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A Books Takeback Programme

- Saving Trees and the Environment

A. Background

We are customers of a Book House for quite a few years.

My visit to the outlet to purchase II PUC Reference books for my son brings to picture one question – As my wife asked, once we are done with CBSE/SSLC/ICSE/PUC/Graduate level reference books, whether a book house or library would like to take back unused notebooks, costly text books and reference books as part of a new books take back programme.

The reasoning being that most reference books are not priced in such a manner that all can afford them.

If an educational institution does implement this take back programme, then the (1) books can be given to students who may not be able to purchase them independently and (2) we might be able to reduce the cutting down of trees to produce paper for books.

B. The Books Take back Programme

An institution could start this 'Student Assistance Programme' by implementing two main components that is

1. A Scholars Assistance Programme or A Classmate Programme (that has a specific timing to ensure students can use the offer in the most relevant manner)

2. A Take back Programme (that is specific to end of term or end of academic year timings)

For the reader, the whole idea was first tagged with keywords that are meaningful for a team developing the solution. This was done to ensure that the idea can be developed via an IT implementation or a manual implementation.

C. Scholars Assistance Programme

The Scholars Assistance Programme could ask for bright needy students, to register themselves for assistance, wherein they would need to provide their

1. Curriculum based Rank Card details (to help know about their merit)

2. Aadhaar Card details (to help know about their identification)

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3. Assistance Card details (to help know about the type of assistance that they need – text books and reference books for a particular examination)

All this information could be used to put the student's names into a reference list with a rank based index that would then be helpful in fulfilling their requests for assistance.

Over a period of time, your Library could add choicest Text books, Reference Books and Research specific Books, new curriculum based reference books where these can be donated by people, organizations and corporates.

The Aadhaar Card information could be used to ensure the students provide an accountable background of themselves.

The Assistance Card information can be used to request, fulfill and take back assistance books. The policy to preserve books in a good condition can ensure that students being issued books do take care of them.

The policy could make the students sign a clause that if the books were to be damaged or …lost they would pay a fine.

D. Classmate Assistance Programme

The Classmate Assistance Programme could be based on 'sustainable development and growth involvements', to help needy students study with enabled assistance.

The Classmate Assistance Programme could reach out to "well-off or conscious of their role" students to get them to participate in the take back programme. The reaching out could ensure there is more participation.

These needy or **sustainably enabled** students could be asked to register themselves by providing details like

1. Aadhaar Card details (to help know about their identification)

2. Assistance Card details (to help know about the type of assistance that they need – text books and reference books for a particular examination)

