

Institutional Preparedness for NEP

1. Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary:

“Dissemination of Education for Knowledge, Science and Culture” is the motto of our Institute. Our institution strives to achieve excellence in higher education through a commitment to quality, innovation, and holistic development, following the path lay out by our founder, Shikshanmaharshi Dr. Bapuji Salunkhe. Our ultimate goal is to provide a transformative educational experience that empowers our students to excel in their academic, professional, and personal lives. We firmly believe in the power of education to transform individuals and, through them, our society. We aim to "*Transform Indians to Transform India*," creating a world where India is ready to take its place on the global stage and the world is ready to embrace all that India has to offer.

As an Empowered Autonomous college, we have designed our curriculum by the guidelines provided by the University Grants Commission New Delhi. The initiative launched by the Government of India and Maharashtra aimed at implementing the National Education Policy (NEP 2020) in autonomous colleges. As part of this initiative, we conducted National Seminar on ‘*Understanding National Education Policy-2020*’, 26th December 2020, a National Conclave on ‘*Challenges in the Implementation of NEP-2020 at Higher Education Level*’ on 4th December, 2021. We also organised Two days National Teacher’s Training Programme on ‘*Implementing NEP-2020 in Autonomous Colleges*’ on 23rd and 24th September, 2022. To ensure smooth implementation of NEP, we formed a committee and appointed a nodal officer. The college Principal, Nodal officer, NAAC co-ordinator has attended number of meeting with the NEP-Steering committee, Government of Maharashtra, NEP-Steering committee Shivaji University, Kolhapur. We put forward our problems and ideas in meeting and we got solutions from them. This helped us to build the road map to smoothly implement NEP-2020 education policy.

For capacity building of faculty, our College has organised MS-DEED Level 1 In-Person Workshop on *Innovative Pedagogies for UG Teachers* on 4th to 6th Nov 2022 by Maharashtra State Faculty Development Academy Pune in collaboration with Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Pune at Vivekanand College to train faculties. College also encouraged the faculty to attend the training at other institutes.

The college Principal, Nodal officer, NAAC co-ordinator has delivered many lectures on NEP-2020 in various colleges.

In order to provide the holistic academic growth among students, Inter-disciplinary curriculum has been proposed which gives freedom to the student to choose their preferred options from the range of program offered by the College. All the courses offered by College are Choice Based Credit System (CBCS). All programmes are designed in such a way that students get maximum flexibility to choose elective courses. All undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) programmes, including B.A., B.Com., B.Sc., B.Sc. (Biotechnology entire), B.Sc. (Computer Science entire), B.B.A, B.C.A, B. Voc., M.A., M.Com., M.Sc., and Ph.D. research programmes have been restructured to provide multidisciplinary options. The curriculum has been revised to incorporate outcome-based program outcomes (POs), program-specific outcomes (PSOs), and course outcomes (COs). Open electives are also offered in all UG programs by various departments, enabling students of different departments to acquire quality skills required for the 21st century. Short-term courses and career-oriented courses are made open to all students. To create a dynamic learning environment and integrate all faculties, including arts, science, and commerce, with STEM, the college has established the Vivekanand Innovation and Incubation Centre and Research and Development Cell.

In addition to their regular studies, our students participate in Community Engagement Programs (CEP) to learn about the challenges faced by society. Various departments has carried out projects in the area of Community Engagement as a *Study of Social and Development process of a Village, Survey of Water resources in Villages, Preservation and conservation of historical monuments, Socio-economic problems of peoples from different working classes, Community and Marathi dialects, Community and Hindi dialects* etc.

As a best practice for implementing NEP 2020, we conducted an Orientation Programs for newly entered students into Higher Education to edify them about key principles and objectives, Curriculum & Credit Framework, flexibility in curriculum planning and choice based learning in NEP-2020. Also we conducted the School Connect Program for 12th students from nearby colleges to tutor them about the National Education Policy (NEP) and its various aspects.

2. Academic Bank of Credits

Under the National Education Policy-2020, the Government of India intends to empower students across the nation with the “Academic Bank of Credits” (ABC) system, fulfilling their thirst for knowledge by providing academic flexibility to choose and modify their educational paths, link diverse disciplines, and assist them in acquiring the proper foundations and building blocks for their ambitions. The “Academic Bank of Credits” (ABC) is an educational digital platform created to facilitate students’ seamless mobility between or within degree-granting Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) through a formal system of credit recognition, accumulation, transfers, and redemption to promote distributed and flexible teaching and learning.

