



Dear Students,

*“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”*

Welcome to the New Academic Year 2022-2023!

It is said with great power comes great responsibilities and indeed the Academic year 2021-22 came with bigger responsibilities of implementing autonomy. With a vision to impart holistic education through experiential learning, outreach activities and to inculcate in student’s universal values in pursuit of excellence, we started our journey on a positive note. The hardships of pandemic now slowly being relegated to the back drop, we decided to start afresh on a positive note. The trust and support of all the stakeholders added to our motivation and vigour.

All the necessary committees and policy guidelines have been duly framed and implemented for the purpose of Autonomy. The change in syllabus and paper pattern have communicated to the students and the same is updated on the college website. It is indeed heartening that the efforts our institute has been recognised by Asia Today Research and Media and we are rewarded with the title of “Most Promising Arts and Commerce College for Holistic Education in Thane District.”

Adding laurels to the cultural achievements, we received the Overall Championship Trophy in theatre section of University of Mumbai in 54th Youth Festival for the first time in the history of the college.

The College was nominated as Lead College for Thane Taluka Cluster for the Mission Yuva Swasthya, initiated by Higher and Technical Education Department of Maharashtra Government for Vaccination of College students and 3226 students have taken benefit of the

facility. The institute is also a Lead College of Cluster 18, University of Mumbai and is responsible for the smooth conduct of examinations in all colleges of the cluster.

The Academic Year 2021-22 was conducted through both online and offline mode as per the instructions given by the Government of Maharashtra and the University of Mumbai from time to time. All the examinations were conducted as per the academic calendar based on the revised pattern decided by the Academic Council. The college offers a variety of undergraduate (nine courses) and postgraduate (fourteen courses) programmes in the fields of Arts and Commerce. The college undertakes various educational endeavours, projects, and efforts to assist students in dealing with high academic pressure and standards. Similarly, the college is constantly engaged in outreach and social activities in its adopted village of 'Taki Pathar' and elsewhere through NSS, NCC, DLLE, and other academies. The institute has initiated MA in History, MA in Psychology and MA in Entertainment Media and Advertisement in the Academic year 2021-22. Apart from regular lectures, 18 Add on Courses, 10 Certificate Courses, 10 Bridge Courses and 8 Workshops were conducted for students. Overall 2746 students took benefit of these initiatives.

The Institute has committed itself for the holistic development of its students. With the objective of Upskilling them, the Local Chapter of Swayam Courses was started and mentors have been appointed to guide the students.

The institute observed important days like Constitution Day, Human Rights Day, Savitribai Phule Jayanti, Minority Rights Day, Marathi Bhasha Gaurav Din, International Women's Day, Indian Navy Day, World Investor Awareness Week, Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, Yuva Din, Start-up Day, National Tourism Day and Martyrs Day.

Keeping up with the tradition of hosting one conference every academic year, the Department of Political Science in collaboration with Rambhau Mhalgi Prabhodini successfully organised One Day Virtual National Conference on the theme "Women Political Leadership Global to Local- Opportunities and Challenges" on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022. The Theme of 75<sup>th</sup> Year of Independence – "Azadi ka Amrut Mahostav" was incorporated in all events- Annual Festival Navrang, Intercollegiate Cultural Fest Gandharva and Media and Management Fest Chrysalis. The Annual Prize Distribution Function organised in the month of April had Shri Rajesh Narvekar, Collector, Thane District as the Chief Guest

The Institute also conducted a study tour to Maharishi Parushram College of Engineering, Velneshwar. The College Gymkhana also conducted various activities for the benefit of the

students. Our Parent, Vidya Prasarak Mandal has started VPM's Sports Academy from November 2021 for the students of VPM Group of Institutions.

For the development of faculties of the institute, an FDP on "New education Policy on Higher Education – Context and Perspectives for Autonomous Colleges", along with RUSA, Maharashtra and R.A.D.A.V. College. An Online Orientation Programme was coordinated by the College under the aegis of HRDC, where Honorable Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai was the Chief Guest. IQAC Committee also organised a Four Day Workshop on "Perceiving AQAR and SSR in the light of Autonomy"

As we now embark on this journey of a new academic year, we wish to continue performing with the same zest. We hope the students will utilise this platform created for them to satiate their academic inquisitiveness and explore their inner talent. We hope to add glory to our achievements and work with the mantra of pursuit of excellence in our hearts. Great works are performed by perseverance and not strength. So,

"Dream Big, Sparkle More and Shine Bright!"