3. Interests Card details (to help know how the student expects to develop and grow in life)

This information could be used to put the student's names into a 'SDG' slot based index, where this could be used to fulfill their requests for assistance and generative involvement. This SDG information could be used by a hub of Educational departments, Educational consultants and student or career counselors to carry out a Case review with feedback, where proactive catalysis could help the student's development and growth.
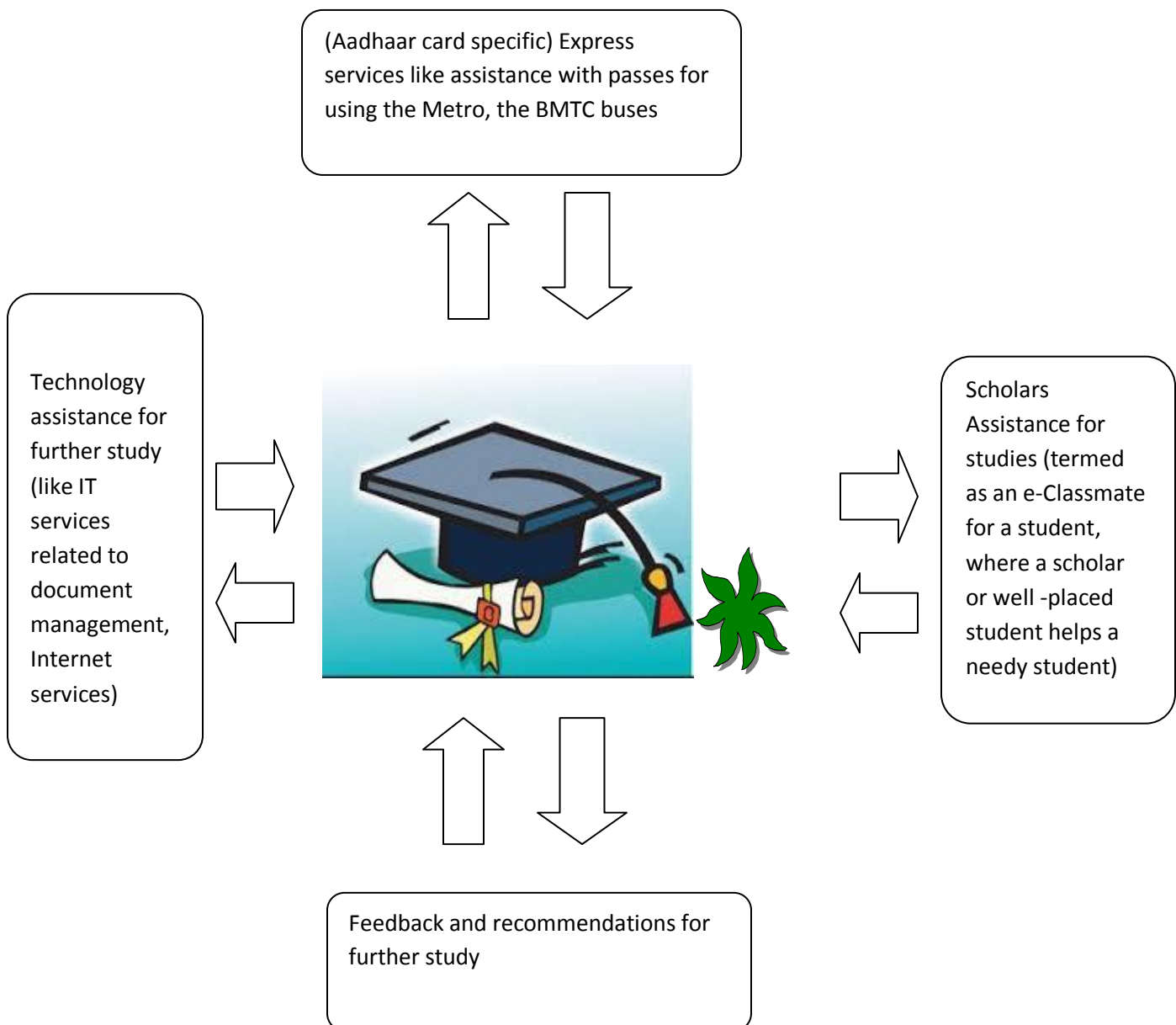
D.1 Proactive catalysis for enabled assistance

(Aadhaar card specific) Express services like assistance with passes for using the Metro, the BMTC buses

Technology assistance for further study (like IT services related to document management, Internet services)

Scholars Assistance for studies (termed as an e-Classmate for a student, where a scholar or well -placed student helps a needy student)

Feedback and recommendations for further study

E. Take back Programme

A Take back Programme that permits students interested in helping other students, return their unused notebooks, text books and reference books (via a registration-time decision or via a decision that is subsequent to passing out of each academic year).

The decision could also need the students to comply with a policy to try and keep the books in good condition so the same can be issued to other students who cannot purchase them independently.

The decision could also help students understand that we are cutting down trees to produce paper, by complying with a policy to try and keep the note books in good condition, so unused pages can be recovered and used by a professional binding agency to produce **custom-bound note books** that can be issued to student circles.

AOEC has different toolkit offerings to help sustainable development and growth. It is reaching out to organizations and educational institutions to promote these insights.

You can ask for more details by calling the consultant on +91 9342867666 or by emailing venkataoec@gmail.com