

INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS 2017-18

Vasai- This green belt is surrounded by the Sahyadri mountains to the east and bordered by Arabian sea to the west. Today it is transforming from rural to an urban ambience, incorporated under the newly formed Vasai-Virar Municipal Corporation. This area is growing into an educational hub comprising polytechnic and engineering colleges, management colleges besides the arts, science, commerce and management institutions. Amidst them St. Gonsalo Garcia College dedicatedly caters to the educational needs of the society. Although Vasai had many important schools run by different organisations yet till the recent past, there were not many institutions of higher learning. Students from this area had to commute to the Mumbai city earlier to meet their educational needs. This felt need saw the public of Vasai create a college in 1970's, but that was not enough to meet the emerging needs for higher education. The trust 'Our Lady of Grace' in 1975 opened the Thomas Baptista Junior College and in 1984 the St. Gonsalo Garcia College of Arts and Commerce saw the light of existence. The foundation stone for the institution of higher education and excellence was laid by The Pope John Paul II on 9th Feb, 1986. Since 1984 the senior college had begun functioning at the premises of the Thomas Baptista Junior College. In 1996 the entire college administration and teaching shifted to the present campus. The, then, Vice-Chancellor of Mumbai University, Dr. Snehelatha Deshmukh inaugurated the new premises in 1997. The college has introduced various programmes over the years, to meet changing needs of the industry and the community around. The development of spiritual qualities in students is considered of primary importance. The institution realised that just by imparting knowledge we cannot build a complete human being. It needs imparting moral and ethical teaching that will enable the learners to apply their minds in the right direction. The college is known for its discipline. We interact with parents at the time of admission, parents meeting for those students who are

having short attendance, distribution of mark sheet etc., The following activities help the institution to be distinctive:

1. The college begins the day with prayer - the college choir under the leadership of campus minister Fr. Dr. Solomon Rodrigues who is minister as a counsellor to the whole community of students through common announcement system, song and prayers and thought for the day always keep the mind of students fresh.
2. Attendance where taken lecture-wise, attendance committee combined the attendance, irregular students parents were invited with a meeting with subject teachers
3. IQAC of the college continuously bring out new initiatives in areas of examinations, website development, online admission etc.,
4. N-list facility initiated in the college for faculty and students for use
5. The college is focused on interdisciplinary, collaborative and community-based activities which will helps students to respond to the needs of society around them
6. The syllabus based projects to students were given considering the present concerns on environmental and social issues
7. All departments conducts career guidance programmes to prepare them for future prospects, skills and job needs
8. College development committee prepare an overall comprehensive development plan of the college regarding academic, administrative and infrastructural growth, and enable college to foster excellence in curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities;
9. College encourage visitors from other countries to share and interact with students.
10. Rural development department organises practical works like visits, surveys, social services and activities with krishi Vidnyan Kendra, Kosbad, for under graduate and post graduate students.
11. Parents are invited on the day of distribution of results - teachers interact with them and inform them about their wards academic performance.

12. Beautification of college campus, through tree plantation, naming of trees etc.,
13. The college sports committee prepare students for intercollegiate, district, regional, state and national competitions. The committee conducts annual in-house competition in athletics, indoor and outdoor games like caroms, table tennis, chess cricket, volleyball , football, through ball, kabadi etc., The trainers were appointed to train the students on various sports activities
14. The college Cultural Committee prepare students for cultural activities at intercollegiate, district, regional, state and national competitions. Regular training programme for Drama and Dance under the leadership of professionals
15. The college is having university or concerned institutions approved units of NCC, NSS, DLLE, through which around 500 students are trained every year.
16. The following activities were organised during the year:

Name of the capability enhancement scheme	Date of implementation	Number of students enrolled	Agencies involved
Creative writing- Essay, Handwriting, Drawing Competition	August - September	76	English, Hindi, Marathi Department
Language skills		132	Marathi Department
Show casing Literary classics	August		
Talk and Poetry recitation by Theatre artists	January / February	83	Marathi Department
Skill enhancement - French Language classes	September	14	English Department
Language and presentation skills - Elocution	September	16	Economics Department
Industry awareness, Management and planning skills- Visit	February	122	Economics Department

Language and presentation skills - Elocution	August	30	Women's Cell
Entrepreneurial, Management and planning skills- Visit	September	78	History Department
Entrepreneurial, Management and planning skills- Visit	September	126	Rural Development
Language and writing presentation skills - Essay competition	January	16	History Department
Awareness - Career Guidance	February	56	English Department
Language and presentation skills - Debate and elocution	August	24	BAF,BMS,BBI
Management skills - Leadership Training	July / December	2	DLLE
Leadership Training	August	2	NSS
Skill Building - Anna Poorna Yojana	December	80	DLLE
Leadership and Management skills - Training Programme for student managers	August	5	DLLE
Leadership Training Programme	August	08	NSS
General Knowledge and awareness -Quiz competition		25	Bsc IT
Analytical and programme development skills - Case Study	December	20	Bsc IT
Career awareness and Skill requirement - Seminar	October	120	BMS, BBI, BAF
Workshop - Personality Development	9th to 12th January	110	BMS, BBI, BAF
Visits	January / February	96	Rural Development

Creation of Employment and empowerment through Youth Development (CREEYD)	Jan to Mar 2018	100	B Com, BMS, BBI, BAF
Language and presentation skills - Inter class Debate	17-Sep	66	BMS,BBI,BAF
General Knowledge and awareness - Quizide	24-Sep	50	BMS,BBI,BAF
Industry awareness, Management and planning skills- Industrial Visit	January	240	BMS,BBI,BAF

These initiatives have created an affirmative reflection about the college within the community as one of positive and rounding off, of students, when they leave the college and enter diverse work areas.
