

**Theme: Leadership for Skills-based and Vocational Education**

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The School I am going to represent is Government Higher Secondary School Wokha, which is about 2 and half hour's journey from the state capital. The school was established in the year 1944 that provides Schooling for the students from Class KG to XII having Arts and Science stream. The present School building was constructed in the year 1962 by Tamper /Wood. Notwithstanding to the fact of the school building which is not in a condition, the school runs with its inspiring MOTTO – **"THOU BE A MAN"** and keeps motivating us every time.

Meanwhile, it is also imperative to mention that, any organization, groups and most importantly schools should have a yearly theme in order to keep one reflecting, reviewing and refining during the specific session. The school from 2019 has innovated yearly theme or slogans of the school and is continuing till date. The Theme is proclaimed depending on the need of the time and situation.

Therefore, the year 2025 is declared as the year of **"PROFESSIONAL REJUVENATION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SKILL BASED AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION"**

As far as the school leadership is concerned, it must be noted that the school leadership should be in a position to adapt and innovate new things from its normal school culture. As such, to mention the hard reality, when first joined as principal, the school was in a position of not insisting the students to be regular in attending classes, I also felt that, when regular and non-performing teachers are being checked and scolded, it is equally important that, the regular, best and sincere teachers must also be rewarded.



### **Appreciation award:**

Therefore, with the above stated concept, the school conducted and introduced School Annual Award Ceremony since the year 2018. This award has two important features. Firstly, **Students Award**. In order to minimize the irregularities of the students", the school introduced the system of monthly award to the students. Here, the most regular students of the month hailing from every classes are awarded and makes them as the "**students of the month**". They are awarded during morning assemble without disturbing the normal classes. This policy has impacted positively and reduced the culture of students" irregularities. Secondly, **Teachers Award**. When non-performing teachers are being disciplined, the performing teachers must be awarded. The school authority with this concept, started to implement School Annual Award to the performing teachers. The award ceremony is conducted at the end of the session. During this occasion, all the NGO's, Students leaders, religious leaders, eminent writers, intellectuals, community leaders and department officials are invited to attend this function. Receiving an award of recognition, appreciation and other achievements in the presence of all the above personalities happened to be a proud moment for all the award holders. The sincerity of all the teachers after introducing this policy has been marvelous and noteworthy to be praise.

In addition to the monthly award, students are also awarded in different categories during the Annual Award ceremony.

The school also received the overall champion in the cultural event organized by the apex body of the people in the district.

The photos largely depict the skill-based education that are imparting to the students. As the conference is convened on Successful School Leadership, I would like to note few characteristics features of leadership which are essentially based on my hard-earned practical experiences and not otherwise, which we find from the books written by many scholars. As a successful leader, in collaboration with the whole team, the school has been able to cater to the needs of the students by prioritizing every school activity, participation increased, giving chance to develop physically as well as spiritually and building a proper connection with academics, nature and community.

**Learning by doing:** Another key encouragement theme in the school is inculcating learning by doing and in the teaching learning process. The students are encouraged to involve in the various activities in the school.

Weaving baskets which are a traditional art is encouraged among the students. This will help to continue the trend of encompassing the old tradition at the same time give a sense of pride in their culture.

**Connection through cultural activity:** The school organizes cultural events to showcase their talents as well as create a bond with the old tradition. The village community are invited so that they are also a part of the celebration. They are able to share their knowledge also and encourage the young generation.



**Eco Club:** The eco club is very active and it is one of the most effective ways to bring students and community to engage and learn. The school gains by making it a green school and helpful to the environment also.

**Conclusion:**

**As a school leader, the following is observed in the school.**

A successful leader must possess a strong temperament, demonstrating patience, resilience, and emotional intelligence to navigate challenges effectively. Leadership is not just about authority; it is about understanding when, why, where, and how to act before taking on any responsibility. A true leader must be the driving force from the beginning of a task to its successful completion, ensuring that every aspect is handled with diligence and care. Protecting and standing by team members is crucial, as leadership is not about individual success but collective achievement. A leader must gain the trust of their team while extending their own confidence in return, fostering an environment of mutual respect and collaboration. Strength, both physically and spiritually, plays a vital role in enduring the pressures of leadership while maintaining a clear vision. Additionally, acknowledging and appreciating the efforts of team members not only boosts morale but also strengthens commitment and unity. Prioritization is key—effective leaders must be able to organize tasks strategically, ensuring that the most important activities receive the attention they deserve. Clarity in self-identity is equally important, as a leader must remain firm in their values and purpose to inspire those around them. Offering hope and encouragement in difficult times builds resilience within a team, reinforcing their ability to persevere. Moreover, true leaders have the ability to create opportunities from seemingly impossible situations, turning obstacles into stepping stones for success. Honesty and integrity should be the foundation of leadership, as truthfulness fosters trust and credibility. Establishing meaningful connections with people and maintaining open communication further solidifies one's leadership. However, a great leader must also know the balance between involvement and interference, avoiding unnecessary control while empowering others to take initiative. Finally, being a good listener is one of the most essential qualities of leadership, as it allows for understanding, problem-solving, and stronger relationships. In essence, leadership is about guiding, supporting, and inspiring others while upholding values that ensure long-term success.