Our college has registered on the ABC-NAD portal with the ID: NAD054316. To fulfil the objectives of ABC-NAD, our college has taken initiatives to create awareness about the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) among students. This involves a strategic approach aimed at informing, engaging, and empowering them regarding the benefits and functionalities of this system. Here are some of the activities conducted to achieve this goal:

Orientation during Induction: During the induction program, first-year students are introduced to the concept of ABC, where they are informed about basics such as what ABC is, how it works, its importance, and how they can utilize it to their advantage.

Informational Brochures and Pamphlets: We have designed and distributed informational brochures and pamphlets highlighting the key features and benefits of ABC. Additionally, QR codes have been displayed on campus to open ABC IDs.

Classroom Awareness: Our faculty members are encouraged to create awareness about ABC among students during classroom sessions.

Social Media Campaigns: We have launched social media campaigns across platforms such as WhatsApp groups, Telegrams, etc., to raise awareness about ABC. We share informative posts, notices, and YouTube videos to capture the attention of students and encourage them to explore ABC further.

Mentor-Mentee Scheme: Our College has assigned mentors to groups of students to resolve all problems related to the opening of ABC IDs through the Mentor-Mentee Scheme.

Continuous Engagement: To maintain on-going communication and engagement with students throughout their academic journey, we provide regular support, updates, reminders, and resources related to ABC to ensure that students remain informed and empowered to make the most of this valuable resource. Furthermore, our college has made it mandatory to enter the ABC ID during the submission of examination forms.

With these all the efforts made by our team, we have successfully opened ABC IDs of around 95% of students. Additionally, we have uploaded the results of around 3500 students during the academic year 2022-23.

3. Skill development

The National Education Policy 2020 serves as a comprehensive framework with the primary goal of transforming the education system in India. It encompasses a variety of reforms and initiatives that are geared towards promoting holistic development, ensuring equal access to quality education, and adopting a student-centred approach. A key aspect highlighted in the National Education Policy 2020 is the emphasis on skill development. This policy recognizes the critical importance of skill development in preparing students for the challenges presented by the contemporary workforce of the 21st century. The National Education Policy 2020 places a strong emphasis on integrating skill development across all educational levels, ranging from primary education to higher education. The objective is to provide students with opportunities to acquire a combination of fundamental and specialized skills that are pertinent to their future careers. These skills encompass critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, communication, collaboration, and digital literacy. By focusing on skill development within the framework of the National Education Policy 2020, India aims to equip its students with the essential abilities required to thrive in a rapidly evolving and competitive global economy. Recognizing the necessity for a comprehensive approach to skill development to meet the changing demands of the workforce, the policy stresses the

importance of not only imparting theoretical knowledge but also providing practical training, internships, and apprenticeships. This holistic approach aims to bridge the gap between education and employment, ensuring that students are adequately prepared for the opportunities and challenges presented in the workplace. Additionally, the National Education Policy 2020 underscores the significance of vocational and technical education in enhancing skill development.

Efforts to Enhance Skill Development

i. Integration of 21st Century Skills: College is incorporating essential 21st-century skills like creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, goal setting, and decision making into curriculum of various Programmes like B.A., B.Com. , B.Sc., M.A., M.Com ,M.Sc.. This is achieved through interactive teaching methods, project-based learning, and extracurricular activities that encourage students to develop these skills.

ii.Vocational Education Programs: Our College is offering a variety of vocational education programs like Bio Tech, B.Voc & M.Voc. integrated into mainstream education to ensure students acquire industry-relevant skills and certifications alongside their academic qualifications. Moreover department of English introduced a Vocational enhancement course on *Anchoring & Announcing*, Hindi department has started a PG diploma in *Hindi translation*, Department of Marathi introduced a vocational course on *abhyspatrika-1 Mudritashodhan* , department of Economics design a curriculum of *E-Banking and Basics of Stock market* as a Vocational skill enhancement course, department of geography has introduced a curriculum on *Application of Google Earth*, department of History designed a syllabus on *study of*

*Museum. Botany - Bonsai and Terrarium, Herbal Technology, Hydroponics, Plant Nursery; Microbiology - Dairy Microbiology, Microbial analysis of air and water, Soil Microbiology; Chemistry - Preparation of Household Chemicals, Food Chemistry; Computer Science - Internet Technologies; **Electronics** - PCB Designing Lab, IoT; Zoology - Vermicomposting, Sericulture, Aquaculture, Goat farming, Poultry farming; Bio-Technology - Techniques in Forensic Science,*

iii. Skill Enhancement Course: In the frame work of NEP 2020 Every department of our college has incorporated SEC in their programme. Department of English design a curriculum on essential *English skills for competitive examination*, Department of Commerce has introduced a syllabus on *Business Statistics* as a Skill enhancement course, Department of history design a syllabus on *Modi Script* study,

iv. Value-Based Education: Institutions are emphasizing value-based education to instil positivity and humanistic values among learners. Through dedicated courses, workshops, and cultural activities, students are exposed to concepts such as truth, righteous conduct, peace, love, non-violence, scientific temper, and citizenship values. Each department of our college has introduced a curriculum on Democracy Election & Good Governance which mandatory for all the students to acquire 2 credits before completing the degree of any programme.

v. Capacity building and skill enhancement activities: College has initiated a activity called Vivekannad Mahotsav where platform is provided for the students to showcase their skills through participating in various activities conducted in that Mahotsav, like Food fair where students show their marketing & management skills.

