

Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: An In-Depth Analysis of the Prerana Experiential Learning Program

(“Prerana: Ministry of Education's experiential program for Classes IX to XII, fostering leadership through cultural values, NEP alignment, and IIT-designed curriculum.”)



शिक्षा मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

सत्यमेव जयते

The Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, has recently launched an ambitious initiative named 'Prerana: An Experiential Learning Program.' This program is specially designed for students in Classes IX to XII, aligning with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. With a focus on leadership development, holistic education, and cultural values, Prerana aims to provide a unique and inspiring experience to selected students. In this comprehensive analysis, we will delve into the various aspects of the Prerana program, including its roots in Indian values, curriculum structure, experiential learning components, and the potential impact on participating students.

Roots in Indian Values and NEP 2020

Prerana is grounded in the principles of the Indian education system and the philosophy of value-based education, which is a cornerstone of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. This program is not merely an educational endeavor but a commitment to nurturing a generation that respects India's rich cultural heritage and diverse traditions. The incorporation of the guiding principle, 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (the world is one family), reflects the program's broader vision of fostering global citizenship among the youth.

A Week-long Immersion in Innovation and Heritage

Ministry of Education Launches "Prerana Program" for
Experiential Learning at PM's Birthplace



The immersive experience unfolds in Vadnagar, Gujarat, within the premises of a historic vernacular school established in 1888. Vadnagar, a living city with ancient heritage sites and monuments, serves as a backdrop for a transformative journey. The choice of this location is strategic, symbolizing resilience and the potential for extraordinary growth arising from humble beginnings. Participants in Prerana not only learn within the classroom but also absorb lessons from the living history surrounding them.

Curriculum for Holistic Development

Developed by the esteemed Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Gandhi Nagar, the curriculum of Prerana revolves around nine core values. These values, ranging from self-respect and courage to compassion and innovation, form the building blocks of holistic development. By instilling these values, Prerana aims to inspire participants to become torchbearers for a developed India, fostering a sense of responsibility and commitment to the nation's progress.

Engaging Activities for a Dynamic Learning Experience

Prerana's schedule is designed to offer a diverse range of activities, ensuring a dynamic and holistic learning experience. From yoga and meditation sessions that promote mental well-being to hands-on learning activities and thematic workshops, each day is carefully crafted to contribute to the overall development of the participants. Evening activities, including film screenings, talent shows, and creative pursuits, add an extra layer to the learning process, combining education with entertainment.

Embracing Knowledge and Inspiration



Prerana goes beyond traditional educational boundaries by exposing students to various knowledge systems. Participants engage with indigenous wisdom, cutting-edge technology, and insights from inspirational figures. This blend of traditional and modern learning approaches equips students with a well-rounded understanding of the world, encouraging them to think critically and innovatively.

Selection Process and Participation

The selection process for Prerana is not merely academic but seeks well-rounded personalities with a keen interest in shaping the future of the nation. Students can register through the official portal, and a meticulous selection process ensures that the chosen 20 participants (10 boys and 10 girls) represent diverse regions and backgrounds. Additionally, the introduction of 'Prerana Utsav' days at the school/block level encourages active participation and facilitates a more inclusive selection process.

Become a Changemaker: Carry the Legacy Forward

The ultimate goal of Prerana is to transform participants into empowered changemakers. By the end of the program, these young individuals are expected to carry the legacy of Prerana back to their communities. As torchbearers for positive change, they are envisioned to inspire others and contribute to the development of a more vibrant and progressive society.

Join the Movement: Shape Your Future

Prerana extends an open invitation to students of Classes IX to XII to register and be a part of this transformative experience. The program's official portal, prerana.education.gov.in, serves as the gateway for enthusiastic students to embark on a journey towards leadership and a brighter future. The call to 'shape your future' resonates with the overarching theme of Prerana, emphasizing individual agency and the power of education in shaping destinies.

Prerana in Action: An In-Depth Look at the Program's Implementation



The Prerana program, in its operational phase, is a convergence of educational philosophy, cultural immersion, and experiential learning. Here, we take a closer look at how the program unfolds on a day-to-day basis, exploring the various facets that contribute to its success.

A Living City as the Classroom: Vadnagar, Gujarat

The choice of Vadnagar as the program's location is symbolic and strategic. This living city, with its historic school dating back to 1888, serves as a testament to the resilience and indomitable spirit of the community. Nestled in Gujarat, a state with a rich cultural heritage, Vadnagar provides an immersive backdrop for learning. The participants not only engage with textbooks but also with the living history that surrounds them, fostering a deep connection to their roots.



Curriculum Implementation: IIT Gandhi Nagar's Role

The curriculum, crafted by the prestigious IIT Gandhi Nagar, forms the backbone of the Prerana program. The nine core values are not just theoretical concepts but are woven into the fabric of daily activities. The emphasis on self-respect, courage, compassion, and innovation is not confined to the classroom; it permeates every aspect of the participants' experience. Mentors from prestigious institutions guide the students, bridging the gap between theory and practical application.

Daily Schedule: A Holistic Approach to Learning

The day-wise program schedule reflects a holistic approach to education. Mornings begin with yoga, mindfulness, and meditation sessions, setting a positive tone for the day. The emphasis on mental well-being aligns with the contemporary understanding of education as a tool for holistic development. As the day progresses, participants engage in experiential learning, thematic seminars, and hands-on activities, ensuring a balance between theoretical knowledge and practical skills.

Evening Activities: Beyond the Classroom

The learning experience extends into the evening with a diverse range of activities. Visits to ancient and heritage sites provide a tangible connection to history. Inspirational film screenings broaden perspectives, creative pursuits allow for self-expression, and talent shows showcase the diverse skills of the participants. This multifaceted approach ensures that education is not confined to traditional classrooms but is an immersive and engaging experience.

Knowledge Systems and Technologies: Bridging Tradition and Innovation

Prerana's commitment to embracing diverse knowledge systems is evident in the activities planned for the participants. From indigenous wisdom to cutting-edge technology, students are exposed to a spectrum of learning. This inclusive approach ensures that participants are not limited by disciplinary boundaries but are encouraged to explore the intersections between tradition and innovation.

Selection Process: Fostering Inclusivity

The selection process for Prerana is a crucial component of its success. By focusing on well-rounded personalities and a keen interest in shaping the nation's future, Prerana aims to include individuals with diverse talents and perspectives. The introduction of 'Prerana Utsav' days at the school/block level ensures that the selection process is not solely centralized but involves local communities, fostering a sense of inclusivity.

Impact Assessment: Empowering Changemakers

The true success of Prerana lies in its ability to empower participants to become changemakers. The program's impact extends beyond the week-long residential experience; it is about the lasting influence that participants carry back to their communities. By instilling values of self-respect, courage, compassion, and innovation, Prerana envisions a ripple effect where these empowered individuals spark positive change and inspire others.

Shaping a Brighter Future

In conclusion, the Prerana Experiential Learning Program stands as a beacon of innovation and inclusivity in the educational landscape. By intertwining traditional values with modern learning approaches, the program offers a unique and transformative experience for students. As Prerana continues to shape the leaders of tomorrow, it serves as a model for how education can go beyond textbooks and classrooms, fostering holistic development and a sense of responsibility towards society. Through this initiative, the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, paves the way for a brighter and more empowered future for the youth of India.