



Sonopant Dandekar Shikshan Mandali's
Sonopant Dandekar Arts, V.S. Apte Commerce and
M.H. Mehta Science College, Palghar

INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS 2018-2019

The institute always focused on creating a sustainable, equitable and inclusive education for all. Keeping its roots intact yet providing an international stature to it, like every year apart from taking its legacy forward it ensures value addition each year. This year extracting the component from STEM education and International Observance, Mental Health Well Being and Entrepreneurship Development aligning the MAKE IN INDIA Initiative shaped the institution framework.

A. MENTAL HEALTH WELL BEING

The kernels of misinformation regarding mental ill-health have remained dominant. The burdensome stigma of being mentally ill has further aggravated neuropsychiatric disorders and especially in rural areas where mental health is no health. The concerned are even more higher in case of millennial who spend most of the time on social media and have learnt to hide their emotions under various pre assumed notions. Under the mentor mentee relationship this was well observed by the institute more vividly. Every year on 10th October World Mental Day is observed and this year the primary focus were these young lads which the institute in its perspective planning had embraced. Apart from regular counselling sessions, this year a dedicated counsellor not an academician to avoid reluctance from students was appointed and a separate cell was formed. Workshops, Personal Counselling, Seminars were organized not only for students but for all the stakeholders. The annual magazine too was based on this

notion to subconsciously create an awareness about the importance of mental health wellbeing amongst the community gracefully to breakdown the stigmas attached to it.



B. SKILL DEVELOPMENT - MAKE IN INDIA INITIATIVE.

Based on discussions with various industry excerpts and feedback from alumni, parents and employers it was observed that the proportion of illiterate unemployed across the country has fallen historically and hence illiteracy as a major cause of unemployment cannot be ruled out in the present economic scenario. In other words, the employment rate of the educated class is lower than its counterparts. The only two theoretical possibilities are 1) Slow growth of economy whereby demand is less and 2) Educated sector lacks required skills and competencies to sustain the changing business environment. The possibility of the first outcome is thin since India despite global slowdown has ascended as a shining star. Thus the need to equip existing and future demographic resources with quality education and competencies is necessitated. Subsequently this mismatch often leads to inefficient allocation of resources impacting the productivity levels.

Keeping this in mind, the institute not only opted for various skilled based vocational courses but also started, Fruits and Vegetable Processing Training Centre for Rural Youth along with various courses on stock market mechanism to ensure employability of the youth.

Thus the institute continues to align its activities maintaining the regional, national and international balances and carve its distinctive image in the field of higher education.

PRINCIPAL *K. J. Dave*
**Soropant Dandekar Arts College,
V.S. Apte Commerce College &
M.H. Mehta Science College
PALGHAR (W.R.)
Dist. Palghar, Pin-401404**