

7.3.1 INSTITUTE DISTINCTIVENESS

Portray the performance of the Institution **in one area** distinctive to its priority and thrust within 1000 words

INSTITUTE DISTINCTIVENESS Inculcating thoughts of Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj among college students through “Gramgeeta examination & Gramgeeta Reading”.

The college has ample of distinctiveness spread over in different areas. The college vision is “To spread the educational awareness in rural areas and emerge as Center of Academic Excellence to provide value, need and skill based easily Accessible and Affordable Education in stress-free environment which **will enhance students qualities for humanities, cultural, sports, environment sustainability etc**, for employment, research, higher education, entrepreneurship and welfare of students etc.”.

The vision of the institute is weaved around the **enhancing students qualities for humanities, cultural, and environment sustainability. College has mission in line with the central theme of vision and started taking rigorous efforts for this purpose. The activity to enhance students qualities for humanities, cultural, environmental sustainability acquire the uniqueness and distinctiveness.**

The name of University is on the name of Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj, so college has decided to make students aware about the Philosophy, work done by Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj through Gramgeeta reading. College decided to make this activity as a one of the unique feature. Gramgeeta is taught in our college to inculcate the social work and social teaching done by them in the society. College has procured number of copies of Gramgeeta from Akhil

Bhartiya Gurudev Seva Mandal, Mozari (Maharashtra). Gramgeeta reading helps to study the life and literature of Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj to create the sense of village cleanliness, good conduct, discipline, communal harmony among students.

Study of Gramgeeta develop equality by eliminating economic, social and communal disparities according to the prevailing conditions and nurture the idea of nationalism, secularism and patriotism. Gramgeeta help students to understand the real meaning of education and responsibilities toward society and nation.

The context: -

The importance of cleanliness in villages is already underlined during COVID 19 and many epidemic diseases. India's first finance minister Dr. C. D. Deshmukh announced programs for developing villages which needs to be started by the social workers and villagers themselves. It is admirable that such programs are started in Maharashtra and Madhyapradesh by Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj without any aids and funding. He created great level of awareness and participation of people by own example in various villages. Even in today's modern world and among the new-generation these eternal values need to be inculcated.

The purpose of this activity as a Practice is to make students aware about the philosophy of Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj life through the epics written by Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj on Indian villages 'Gramgeeta' which will develop qualities like physical, social, intellectual, psychological and spiritual in students.

In the beginning creating desired response for the activity was challenge. Experts to Guide on the syllabus for exam were not available but the College has successfully created awareness and motivated students to read the "Gramgeeta" voluntarily and identified the expert

from Andhalgaon and got his consent for guidance. Then college motivated students to undergo the examinations on 'Gramgeeta' by enrolling for examination conducted by of Akhil Bhartiya Gurudev Seva Mandal, Mozari (Maharashtra). Students learned Gramgeeta and appeared for exam in 2018-19, 2019-20. After lockdown there was a break in appearing for examination, but reading 'Gramgeeta', understanding the values and learning from the thoughts of Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj is continuous process in college.

The syllabus for these examinations on 'Gramgeeta', contains the, moral values, responsibility toward society, village, nation. Bringing exam forms, submitting forms, getting question papers and answer books and submitting them to Akhil Bhartiya Gurudev Seva Mandal, Mozari (Maharashtra) is done by college on its own expense. But after COVID 19 students could not appeared in examination, but college continued the activity and slightly changed the format in 2020-21 and 2021-22 by having activity of reading Gramgeeta by students and staff members on the occasion of Birth anniversary and death anniversary of Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj. This activity is conducted in the 'Gramgeeta Cultural Hall' at Andhalgaon. This has created moral and human values through the life and literature of Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj which make students life noble and better. 'Layala Javo!' is one of the popular bhajan from Tukdoji Maharaja's literature in which he appeals the humanity to eradicate the un-touchability and casteism from this world. The Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj Nagpur University adopted the bhajan of Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj "Hya bharatat bandhubhav nitya vasu de, de varchi asa de" as University anthem. This university anthem is put in the college at prominent place. Students sung this University anthem in the starting of all programs conducted in college which teaches that the Humanity is the only Religion in the world. The literature of Rashtra Sant Tukdoji Maharaj reduces the stress, enhances relaxation and eases the tension of the students and created high regards for backbone of the society. This builds families and communities with love, hard work, perseverance, selflessness etc. College distributes books on Gramgeeta to students to take at home for reading and at the end of the year students have to returned it back to library. Every year two/ three guest lectures and orientation programme are organized in college. The trained persons who had cleared higher exams on the thoughts of Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj are invited for guest lectures. Shri Murlidhar Burade, Gramgeetacharya (PhD), Retired P.I. usually gave his valuable guidance to students and staffs.

In the era of passion for social media it was big task for the college to attract students towards this activity but efforts taken by college by conducting orientation programs through experts on Gramgeeta has brought fruitful results. 70 students participated in exam in 2018-2019 and 72 students in 2019-2020.

In the activity of Gramgeeta reading on different occasions. In all 120 students participated in the Gramgeeta reading activity. Highly motivated Students themselves took initiative under the guidance of faculty to read Gramgeeta in the Andhalgaon Grampanchayat's 'Gramgeeta Cultural Hall'. Every year students garland the statue of Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj situated there before beginning of this activity. Students enthusiastically took the Gramgeeta to home for reading provided by college.

