# Institutional Distinctiveness: Catering Higher Educational Opportunities to Rural, Backward Communities.

Ahmednagar Jilha Maratha Vidya Prasarak Samaj, Ahmednagar our Parent institute, established Shri Dhokeshwar College in 1994 on an unaided basis with a single faculty of Arts. The very modest objective of the founders behind establishing this college in Draught-Prone Areas like Takali Dhokeshwar village & its vicinity was to promote higher education among the deprived classes & especially the girl students lacking opportunities in this region.

Milestones of Development: It received permanent affiliation in 2004 from the University of Pune now called Savitribai Phule Pune University. After completing seven years of its existence & by giving out excellent results in the University Examination, the Govt. of Maharashtra was pleased to extend a 100% grant since Academic Year 2000-2001. As a result of it in its successive stages, new faculties and courses were introduced as Science Faculty in 2008 and Commerce Faculty in 2013. The college came to be recognized under 2 F &12 B by the University Grant Commission in 2006. In the course of time, the college name was altered from Takali Dhokeshwar College of Arts to Shri Dhokeshwar College which received recognition on 14/04/2014 from UGC.

The college has expanded in stages as per the rules of UGC, Savitribai Phule Pune University, and directives of the parent institution. Considering the educational interest of rural students, subjects like Marathi, Hindi, English, History, Geography, and finally Political Science have been specially reserved for the degree under Humanities. After the 1st Cycle of NAAC Accreditation (2003), as per the observations of the Peer Team Report need for multifaculty higher education was identified. Accordingly, in 2008-09 institute introduced science faculty with subjects like Chemistry, Physics, Botany, and Electronics under Science & Technology. In the year 2014-15, the subject of Cost Accounting was started under Commerce and Management faculty. After completing its journey to a multi-faculty college passed the 2nd Cycle of the NAAC assessment in 2016.

### Augmentation of Infrastructure:

With a special focus on girls' education in the purview of the college's vision and mission Ladies, Hostel was built with the help of grants sanctioned by the UGC during the academic year 2015-2016.

To accommodate multi-faculties institution augmented the infrastructure facility and relocated itself to a new campus during the academic year 2015-2016. With the perspective plan, the college achieved gradually its developmental targets over the years.

# **Quality enhancement Thrust:**

Role of IQAC: Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the college is actively contributing towards the performance of teachers' and students' improvements in various capacities by organizing various activities of teaching-learning.

Library as a learning resource: College library has increased multiple learning resources adequately to cope with the changing trends in education.

Girls NCC: College was in constant pursuit of getting permission for the NCC Unit. In 2019 permission was granted from the 17th Maharashtra Battalion, with 50 percent of enrolment reserved for girls cadets. Our NCC unit in-charge Lt. Mrs. S. R. Gadge was specially appointed to train girl cadets. NCC Unit has created many service opportunities for students in defence forces.

## Various programs:

In order to provide employment to the students along with regular education, the college started Bee Keeping, Travel & Tourism, and Online C Language Certificate. Programs are organized to keep the healthy environment in the college best practice of 'GREEN CAMPUS' has been initiated.

Activities are organized in the college under NSS, NCC, and Student Development Board to bring out aspects of student personality. The above students help in natural disasters and communicable disease control measures. Girl students are given equal opportunity to work along in gender equality awareness activities under the Nirbhaya Kanya' campaign in college.

Overall development of the students is done through various activities. The college is committed to higher education for rural students and has been fulfilling its role with the following distinct objectives.

- The college awakens students' to social responsibility and awareness.
- College provides skill orientation to its students through academic and extension activities.
- Adapting to NEP and Online Education patterns and systems.
- The college organizes students' personality development programs like Soft skill, sports, NCC, NSS, Competitive examinations, and Cultural activities.

#### **Achievements of the Institution:**

- a) Ph.D. awarded faculty members increased from one to six during the last five years.
- b) Best Student Development Officer Award to Mr. Ashok More from Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune in the academic year 2017-2018.
- c) Good research output by faculty members.
- d) Adequate ICT facilities.
- e) Alumni are catering best services to society.

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