

INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

Kirodimal Government Arts and Science College, Raigarh was founded by Government of Madhya Pradesh in 1958 in the backward region situated in the eastern frontier of erstwhile Central Province bordering Odisha. Our main college campus is located at South Chakradhar Nagar for which the original Building was donated by industrialist philanthropist Seth Kirodimalji, one of his many contributions to Raigarh City which includes the District Hospital, Natwar High School and Govt. Polytechnic; in which it is still functional. The institution has a separate Building for functioning of PG departments of faculty of Humanities at Boirdadar one kilometer away from the main campus. For a long time it was the lone college in the district to cater to the regional educational needs of the majority rural and tribal population.

In its history it boasts of being led by poet professor like Rameshwar Shukla ‘Anchal’ and many more educationists to add to its distinctive status. Our college has been affiliated to Dr. Hari Singh Gour University Sagar, Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla University Raipur and Guru Ghasidas University Bilaspur since its inception. At present it is affiliated to Atal Bihari Bajpayee Viswavidyalay, Bilaspur. Seth Kirodimalji’s vision has come to fruition as at present the institute offers 14 Post Graduate programs in Arts and Science subjects and 04 UG programs including Arts, Science, Commerce and Computer Application streams.

Our institute is committed to provide all possible platforms pertaining to Learning in Science & Humanities for not only the professional growth but also for the personal growth of the students by providing transformational teaching and value based education within specific standards. The institution has a motto to achieve academic excellence, promoting quality education with institutional innovations in Teaching and Learning to induce the students as future manpower for the regional industries and leaders in various developmental activities of nation. The following distinctive steps taken by our institution since 2015 in the field of (i) *Teaching, Learning and Evaluation* & (ii) *Student Support Activities* underline our goals and mission.

Facilitation to acquire higher Academic and Professional Degrees in Distance Mode:

For achieving this, the college has started study centers of distance learning of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) (2006) and Pt. Sundarlal Sharma Open University, Bilaspur (PSSOU) (2015) an educational innovation of Chhatisgarh Govt. Many professional and skill based courses like PGDCA, DCA and Management etc. as well as value based course like Yoga and Chhattisgarhi Language and Literature etc. are available for our students to pursue dual course to enter the job market with required skill and degrees. The employees of the various industries and factories located in the region also are facilitated for professional growth by our college study centers.

Enhancing Science Knowledge of Students:

Our college has initiated distinct practice to enhance the science knowledge of students and increase their competency in the competitive examinations held in their fields. For this national level test for Chemistry for under graduate students organized by All India Association of Chemistry Teachers (AIACT) & All India level Test in Physics for PG students organized by All India Association of Physics Teachers (AIAPT) are introduced in the college in 2015 and has been conducted each year. Till recently three more colleges of Raigarh district have joined us in this effort and followed our best practice. It has encouraged our institutional students as well as students of the other regional colleges and participation number has increased in these examinations. This distinct practice introduced by the institution has helped us to groom the students of the district according to current competitive tests held in science field.

Developing English Communicative Skill:

Another distinct practice of our institution has been to provide all under graduate students standard communicative skills in English language. So a compulsory paper on Communicative skills in English has been introduced since 2015 for the UG final semester students. In addition to teaching of basic grammatical knowledge the students are taught speaking skills through support of class teachers individually and in small groups. Each student has to submit an assignment and viva voce test is conducted to evaluate their progress. Thus the students are being groomed to acquire communicative skills in English to help them express better in their work sphere after passing out from college.

Creating Placement Opportunities for Students:

In order to provide excellent placement opportunities to the students, the institution has been conducting campus recruitment since 2016 in association with Vedanta Group of Industries located in Jharsuguda (Odisha) and BALCO, Korba. 68 students have been recruited so far and effort is on to invite some more local industries in the coming years. We are in communication with some of the local industries to increase our student placement in future. This is also a distinctive effort initiated by our institute although it does not provide technical education.

Health Awareness & Preventive Medicare for Students:

Most of the students admitted to the institution come from rural and tribal areas that lack basic knowledge of maintaining physical and mental fitness. For enrollment in different extension activities like NSS, NCC and sports blood group test is essential. Blood donation is a kindred activity which is done through NCC and NSS cadets and Red Cross Society members. During extension activities by cadets it is observed that knowledge of most health care related govt. schemes can be spread through help of students. We have extended the activity of Red Cross society and added Blood Group Test and Hemoglobin Test for all students along with NCC cadets and NSS volunteers. The purpose of Hemoglobin test is to make students aware

about personal nutrition level. Most of these tests are conducted by medical officers and technicians of District Hospital. Our Red Cross society has since last two years included National De-worming scheme and National Filariasis Control Program (APELF) through which students are provided medicines for self medication as well as for their family members. This best practice has been beneficial for our students as well as spread awareness among their families and their villages about the different govt. health scheme.

Popularizing Yoga Culture & Holistic Development of Students:

Practice of yoga is one of the most effective ancient Indian method in coordinating body and mind for overall fitness. It is observed that staff and students require certain training to face the stiff competition and de-stress themselves during examination. With the advent of International Yoga Day we perceived an opportunity to implement this effectively. In 2015 three days Yoga program was held during International Yoga Day which is extended further by the NCC and NSS cadets among all new entrants to college. In addition to teaching of basic yoga practice as directed by Govt. of India we have invited experts from Art of Living, Gayatri Parivar, Sahaj Yoga and other organizations to provide knowledge of yoga practice to the students. Some of our faculty members are also avid practitioners of Yoga and have taught the students skills and providing support to students individually and in small groups to monitor their physical and mental health and progress in their studies. We have been continuing this practice since three years. One of our alumni is now an international Yoga trainer at Vietnam. This best practice has helped us groom the students as well as popularize Yoga culture on and off the campus for students' physical and mental fitness and holistic development.