

### **Institutional Distinctiveness:**

A foremost concern of the college has always been to augment the students' academic improvement. To follow this up, steps are taken to identify students who are lagging behind in academics, to recognize their areas of difficulties and to find ways to address them. By the end of this Academic Year an added concern was to ensure that in the wake of the Covid pandemic students from economically weak and socially marginalised communities are able to continue with their studies, specially to acclimatise them with the digital mode of learning. The institute took several measures regarding both of these concerns.

An integral part of the teaching learning process is continuous internal assessment, both through daily feedback after class as well as systematized Internal Assessment and tutorial and project work. The college has undertaken the task of digitizing all result-related data of all the students – their scores in internal evaluation as well as in tutorial and end-semester examinations are preserved. They are made available to respective departments where these results are analysed. As a result, the department can track the progress of individual students and can identify their strength as well as weaknesses.

Once areas of concern are identified, the following steps are taken to redress them:

- Often it is seen that students do not do well in academics not because they are less intelligent but for lack of preparedness. Therefore, re-tests and verbal assessment are conducted on regular basis.
- In the past, college has successfully run UGC sponsored remedial coaching for the students from disadvantageous groups. Now, the college has continued to arrange remedial classes for the weak students on a regular basis. Special classes are allotted outside the normal routine. The administration also takes note of the regularity of the students in these classes and their effectiveness.
- Small tutorial groups are created with the purpose of identifying individual obstacles and error of the students and to resolve them under personalized care.
- Though college students are adults and should shoulder academic responsibilities themselves, conducive home environment and concerned parental support are necessary. With this view in mind the college tries to contact and collaborate with the student's parents in order to make a two-way communication possible for the wellbeing of the students. The vision of the institute is to achieve excellence while remaining faithful to its commitment to the empowerment of the weaker sections

of the society through knowledge that enlightens and empowers. A substantial percent of the students of the college are first generation learners and are also from socioeconomically backward families. They are bound to have challenges on a daily basis. Parent meet are conducted regularly, at least twice a year, one after the half yearly assessment and one after the annual, to have an understanding of the challenge individual student faces and also to impart the parents the expectations of a higher education institution. Academic progress, attendance of the students and other related matters are discussed. Parents' observations and suggestions are taken note of and are addressed to. Equipped with the response of such meetings, the college often tries to go out of routine academic activities to support the challenged students.

Since the month of March, 2020 as educational institutions went into lock down due to the Covid pandemic the college kept track of students to see whether anyone is unable to attend classes. In such a situation, the college administrative, departments or individual teachers intervened immediately, reached out to the concerned student and the family and provided all possible help, academic as well as financial to help the student continue with her studies. Students from deprived classes were exempted from paying their semester fees; they were also provided with financial assistance as and when required to ensure that no student was left out. We can not claim that ours was a complete success; however, due to the concerted effort of the administration and teachers many more students who would have otherwise fallen off the grid could continue with their education.