



INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

Eco-friendly Initiatives

Maharashtra College is distinctive in its eco-friendly initiatives. Following is the list of eco-friendly initiatives that this institution has taken care of:

- 1) **Roof-top solar plant:** This institution uses solar energy for electricity. Our institution is the first educational institute in South Mumbai to be powered 100 % by solar energy. The cumulative capacity of 84.5 kWp was done in 2 phases of 50 kWp & 34.5 kWp in the year 2017 & 2019 respectively. The electricity generated through these panels are supplied to the BEST and accordingly the bill for the institution is decided. Estimated annual generation of electricity is 1,12,000 units per annum and annual savings on electricity cost is Rs.15,68,000/. Estimated carbon footprints to be saved is 56 tonnes of CO₂ every year. The Chairman, KIHE Society, Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Khan and The Principal Dr. Sirajuddin Chougale, Maharashtra College of Arts, Science & Commerce received the prestigious award of Spotlightee – 2019 by Sanctuary Nature Foundation for the use of solar energy to power the institute.
- 2) **Energy saving initiatives:** All the stakeholders share the responsibility to avoid wastage of electricity by switching off the lights, fan, computers, and other electrical/electronic appliances when not in use. Double printing of papers instead of one-sided printing so as to economise the use of papers. Reduced use of paper through E – communication). Use of energy efficient appliances. The regular tube lights are now being replaced with energy efficient LED lights.
- 3) **Waste management:** Before lockdown this institution had installed Zero waste campus project in the academic year 2014-15. This project aimed at producing the compost from the wet waste which was later used for the maintenance of the garden. With the lockdown, the input i.e. wet waste generation has come to standstill. Measures are being taken to revive this project. The institution takes part on regular basis in waste collection drive organized by University of Mumbai. Even it organizes or participates in workshops or talks related to waste management.
- 4) **Tree plantation:** The students of this institution have participated in tree plantation activities and cleanliness drives organised in college premises and elsewhere.
- 5) **Gardening:** Though there is space limitation, this institution still strives hard to maintain the college garden.
- 6) **Sensitize students towards nature:** Programme such as Flower arrangement and Fruit & Vegetable carving competitions, best out of waste competition, nature photography competition, medicinal plant exhibitions, film shows on wildlife, nature trails and excursions are organised to create environment awareness, to keep them abreast about the importance of nature conservation and sensitize their approach towards plants & animals.
- 7) **Beach cleaning drives:** The NCC and NSS students actively participates every year in beach (Juhu chowpatty, Girgaon chowpatty, public place near Haji Ali) cleaning drives. Our students contribute in collection of waste including plastics and hand it over to the BMC.

- 8) **Sarus nature club (registered)** organizes several activities to sensitize students about nature, plants and animals. Several departments of the institutes arrange excursions for the students to study and appreciate the intricate balance between the nature and humans.
- 9) **Water conservation:** In each water taps of the institution, water saving nozzles are fitted at the end of the water taps mouth's thread as an attachment. Due to installation of nozzle tap in the institution wastes of water has been reduced.
- 10) **No plastic campaigns:** Maharashtra College has organised "Plastic Free" Campaign in College Campus. Students prepared paper bags and distributed to the person carrying plastic bags in the campus with messages 'GO GREEN, PLASTIC IS OBSCENE' and 'No Plastic is Fantastic' etc.
- 11) **Use of public transport:** Most of the members this institution uses public transport. This helps in reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions that damage the environment.
- 12) **Use of sensor-based technology for energy conservation:** In Annexe Building the washrooms have sensor-based technology to save electricity.
- 13) **Relief funds for people affected by natural calamities:** The institution has collected goods and cash for several relief funds organized to support people affected by natural calamities like Kerala flood (Kerala Relief Drive from August to September 2018 – donated two trucks of goods and cash ₹ 23 lakhs), Karnataka flood (Karnataka Flood Relief Fund – August 2019 – donated ₹ 7,16,000/-), Konkan flood – Nisarg cyclone (Nisarg Cyclone Konkan Relief Fund – July 2020 – donated ₹ 814381/-), Covid-19 pandemic (Covid Relief Fund – April 2020 – donated ₹ 2,55,000/-). The donation money was received from the college staff, students, alumni and locals. The relief fund generated was donated to the affected people in collaboration with the NGO Anjuman Dardmandane Talim-o-Taraqqi Trust, Mahad.

Our institution is also distinctive in being hub of five languages – Arabic, English, Hindi, Marathi & Urdu. Our institution has started the certificate course in Marathi approved by the Mumbai University from the academic year 2016-17. The lectures are conducted both in this institution as well as in the University of Mumbai campus, Kalina. Our institution was the only institution where these classes were held. This institution also runs certificate course in learning language Urdu.

The institution also organizes job fair not only for inhouse students but also for ex-students and the students of the neighbouring colleges. Entrepreneurial skill development programmes are being organized through MahaCARE incubation centre.

KHIE Society's Maharashtra College of Arts, Science and Commerce has installed Dr. Rafiq Zakaria Gold Medal for securing highest marks in Physics at the B.Sc. degree examination, University of Mumbai.

Maharashtra college library is also unique in not only providing several facilities (Book bank facility for economically challenged students, literature search facility, internship programmes, computer with internet connectivity) to our students and faculty members but also to the outsiders. This institution provides space for the outsider students on request basis.

Our institution has also been involved in multiple social responsibility initiatives such as:

- Awareness drives focussing on social issues like drug addiction, and organ donation drives.
- Cleanliness drives / Swaccha Bharat Abhiyan.
- Mask distribution & Covid-19 awareness programmes in the local area.
- Blood donation camps.
- Tree plantation activities.
- Pan card / Domicile certificate / Passport preparation drives / camps.
- Donation of study materials to the school students.