Specific Initiatives

i. Credit Structure for Vocational Courses: College has designed a credit structure mandating all students to undertake at least two vocational course before graduation. This ensures students develop practical skills alongside theoretical knowledge, enhancing their employability. As far as Arts faculty is concerned 2 Vocational course carrying 2 credits each has introduced & Science faculty has introduced 5 vocational courses, each course carrying 2 credits.

ii. Engagement of Industry Experts: Institutions are collaborating with industry veterans and Master Crafts persons to provide vocational training and bridge skill gaps. These experts contribute to curriculum development, deliver guest lectures, and provide hands-on training to students, ensuring industry relevance and quality education.

iii. On-the-Job Training (OJT), Field Projects (FP),: As per the National Education Policy, Post Graduate students are required to complete activities like OJT, FP, to gain practical exposure and interact with different segments of society, fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills. For the sake of OJT different Departments entered into MOU with different organisation/ Institutes viz *Agromist jaggery research institute* , Kolhapur; *GKN Fokker Elno PVt, Ltd, Pune (Chakan)* , *Stem plus cryopreservation* , Sangli, *Peak Laboratories Biofertilizer industry, Jaysingpur*, *Infinite Biotech Research, Sangli*. Our students have completed the Training from these industries.

4. Appropriate integration of Indian Knowledge (teaching in Indian languages)

The National Education Policy - 2020 recognizes India's traditional knowledge's richness and diversity, aiming to preserve and encourage it at all education levels. It seeks to revitalize various aspects of Indian knowledge fostering a deeper understanding of proudly culture of India with its contributions. Indian Knowledge System encompasses all of the structured disciplines of Knowledge which were developed to a high degree of sophistication in India from ancient periods and all of the practises and traditions that the different communities of India.

“Dissemination of Education for Knowledge, Science and Culture” is the motto of our sanstha. According to this, the college has always been preserving and promoting the rich traditions of our region in specific and Nation in general by conducting various activities and events.

Vivekanand college Kolhapur has introduced Indian Knowledge System(IKS) course for odd semester of all first year programme. The IKS course is compulsory assigned for two credits. For Programme specific language subjects, Department of English has introduced IKS course Introduction to Rasa Theory, Hindi department has started ‘Bhakti Sahitya- Guru Mahima’ course while the regional language specific Marathi department has given ‘Marathi Sant Sahitya Parichay’ i.e. Introduction of Literature of Marathi Sant -course as a IKS.

In case of social sciences each special programmes has executed IKS course with the objective of understanding contribution of Indian Polymath and reformers of ancient period and realising the application of such thoughts or theories in current era such as Ancient Indian Science and Education, Ancient Indian Geographical Thought, Koutilya’s Economics, Ancient Indian Political Thought, Indian Traditional Cuisine etc. The IKS courses entitles ‘Ancient Indian Accounting and Auditing Practices’ as well as ‘Human Capital Management from Ancient India’ are also offered to the students of commerce and management faculties. In case of science discipline generic IKS has been implemented having Indian Astronomy, Maths in Ancient and Medieval India, Chemistry in various Indian civilizations, Ayurveda medicinal system.

Vivekanand College offers B.A. degree programme in Marathi and Hindi which are Indian languages. The medium of instruction in the college is Multilanguage in nature.

Our college publishes the annual magazine entitled 'VIVEK'. This part provides wide platform to students for publishing their views in various languages including 'Sanskrit'. Some departments periodically organises wall papers and poster presentation on socio-economic and cultural environment of tribal community that is also part of understanding Indian culture and their values. Along with this college has organised national seminar on 'Socio-Economic condition of tribal community' to sensitize researchers, academicians and students about tribal and folk art.

