



Rural Internship at Palle Srujana

www.pallesrujana.org

AICTE Guidelines

It is indeed a visionary thought by AICTE to include Rural/Social Internship for engineering students in their document "AICTE Internship Policy: Guidelines and Procedures". However, not much happened in this area as the Faculty and the management of the Institutions are not actually familiar with this sector and hence did not offer Rural Internship to their students. It is also true that not many agencies/NGOs have offered to conduct such internships.

Palle Srujana

Palle Srujana - a voluntary group has been nurturing the grassroots innovation, creativity, traditional knowledge and children creativity in both Telugu states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh since 2005. We are a part of the honeybee network. The journey in the last fifteen years has made us evolve in developing clear and truthful concepts of grassroots unmet needs, the ability of grassroots innovators to address them by finding simple solutions with nothing at their disposal. Their conviction, confidence, passion and determination with which they persevere, in some cases for 5-10 years to arrive at solution are amazing. The way they built affordability and appropriateness into their devices/machines mostly using local technologies and local resources and provide independence to the users in terms of operation, maintenance and modification is remarkable. Most of these innovations are perfect examples of building affordable excellence in the products.

It was a great revelation to us as we found many such innovations in many villages and across the informal sector. We wish to share our experience and learning from our 15 years journey to the young graduates –who are the future of our nation. In the last ten years, Palle Srujana successfully conducted Internships for students from IIT- Kharagpur, VNIT- Nagpur, IIIT- Basara, TISS- Hyderabad and from a few local engineering institutions.



Rural Internship

Internship should be a voyage of discovering the unknown and important. The internees should be able to enjoy the journey and should be given freedom to design the schedule of Internship within the given limits. Their curiosity must be retained while planning the internee activity and adequate autonomy in managing time should be factored.

With the above considerations and the evolved expertise, we offer Palle Srujana as a platform for college students to pursue their internship in Rural/social sector, meeting the criteria laid out by AICTE for internship for graduates and diploma students. A humble effort has been made to pen down carefully the objectives/outcomes/takeaways for such Internship.

Objectives

1. To understand rural areas- their strengths, knowledge, livelihoods, harmony with nature.
2. To understand grassroots innovations and innovators- their genesis, their story, context, dissemination (enterprise) and impact on the society.
3. To assess market for these innovations, assess adequacy of technology, technical documentation, writing user and technical manuals. Understand how grassroots innovations are different in these aspects.
4. Soft skills like articulation, communication, team dynamics, coordination, how to work in a self-organised group. How to know the unknown and learn to share impressions.
5. Ability to bring village perspective to drawing board and vice versa.
6. Engaging with society armed with higher education.

We propose to offer this Internship from the Academic Year 2020-21.



Conduct

Internships can be conducted online/offline as the situation permits. Details of internship including duration and schedule can be worked out with individual Institution after due deliberations. If offline is preferred, all precautions for corona as stipulated by the Govt will be strictly adhered to.

Way Ahead

We need your endorsement to such initiative to ensure alignment with AICTE thought process on Rural/Social Internship for the students pursuing graduation and diploma. It is our considered view that the budding engineers, management students and graduates and diploma students of various disciplines should be allowed to engage with the society to give them a first-hand exposure in a free and meaningful manner so that a convergence of rural strengths and needs along with technology and professionalism takes place. It is expected that such convergence and sensitivity to society would pave way for a strong rural India in a sustainable manner in the long run.

Kindly spread this Internship opportunity to colleges and students. Palle Srujana is willing to sign a MoU with Colleges/Institutions to cater for their specific requirement. Group of students may also approach Palle Srujana directly supported by a letter from their Institution.

Contacts

Brig P Ganesham (Retd)
President, Palle Srujana
www.pallesrujana.org
President@pallesrujana.org
9866001678

Prashanthi Annamraju
Volunteer Lead – Internships
prshanthiannamraju@gmail.com
90328 82618