hurdles on our way of achieving targets in long run but the dedicated and enthusiastic efforts of all the stake holders and dynamic participation of the local community will surely bring success in future in achieving our targeted objectives.

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