

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tale Vibhag Shikshan Prasarak Mandal (TVSPM) was established in 1951. The vision of the trust is “*Tamasoma Jyotirgamaya*” i.e. “**To Reflect the Vibrations of Social Aspiration in Education**”. The TVSPM trust was established mainly to provide education to the poor and needy students of Tale region of Raigad district.

Tale Vibhag Shikshan Prasarak Mandal’s(TVSPM’s) D. G. Tatkare Arts and Commerce College was established since 2001 in Hilly area of Konkan Region of Maharashtra. It has opened a door of higher education for rural boys and girls of Tala, which is a historical place known for the memorial house of late Dr C. D. Deshmukh, the Finance Minister of free India and the then youngest and the first governor of Reserve Bank of India.

Tala Vibhag Shikshan Prasark Mandal, Tala is an educational institution which had been established to provide education to the poor and needy students of the Raigad region. The noble aim of the establishment of the institution led it to start a high school at Tala in 1951 named “Tala English School” with only 18 students in the first batch of VIII standard. This school went on developing day by day with the contribution of many native scholars and educational thinkers as well as the social volunteers and leaders. This school got its own building by hard

work, donation and contribution of many required things by the donors, native citizens of Tala and surrounding villagers. The school was named as Gopinath Mahadeo Vedak Vidya Mandir, who was the father of an ex-student, a successful businessman and the present trustee of the institution. There after a Junior College with Arts, Commerce and Science faculty was started to provide higher secondary school (HSC) education to those students who had to go either to Mangoan or Mahad 25 to 50 kms away from Tala. Just after completing the higher secondary school education, students, parents and the native expected that the institution should establish a college that would provide higher education to these students. This necessity has forced the management to establish senior college and therefore Tala Arts and Commerce College came in existence in 2001, which was renamed as D.G. Tatkare Arts and Commerce College, Tala, after the name of the father of the then Honourable Finance Minister of Maharashtra Mr. Sunil D. Tatkare. The institution gradually expanded its space up to higher education and has developed along with its own buildings and faculties from K.G. to P.G. Thus a full-fledged educational institution having two high schools (at Tala and Panheli Gaimukh), a pre-primary and primary school, a Junior College of Arts, Commerce and Science; a senior college of Arts and Commerce became a centre of education under one umbrella.

The unbound progress of TVSPM is only because of its founders such as Late Mahadeo Joshi; Late Prabhakar Deshmukh; Late Prabhakar Joshi; Late Ashok Lokhande Late Parshuram Mekde and many more, who have contributed a lot to bring this institution in limelight in Konkan region of Maharashtra. This prospective development of the institution is continued even today under the valuable guidance and consistence efforts of all previous and existing trustees and members of the TVSPM, office bearers and members of the Governing Body and

Chairman and members of the Local Management Committee of D.G. Tatkare Arts and Commerce college.

The vision of the college “**Exploration Of Youth Strength For The Nation Building**” itself reflects one of the notable **STRENGTHS** of the college because it ensures empowerment of the rural youth for building the nation.

The college keeps an ardent focus on the nation of empowering rural students and making them professionally, socially and economically self reliant. The Mission statements of the college are:

- Persuasion of academic excellence.
- Inculcation of scientific attitude, rational thinking and human values.
- Development of personality through soft skills, Spoken English and competitive careers.
- Development of competent graduates having capabilities for placement and social commitment.
- Value addition through certificate/diploma courses.
- Uplifting of girls through women empowerment program.

The extra curricular and extension activities undertaken by the college speak of the goals and objectives of the college. The college being affiliated to University of Mumbai, it is obligatory for us to keep in centre the curriculum design by the university. However, the direct or indirect participation of our faculties in curriculum design is linked with updating academic programs.

D.G. Tatkare Arts and Commerce College (herein after called as DGT College) offers three years integrated undergraduate courses in B.A. and B.Com.

and two years Post Graduate courses in M.A. in Political Science and M.Com. in Accountancy under auspices of **Curriculum Design and Development**. In B.A. course students are able to opt for Marathi, Geography, Political Science and Economics as major subjects. In B. Com. students may offer either Advertisement or Secretarial Practice along with accounts and finance. Apart from these courses students can undertake short duration add-on courses in Computer such as CCC, DSA, CCC & CCDTP, CCC & DSA, MS Office, CCC & ATP, ATP, IT, CCFA, Hardware & CCC, DDTP, C4, CLIT & DTP, MOS & CCC, Tally, CCDTP. These add-on courses and post graduate courses are offered under the roof of self-financial courses. Our college conducts these programs to shape students to courageously confront with life and unbounded challenges of the 21st century. We expect that this approach will lead to fulfill the vision of our college i.e. Exploration of Youth Strength for Nation Building.