The college commitment to participating in dissemination of ancient Indian knowledge and promoting holistic personality development, and encouragement of self-reliance aligns with the spirit of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

5. Focus on Outcome based Education (OBE)

In aligning with the transformative vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Vivekanand College, Kolhapur has undertaken robust initiatives to embrace Outcome-Based Education (OBE) as a cornerstone of its academic framework. Here's a comprehensive overview of our institutional preparedness:

Transformation of Curriculum towards OBE: Empowered by autonomy, Vivekanand College has precisely designed its curriculum to focus the principles of Outcome-Based Education. Considering the dynamic needs of the industry, our curriculum is industry-oriented, designed to address the demands of the industry. Moreover, we have prioritized skill development, ensuring that our curriculum equips students with practical competencies essential for success in their chosen fields. We incorporated the cross-cutting issues, local, regional, national & global needs, Professional Ethics, Gender issues, Human Values, Environment and Sustainability, Sustainable Development goals in our curriculum which extends beyond disciplinary boundaries, providing a holistic understanding of societal challenges and promoting community engagement for societal benefit among student.

Integration of OBE in Teaching and Learning Practices: At Vivekanand College, we have made intensive efforts to seamlessly integrate Outcome-Based Education into our teaching and learning practices. Through innovative pedagogical approaches, we highlighted the active learning experiences that enable students to achieve predefined learning outcomes. Our faculty members are equipped with the necessary resources like IT resources, Laptops, Cameras, Microphones, LMS, MOODLE etc. and also, we provide training to them for effectively implement OBE principles in their classrooms. Additionally, we provide technology tools to facilitate continuous assessment and feedback, empowering students to track their progress towards achieving desired outcomes.

Good Practices in OBE Implementation: Vivekanand College has adopted several remarkable practices in the NEP for Outcome-Based Education. We regularly conduct student satisfaction surveys to collect the feedbacks on various aspects of the educational experience from students, teachers and stakeholders, enabling us to make informed decisions and continuously improve our curriculum. Furthermore, we precisely map Course Outcomes, Program Outcomes and Program-Specific Outcomes to ensure alignment with the principal objectives of NEP 2020. This systematic approach not only enhances transparency and accountability but also enables us to tailor our educational offerings to meet the diverse needs of our local student effectively.

Vivekanand College, Kolhapur, stands at the forefront of educational innovation to achieve the transformative principles outlined in NEP 2020, particularly with regard to Outcome-Based Education. Through our commitment to curriculum reform, pedagogical innovation and continuous assessment, we are dedicated to provide a holistic and empowering learning experience that prepares our students for success in an ever-evolving global landscape. As we embark on this journey towards excellence, we remain steadfast in our commitment to nurturing lifelong learners who are equipped to contribute meaningfully to society.

6. Distance Education/Online Education

As the educational landscape continues to evolve, institutions must adapt to meet the changing needs of students and the demands of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. With a particular focus on Distance Education and Online Learning, being an Empowered Autonomous, Vivekanand College, Kolhapur has undertaken significant initiatives to ensure preparedness and enhance the quality of education delivery.

Possibilities of Offering Vocational Courses through ODL Mode: Vivekanand College, Kolhapur recognizes the huge potential of Open and Distance Learning (ODL) in expanding access to education, particularly for short term, add-on and vocational courses. With a firm commitment to NEP 2020 objectives, we have developed the necessary infrastructure to facilitate ODL. Through this mode, we aim to offer a diverse range of vocational courses that align with industry needs, thereby enhancing students' employability and fostering lifelong learning.

Development and Use of Technological Tools: For effective teaching and learning, our institution has integrated various cutting-edge tools into our educational framework. Leveraging freeware platforms such as OBS Studio, Openshot video editor and MOODLE, we have enhanced the digital learning experience for both educators and learners. These tools empower educators to create engaging and interactive content, while also providing students with access to diverse learning resources. Furthermore, our commitment to blended learning is evident through the seamless integration of online and traditional classroom pedagogies. By developing a dynamic learning environment, we aim to cater to the diverse learning styles and preferences of our student body.

Good Practices in Distance Education/Online Learning: In line with the principles outlined in NEP 2020, Vivekanand College, Kolhapur has spearheaded several commendable initiatives for Distance Education and Online Learning. We have developed our own Learning Management System (LMS) portal. Through this portal, we currently offer two courses, with plans to expand our course offerings in the near future. This LMS platform not only provides students with access to course materials and resources but also facilitates seamless communication and collaboration among students and faculty members. Additionally, we have implemented innovative assessment

strategies to ensure the academic integrity and accuracy of our online courses, thereby upholding the standards set forth by NEP 2020.

Vivekanand College, Kolhapur stands to meet the challenges and opportunities presented by the evolving educational landscape, particularly in the realm of Distance Education and Online Learning. Through strategic investments in infrastructure, technology, and pedagogical innovation, we are committed to providing a holistic and inclusive learning experience that empowers learners to thrive in the digital age. As we continue to align our practices with the principles of NEP 2020, we remain steadfast in our mission to foster excellence, equity and accessibility in education.