

**1. Title of the Practice Number I: Introduction of Annual Art Exhibition, Kalyani Art Utsav and Inter-University Painting Camps by Visual Arts Department**

**2. Objective of the Practice**

- i. To generate widespread interest amongst the students of the Visual Arts Department to exhibit their works along with their mentors in and outside the University premises.
- ii. Cross-cultural exchange of ideas, bringing together students from all backgrounds into an open space of discussion and multi-disciplinary art.
- iii. Generate income for Students by selling their art works outside the University premises providing the students a direction for their future endeavours
- iv. Popularize Visual Arts to all the stake holders of university as well as to the general population of Kalyani through the conduction of Art Utsav in the Department where students make art and craft items including show pieces, toys, murals various small art pieces for general public including children at low cost.

**3. The Context:** The Visual Arts Department of University of Kalyani (<https://www.facebook.com/events/department-of-visual-arts-kalyani-university/kalyani-art-utsav/427963040878136/>) is one of the very few departments in the state as well as in the country which deals with post graduate studies in Visual Arts. Since, visual arts have some significant differences with Fine Arts, which is generally associated with its aesthetic value, visual arts department with its artworks from students can have a vast market generating revenue for the department/ students, provided their works get enough exposure in the local area and in cities. Such activities might generate recruitments and income for the students in several art workshops etc.

**4. The Practice:** The studio works created by the students are displayed in the Annual Art Exhibitions that are organized by the Department in the Kolkata city once a year. This is a unique event which attains a lot of publicity ([Fig1](#)). The Annual Art exhibition of the teachers is also organized in the city of Kolkata once a year with the same objective to showcase the work being done by the academic fraternity to have a lot of exposure of the same ([Fig.2](#)). A lot of people from all walks of life come to visit these events and appreciate the works that are on display ([Fig. 3](#)).

Kalyani Art Utsav, an art fair organized by the Department of Visual Arts in campus exhibiting/ selling all the art works of the students of the department. All the teachers, non-

teaching staff, administrative staff, students, peers and the local people take part in this art fair to buy the works of the students of the University ([Fig.4](#), [Fig. 5](#)).

Inter-University Painting Camp organized by the Department of Visual Arts. All the Art Institutes in West Bengal having post-graduation study were invited ([Fig. 6](#), [Fig7](#)).

5. **Evidence of Success:** Because of the practice of the Visual Arts Department, University of Kalyani, the visibility of the department including its students is commendable in the state of West Bengal. The students get absorbed in various Workshops, leading architect houses and use their artistic inputs in various pandals. Several works of the students were appreciated by the several artists in India (<https://ibgnews.com/2017/08/19/annual-exhibition-contours-2017-art-works-students-department-kalyani-university/>).
6. **Problems Encountered:** Kalyani being 60 Km away from Kolkata, logistics was a problem faced in 2-3 days exhibition arranged by the Department of Visual Arts, University of Kalyani. Transportation of the art works by the faculties and the students have been challenging which sometimes also created various damages to the artworks. Moreover, arranging students fair for general public requires human resource both in terms of the faculty members and non-teaching help which is scanty on the department.

## **1.Title of the Practice 2: Development of Herbal and Butterfly Garden by the Department of Botany and the Department of Zoology**

### **2. Objectives:**

- i. The development of Herbal and Butterfly Garden aims towards having a green and sustainable environment in the University.
- ii. The main objective behind development of herbal garden in the University of Kalyani is to have various herbal and medicinal plants in the University campus which can be used for teaching, research and outreach programmes to make people aware about the importance of herbal and medicinal plants to humans as well as their impact on the environment.
- iii. The Butterfly Garden in the campus is maintained with the objective of having a healthy environment as well as for studying all the species that visit the garden by the students of the Department of Zoology.
- iv. Both the facilities are maintained for several outreach programmes which not only benefit the direct stakeholders of the university but also makes students from various colleges and schools aware of the environment, herbal plants and their medicinal values etc.

**3. The Context:** The context behind maintaining Herbal and Butterfly Garden in the University of Kalyani is associated with protecting biodiversity, understand the importance of the same. The herbal garden houses several plants of medicinal uses which can be used for extensive research purposes.

