

The motto of Matsyodari Shikshan Sanstha is “Shahane Karuni Sodave Sakaljana.”(Enlightening All through Quality Education). Since its inception in the year 1974, the trust is doing its utmost in realizing this motto. Matsyodari Shikshan Sanstha’s Arts College Tirthpuri is established in the year 2000 in order to educate the masses of the rural area. The vision statement of the institute is: “To Enlighten, Empower and Awaken the Masses of the Rural Area through Qualitative Training and Value-Based Education.” Closely allied with this vision is the mission of the institute: “To make educational facilities available to the common people of the rural area so as to enable them to understand real life and to make them capable of facing the challenges of the present world through all round physical, ethical and intellectual development of their personality.” The distinctiveness of the institute is evident as it is the first and foremost institute established in a small village of Grampanchayat in Jalna District. Following key aspects of the institute suffice in stressing the distinctiveness:

- **Facility of Higher Education at a Grampanchayat Village:** The wannabe learners of the region either had to travel to places like Aurangabad, Jalna and Ambad for seeking higher education or abandon the dream of pursuing higher studies. Most of the financially weak students could not afford the lodging and boarding expenses and girls were not allowed to seek enrollment outside Tirthpuri due to the biased mentality of the rural region. This resulted in the denial of higher education to the poor and the needy. Most importantly, the girls had to drop the idea of seeking higher education after their Higher Secondary Certificate and accept the proposal of marriage put forth by their parents. The child marriage rate was considerably high before the year 2000. But it started declining gradually as the parents have now the facility to provide higher education at the local place thanks to our institute.
- **Facility of Vocational Education Training (VET):** The institute started two diploma courses in Drip

Technology and Dairy Products under UGC's (N.S.Q.F.) Community College scheme from the year 2014-2015. Apart from the idea of making the students of the rural area employable, the institute's aim in the introduction of Diploma in Drip Technology course was also to orient the villagers about the economic use of water in their fields through drip pipeline. The diploma students of the institute visited nearby farmers and prompted them to use drip pipeline in order to face water scarcity problem. Thus, the course promoted Jal-Sakasharata (Water Literacy) Campaign in the vicinity. Diploma in Dairy Products course helped to promote the rearing of animals like cows, goats and buffaloes. Earlier, the farmers used to sell these stray animals to butchers but now these animals are kept and nurtured in order to ensure regular and adequate income from the milk and other dairy products. Most of the former students of the institute have started their own Goat Farms in consultation with the faculty of Dairy Products course and they are earning handsomely. In short, the Vocational Education Training in the institute has contributed significantly in making the students self reliant.

• Strong N.S.S. Unit: The N.S.S. unit of the institute has been consistently imparting its rigorous services to the community through many an extension activity. The unit has conducted many camps at different villages in the environs since its foundation. Notable contribution of N.S.S. is the sanitation survey that is being conducted each year at different villages of the region. The unit has been immensely contributing in the Gram Swacchata Abhiyan and spreading the importance of cleanliness among rural folks. To sum up, the institute has been engaged in the community service through many curricular and co-curricular activities in order to create skilled human resources in the rural region.