



Maratha Vidya Prasarak Samaj's

Arts, Science, and Commerce College, Ozar (Mig) Tal. Niphad

Institutional Distinctiveness

MVP's Arts, Science, and Commerce College, located in Ozar (Mig), is a distinguished educational institution, uniquely positioned within a spreading 3.83 acres of green land. The institution is a centre of ecological and intellectual vitality because it represents a harmonic union of academic achievement with environmental conscience. The institution's commitment to creating an environmentally sustainable and culturally rich campus sets it apart from others in the region.

Diverse Flora and Fauna

One of the key features that highlight the distinctiveness of the college is its biodiversity rich campus. The college campus is home to 108 plant species, representing 44 families of angiosperms and three gymnosperms. This botanical diversity not only enhances the aesthetic appeal of the college but also provides a living laboratory for students. The campus's diverse flora and fauna includes species with a wide range of ecological and medicinal significance, offering practical learning opportunities.

Flora Highlights:

The campus showed 108 plants species were growing in the college campus belonging to 44 families of angiosperms and 3 Gymnosperms. The total 11 edibles fruit plants, 30 medicinal, 64 ornamental and 3 timber yielding plants are in campus. The plant species list includes well-known varieties such as *Mangifera indica* (commonly known as mango), and *Catharanthus roseus* (periwinkle), which is significant for its ornamental and medicinal properties. Other notable species include *Ficus religiosa* (peepal tree), renowned for its religious and medicinal importance, and *Tectona grandis* (teak), a valuable timber-yielding plant. Additionally, the college campus has state flower of Maharashtra, *Lagerstroemia speciosa*.

The diversity is not limited to trees but extends to shrubs, herbs, and climbers, all of which contribute to the rich habitat that supports a variety of faunal diversity. This ecological balance offers students a hands-on experience in environmental management, conservation practices, and biodiversity studies, making the college campus a natural classroom. We have also extended our effort beyond the campus by tree plantation initiative through NSS activities at the adopted village.

Butterfly Species: Signs of a Stable Ecosystem

Butterflies, often considered indicators of a healthy environment, are abundant on the college campus. The presence of different butterfly species, such as the Great Eggfly, Common Grass

Yellow, and Common Rose, points to the thriving ecosystem within the campus. These species not only add to the beauty of the campus but also play a crucial role in pollination.

This diversity in butterflies enhances the environmental education experience for students, offering them an opportunity to study ecological interactions, pollination biology, and species conservation in real-time.

Avian Diversity

The college is also a home for various bird species, which further enhances its ecological distinctiveness. Birds such as the Common Tailorbird, Indian Paradise Flycatcher, Asian Koel, and Purple-rumped Sunbird are frequently sighted on the campus. The presence of these birds not only adds to the campus's biodiversity but also provides students with opportunities for ornithological studies. The college actively celebrates World Sparrow Day, recognizing the importance of conserving this important bird species. The college also organizes informative lectures focused on snakes and their role in nature.

Solar Ambassador Initiative

In line with its commitment to environmental conservation, our college has implemented the "**Solar Ambassador**" initiative, a notable best practice aimed at promoting sustainable energy use. The initiative focuses on spreading awareness about energy conservation and the benefits of using renewable energy sources.

By promoting renewable energy, the college is actively contributing to empowerment of rural communities to become self-reliant in their energy needs. The college has installed 15.6 KW and 3.5 KW solar energy system, which not only powers the campus but also ensures that the college receives a zero-electricity bill from MSEB (Maharashtra State Electricity Board). We are also using energy efficient devices in the college. This initiative reflects the college's dedication to conserving energy, reducing carbon footprints, and saving financial resources.

Community Engagement and Social Responsibility

Through various outreach programs, the college actively engages with the local community, particularly in rural areas. Encouraging and teaching rural farmers to adopt solar-powered agricultural equipment, the Solar Ambassador program seeks to lower their energy expenses and reduce their environmental effect. Additionally, the college organizes workshops and seminars on topics such as renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and conservation practices.

The college is deeply committed to environmental sustainability and community welfare through a range of impactful initiatives. Among the significant efforts is the **River Cleaning Programme**, which focuses on cleaning and conserving rivers, making them pollution-free and ensuring they remain a vital resource for the surrounding ecosystem.

The college regularly organizes cleaning drives within the campus. The cleaning efforts extend beyond the campus, with the National Service Scheme (NSS) leading various programmes in

nearby villages, including Sonewadi, Chandori, and Sukene. These initiatives, such as *Swacchata Abhiyan* (Cleanliness Campaign) and other cleaning drives, aim to improve sanitation and hygiene in rural communities. The college also promotes pesticide-free farming practices in these villages, encouraging sustainable agricultural methods that reduce environmental harm and support healthier ecosystems.

The college has taken significant steps towards sustainability through the establishment of a vermicompost unit. This unit serves as a valuable source of bio-fertilizer, providing an eco-friendly alternative to chemical fertilizers.

The college takes effort to keep the campus free from plastic. Efforts are taken to dispose the e-waste according to the guidelines of pollution control board.

Furthermore, the college has implemented a water harvesting system, which plays a crucial role in conserving water. This system collects and stores rainwater, which is then reused, reducing the college's dependence on external water sources and promoting efficient water management.

Through these multifaceted efforts, the college demonstrates a strong commitment to environmental conservation, and community welfare, making a positive impact both on campus and in the surrounding areas.

Conclusion:

Standing out as an example of institutional uniqueness, MVP's Arts, Science, and Commerce College, Ozar (Mig) combines academic excellence with a strong dedication to environmental sustainability. The college's rich biodiversity, including a wide variety of plant species, butterflies, and birds, creates a unique learning environment that nurtures ecological awareness among students. The Solar Ambassador initiative further highlights the college's dedication to promoting renewable energy and empowering rural communities.

Through its multidisciplinary programs and community outreach efforts, the college continues to make significant contributions to both education and environmental conservation. The college's holistic approach to education, which integrates ecological conservation with academic excellence, ensures that it remains a leader of sustainability and social responsibility.

