7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

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Mahila Mahavidyalaya, established in 1986 is the first women’s college in Karad taluka as well as in Satara district in Maharashtra state. The college has won recognition in the university and trust of parents as quality education and sense of security provided by the college. Right from its inception our college has nurtured concern for the overall well-being of our students who come from socially and economically backward background. Majority of them hail from villages around Karad and are the first generation learners especially regarding higher education and have agrarian background. However, their parents are aware of the need of higher education and self-reliance of their wards.

The college has envisioned women empowerment as its supreme cause. Women empowerment in all its aspects i.e. physical, psychological, social, economic emphasizes upon in all activities and programmes undertaken by the college.

The college is greatly concerned about the physical well being of its students. Women’s health is a neglected aspect especially in rural areas. As majority of our students hail from rural areas, the college had undertaken annual health check-up and follow-up of the students and treatment at low or free cost. It is followed by lecture series on health, nutrition and diet. The students are also guided by our faculty about low cost nutritious diet. This activity is organized in collaboration with Krishna Institute of medical Sciences, IMA (Karad Branch) etc.. We have well equipped gym. Annual Sports meet is also organized. The sanitary napkin vending machine incinerator help to maintain their menstrual hygiene. All these factors helped to improve the overall physical health of our students.

Mental and psychological well being is addressed through informative lectures, counseling activities, psychological tests regarding stress management, memory enhancements, locus of control, adjustment, rational and positive thinking, dealing with family problems, learning problems, concentration etc.

Social wellbeing of the student is aimed at through inculcation of morality, values among the students. Students are made aware of the various cross cutting issues in the society by integrating them with their curriculum. Informative lectures, seminars are organized on issues like domestic violence, human rights, female foeticide, farmer suicides, peace, non-violence, cyber crimes, social inclusion, literacy, sanitation, environment conservation etc. The students carry forward the message to the society at large. Dignity of labour and service to the nation are emphasized through activities like eco friendly celebration of festivals, sanitation drive, conduct of surveys for local self bodies etc.

College stressed upon quality education. Our students have displayed their competence by securing University Merit Scholarships and University Rank in both the streams - Commerce and Arts. Our alumni are successfully engaged in varied fields. Use of ICT, e-resources, library, interactive boards are made to ensure a very good learning experience to the students.

Economic self reliance is an important aspect of our vision statement. Economic independence goes a long way in the empowerment of women. Hence along with quality education, the college has always encouraged students to acquire varied skills. The Centre for Skill Development came into existence in 2016-17 and a number of skill development courses are conducted by the Centre catering to employability, linquistic skills, hobbies, social awareness, environment protection etc. In addition to two UGC Career Oriented Courses and one Shivaji University Certificate Course, the centre organised17 varied certificate courses. We have applied for university recognition for the courses.