In Teaching, Learning and Evaluation the major strength of our college is the process of admission. Admission are given on first come first serve basis for B.A., B.Com., M.A. and M. Com. courses. Most of the students belong to SC/ST/OBC category and resident of 52 to 60 villages around Tala and Mangaon Taluka.

The students are given adequate counseling regarding subject options and other co- curricular, extra-curricular and extension activities undertaken by the college during the orientation period in the classroom at the beginning of the year. First year students are oriented with the help of bridge courses. Each teacher classified newly admitted students into slow learners, average learners and advance learners. The bridge course design by the teacher in his/her subject is taught in first two weeks of the academic year to slow learners.

The college prepares the academic calendar well in advance, keeping in the centre the university schedule. Our college also provides schedules of teaching plan, curricular extension activities and methods of evaluation to the students at the beginning of academic year. Our teachers are competent enough to maintain schedule of teaching, learning and evaluation with the help of printed diaries which are checked by head of the departments / faculty in charge / principal.

Chalk and talk teaching method is supported by organizing guest lectures, conducting seminars, workshops, arranging study tours, showing films, slides etc. using ICT. For the purpose of effective teaching-learning process, modern methods of teaching like students' participation in the learning process, quiz competition, Seminars, use of Tape recorder, L.C.D., Home Appliances, Charts, Tables, Models, Educational tours etc. are used.

Teaching and learning is not confined to the traditional lecture method only. The teachers always encourage and motivate the students to participate in co-curricular, extra-curricular and extension-activities that give them a direct exposure to day-to-day life experiences.

Students are evaluated throughout the year with the help of home assignments, tutorials and unit test. Some of the students are involved in project work, which helps to improve the perception of the students in the related subject.

We have qualified staff in all faculties. Due to the present policy of the State Government, wherever we have not been able to recruit the staff, the management having a sense of commitment to the cause of education, bears the financial burden and fills in the required number of staff. The teachers are always motivated

to upgrade their qualifications and are promoted to go for research work for the degree of Master of Philosophy or the Doctor of Philosophy. As many as 04 teachers are having doctorate as their highest qualification in their respective subjects, whereas 03 teachers have secured M. Phil. and 04 are qualified with NET/SET.

Teacher's performance is evaluated initially with the help of self appraisal form and performance report and now Academic Performance Indicator (API) based on Performance Based Appraisal Scheme (PBAS). Most of our teachers participate in various national and international conferences, seminars, orientation/ refresher courses etc. All teachers keep themselves update with their subject knowledge. The teachers are given all the necessary facilities to go for Orientation or Refresher Programmes. Besides, they are also encouraged to take active part in conferences, seminars or workshops etc. that help them to upgrade the knowledge of their subjects.

Our evaluation is also very transparent. In case a student is not satisfied with the marks given to him/her then answer book is checked once again and convincing reasons are given for justifying the marks allotted with the help of verification and revaluation of internal as well as external assessment.

The college has adopted credit based semester grading system (CBSGS) since 2011-12 as per the guidelines issued by University of Mumbai. It has help a lot for continuous assessment of students.

Research, Consultancy and Extension is taken care of by the Principal of the college by frequent interaction with the teachers promoting them to update

their knowledge in the area of their interest and concern. The college gives every facility required to the teachers for the pursuance of research work.

Our teachers have done very pioneer work under research, which is concerned with life of regional *aadivasis* and related to their socio-economic condition. The Principal of our college is doing research in the field of modern structural chemistry, pharmaceutical chemistry and *aayurvedic* medicines. This has been reflected in publications of research papers in National and International journals and also participation in National and International conferences. More than 125 research papers are published and more than 100 conferences / seminars have been attended by our faculty members.