Moreover, butterflies and moths are indicators of a healthy environment and healthy ecosystems and they are important element of food chain and are prey for birds and other animal. So, a butterfly garden, designed to create an environment that attracts butterflies, will not only create a healthy environment but also educate our students about ecosystem services which humans have shown neglect.

Another context behind having this practice was to generate revenue by selling plants to the University fraternity and introduce the idea of felicitating our honourable guests with plants from the garden and wellness kits of herbal origin which are all products of the garden.

**4. The Practice:** The Department of Botany and Zoology along with the Department of Environmental Sciences maintain the institutional Herbal Garden and a Butterfly Garden. The garden harbours huge number of medicinal plants and various species of butterflies. This project is funded by the Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India, West Bengal Biodiversity Board, Government of India as well as by the University of Kalyani, Kalyani, Nadia ([Fig.1](#) and [Fig. 2](#))

**Butterfly Garden:** Butterflies are beneficial to the environment through the symbiotic relationship they maintain with the plants they visit and their preferences for organic, native habitats. Although the larval caterpillar feeds on its host plant, this minimal damage is often worth the benefits that come from the adult butterfly. Butterflies play an enormous role in ecology by pollination and development of plant species. Numerous plants rely on pollinators such as butterflies for their reproduction. The preference of butterflies for native plants can be considered as huge environmental benefit, since landscaping with native plants is a more sustainable practice. Natives are better adapted to their climate, so they require fewer resources to be maintained. Butterflies are extremely susceptible to pesticides and insecticides. By not requiring the use of harmful chemical applications, native habitats provide a safe environment not only for butterflies but also for other creatures. Butterfly habitats provide intriguing natural settings through the colourful appeal of the flowers and insects. This aesthetics draw human interest, which can result in a greater awareness of the environment and a better understanding of our role in preserving natural habitats.

Butterflies are indicators of a healthy environment and healthy ecosystems. Butterflies are also an important element of the food chain and are prey for birds, bats and other insectivorous animals.

It is with this background a butterfly garden has been setup within the campus of University of Kalyani adjacent to the Department of Botany & Zoology.

The list containing some of the butterflies spotted in the garden and their probable host plants is given below ([Fig.4](#)).

BUTTERFLY		PLANT	
Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Ariadne merione</i> (Cramer, 1777)	Common Castor	<i>Ricinus communis</i> Linnaeus	Castor Bean Plant
<i>Papilio polytes</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Common Mormon	<i>Murraya koenigii</i> (L.) Sprengel	Curry tree
<i>Papilio demoleus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Common Lime Butterfly		
<i>Danaus chrysippus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Plain Tiger	<i>Calotropis gigantea</i> (L.)	Crown Flower (Milk Weed Plant)
<i>Catopsilia pyranthe</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Mottled Emigrant	<i>Cassia fistula</i> Linnaeus	Golden Rain Tree
<i>Catopsilia Pomona</i> Fabricius, 1775	Common Emigrant		
<i>Acraea terpsicore</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Tawny Coster	<i>Passiflora foetida</i> Linnaeus	Wild Maracuja

**Table:** Butterflies spotted on their probable host plants.

Herbal Garden: The garden houses more than a hundred plants of medicinal importance. The area of the garden has a planning for extension with extensive plantation programmes in the future. The garden is primarily maintained by the Department of Botany and is used by the post graduate students for performing practical courses as well as by the research scholars. The garden has earned praises from the Forest Department, Govt. of West Bengal and West Bengal Biodiversity Board, Govt. of West Bengal. Here is a glimpse of the garden ([Video1](#))

**5. Evidence of Success:** The Herbal and Butterfly Garden of the University of Kalyani has received several funding from the State Government as well as from the Central Government for its maintenance. Moreover, because of its excellent maintenance, University has sanctioned for the extension of the area of the herbal garden. Various workshops, open house for school and college students have been conducted in the garden which testifies the success of the same ([Fig. 5](#), [Fig. 6](#) and [Fig. 7](#)).

**6. Problems Encountered:** The present area of the herbal and butterfly garden is huge and requires considerable funding and hard work with a huge workforce for its maintenance. Challenges are faced by the departmental faculties and people associated with the maintenance of the same. Also, natural calamities like storms, cyclones sometimes cause damage to the garden which requires to be restored.