The Principal himself has been recognized as research guide of Y.C.M.O.U; Bharti Vidyapeeth Deemed University and University of Mumbai in Chemistry. Three students each have obtained Ph.D. and M.Phil. and another four students are working for Ph.D. under his guidance. Similarly the Principal has completed seven minor research projects and now the Principal and other three teachers are conducting Minor Research Projects under the grants obtained from University of Mumbai.

The extension activities, undertaken by our college, give the students a direct exposure to the world beyond the four walls of the classroom. We have formulated 20+ committees to undertake academic and extension activities in the areas of community development, social work, health and hygiene, women empowerment, superstitions and environmental awareness.

The college runs two units (200 students) of N.S.S. The N.S.S. units play very active role in community development inculcating sense of civic

responsibility among students. This has been reflected by the programs conducted by N.S.S. such as Free Eye Checkup Camps, Free Medical Camps, Joy of Giving, *Raksha bandhan*, *Udyojakata Vikas Shibir* (Entrepreneur Development Camp) , contribution towards Prime Minister Fund, eradication of Polio campaign, *Sadbhavana rally*, AIDS awareness, Blood Donation Camp, Tree Plantation, *Bhat Lavani*, *Quomi Ekata*, adoption of village etc. In this way our extension activities are rightly pointed towards our mission of Inculcation of scientific attitude, rational thinking and human values

The NSS has adopted a neighboring village Kuda since 2012-13. The various activities such as tree plantation, counseling, anti superstition programmes, cultural programs, village survey, etc., which are leading to the progress of the adopted village, are performed by the NSS volunteers and the staff of the college.

We are aware that college has not provided consultancy to community or industry in its true sense of earning, however the college has initiated collaborations through MOU with Gram Pnachayat, Kamala Nagari Co-op Credit Society, Selective School and Colleges around Tala, etc. for providing guidelines and suggestions to the concerned organizations.

Infrastructure and Learning Resources is one of the important and considerable strengths concerned with the students as one of the stakeholders. Our college has three storied building admeasuring 726.26 sq. meter built up area. The infrastructure of college includes 10 class rooms, college office, principal room, library, gymnasium and sanitation.

A library with adequate stacking facilities and reading room caters the need of staff and students. Leading journals, magazines and periodicals are made available for the staff and students. New books, journals and magazines are regularly added and updated. Till today the amount spend on books and journals is Rs. **5,31,870/-** The library committee of the college meets three to four times in a year and monitors the library facilities under the guidance of Principal. Recently the library has atomized as e-learning resource of knowledge, which includes In-house/remote access to e-resources having 2100 e-journals and 51000 e-Books under N-LIST on line data base.

The college has well established computer centre having 15 computers with necessary hardware and softwares. A professional in charge has been appointed to look after computer centre. Each and every student is expected to know the basic application of the computer to keep the pace with globalization.

We have good gymnasium of six in one machine, indoor games facilities and play grounds for encouraging sports activities among students. Our students consistently participate in intercollegiate and University sports meets.

Auditorium on shared basis is well equipped with LCD projector, video camera, zoom camera, tape recorder, television set, public address system etc. This is used as learning resource to show audio / video cassettes. In addition to this college has separate open theatre for cultural programs also virtual class room for conducting lectures based on ICT.

Students are made aware of **support services and their progression** at the beginning of the academic year of the college. The College publishes updated prospectus annually which includes , Information about college and institution, Basic / fundamental facilities in the college, List of faculties and support staff,

Various departments in college, Concession for the students, Rules and Regulations in concern with the admission, Information about semester examination system, List of Curricular and extra-curricular activities/ committees, Yearly planning, etc. The college has also maintained web site www.dgtcollegetala.org for giving online information concerned with student support and progression.

All particulars about the programmes offered, duration of the programme, evaluation method, co-curricular, extra curricular activities etc are discussed with students by their class teachers in the classroom.

A number of students support activities are conducted with the help of various committees formed in the college. We have also formed a grievance redressal cell with student representation on it for the better and more effective solution on various suggestions and complaints from students. The college has established a committee to resolve sexual harassment cases. In fact, not a single incident of such harassment has ever been reported.

Our college has maintained track record of progression of our ex-students. Alumni association has been recently established. Ex-students as well as regular students are supported through guidance and personal counselling. Three groups each of 20-25 students are assigned to each teacher who looks after these groups under Total Quality Management program. Students are provided with financial aids of free ships, Scholarships, Earn and Learn scheme. Suggestion box has been maintained in the college library to seek the feed back as well as constructive suggestions from the students.

Governance, Leadership and Management is mainly concerned with TVSPM's Executive council, which looks after the overall management of the college and provides guidance regarding finance, development schemes and ways of administration. The Local Management Committee of the college meets twice a year and approves the financial, administrative and academic matters of the college as envisaged by the IQAC of the college.

The Principal looks after the day to day administration of the college with the co-operation of the In-Charge of faculties, heads of departments and non-teaching staff. In order to conduct smooth administration academic calendar of the college is prepared and various activities are implemented through 20+ committees. This is an attempt to decentralize authority to carry out different tasks independently in tune with the vision and goals of the institution.

The college follows rules and regulation of UGC, Government of Maharashtra and University of Mumbai. The statutory provisions regarding income tax, professional tax, audit, etc. are complied regularly and in time. The college accounts are audited regularly by an internal and external auditor.

The chief concern of the institute is to maintain the high standard of academic quality and excellence achieved in the last decade. At the same time it is the need of hour to established **innovative and best practices** in the college in order to keep continuity in quality and excellence in higher education of stakeholders. We have tried our level best to establish the following innovative and best practices.

The college takes initiative to make the campus eco-friendly by taking initiatives in tree plantation in the campus, energy conservation, rain water harvesting, waste management, etc.

The work of college in gender equality is a unique innovative and best practice leading to create awareness among the stakeholders. The college has organized inter collegiate debating and elocution competition in Raigad region for sensitization of gender equality.

Another best practice is concerned with finding and developing entrepreneurship qualities / competencies amongst students. We tried to find out hidden competencies required for entrepreneurship of commerce and arts students and these are compared and analyzed. It is observed that the commerce students have good number of entrepreneurship competencies as compare to that of arts students.

Apart from the strengths of our college as mentioned above we have also revealed our **weaknesses**. We have realized that the rural students are afraid of learning communication skills, which is a hurdle in the progress and fitness of students in the era of globalization. The students have good physical strength, which is boon for rural students; however, students are reluctant to sharpen intellectual capacity. Dropout rate for first year to second year is near about 30 to 40 percent, this is due to migration of students to Mumbai to earn their bread and butter by leaving studies during or after first year. Ours college offers traditional degrees of B.A. and B.Com., which now has no relevance in the society. We have inadequate infrastructural and ICT facilities, which hamper the progress of teaching, learning and evaluation. The college has not yet established research centre, therefore, there are limitations in conducting in house research. Support

services like play ground, sanitation, canteen, health centre are inadequate, which limits the students' progression.

Apart from traditional B. A. and B. Com. University of Mumbai offers BMS, BMM, B.Com in Banking and Insurance, B.A. in Music, B.A. in Psychology etc. Therefore, we have good **opportunity** to run such courses in our college. We also have an opportunity to add post graduate courses in different subjects of Arts and Commerce. With long standing of our college we have opportunity to establish full fledged research centre so that we can conduct a research concerned with local, regional, socio-economic problems. The use of ICT is very innovative teaching-learning method. We have an opportunity to add ICT based classrooms/ virtual class rooms. Most of our alumni are spread throughout Maharashtra and even in abroad. Therefore our college needs to strengthen alumni association for receiving funds, donation, suggestion etc from the alumni. Recently our institute has made an agreement with *Shri Ramaji Devsthan* for 99 years lease of 5 acres land. This is the best opportunity to full fill infrastructural requirement of the college. Our students being arts and commerce graduates can perform well in competitive examination provided college runs fully establish competitive career centre.

Most of the students taking admission in our college belongs to poor strata of the society therefore, they are much in need of job or service, therefore, many students leave the college after first year or while pursuing first year, which puts before us a **challenge** of maintaining or fulfilling strength of sanctioned divisions. Comparatively rural students are not as sharp as urban students. It keeps the challenge before teachers to sharpen their soft skill while teaching and adding extra efforts. If students have to be self reliant, he/she has to undergo add-on

courses while undergoing degree course. It is the challenge before the college to design innovative, appropriate and job oriented add-on courses. In the nearest future the college has to face the challenge of raising funds for construction of new and well equipped college building in leased land.