

### 7.3.1 Institutional Distinctiveness: Provide the details of the performance of the institution in one area distinctive to its vision, priority and trust:

It is rightly said — if you educate a man, you educate an individual. But if you educate a woman, you educate a nation. For the last 47 years, the Godutai Institute has been instrumental in furthering the cause of women's education especially in rural India. As with India as a whole, many states have large rural-urban differences in female literacy. Godutai has been championing the cause of women's education to bridge the urban-rural differences in female literacy.

Today all development agencies in India agree on the importance of value education and the need to empower women in order to promote and maintain family, health, nutrition and general well-being of the people in the society. Education for women should always be directed towards their holistic development. The Godutai Institute and its faculty have been fulfilling this very important duty of educating the future generation over the last five decades and ensuring their holistic development. Many of our students have flourished in their personal and professional lives because they got an opportunity to study and march ahead in life during their own times.

The staff and management of the college identify talent and encourage them as per our vision and mission statement, 'Teaching for the sake of livelihood but also for the welfare of others while allowing our girl students to develop independent thinking, writing, speaking and living'.

The college has been providing an opportunity to the rural students around the Kalburgi region of the state to pursue their higher education for their development and progress of their family. In accordance with the vision and mission statement, the college gives exposure to the girl students to participate in every curricular, extracurricular and extension activities very actively. Through the NSS, club activities, learn and earn opportunities, intrapersonal development platforms, the girl students get a stage and aids to develop their academic as well as professional, cultural, social consciousness, alertness, responsiveness skills.

The college organizes various women empowerment programs for making them confident enough to manoeuvre the challenges of life. Eminent woman personalities from various

walks of life are being invited for the guidance on several issues. They often serve as mentors to many of our students.

These institute and its faculty introduce our young women to the human values and lead them to an active participation in various events like Environment Day, Earth Day, Constitutional Day, Women's Day in addition to various other special days to inculcate the spirit of responsibility among them. It was the spirit of caring for fellow human beings that drove our students to prepare facemasks and distribute to the rural poor during the testing times of COVID-19 pandemic.

The college has been providing scholarships to the students to motivate them to continue their education. The dropout ratio has been near zero in the last two decades. Additionally, the college supports its female staff by offering various monetary and non-monetary benefits to help them upgrade their educational and research capabilities over the years. The excellent infrastructure and equal opportunities offered that of any urban college has been the mainstay that has motivated our students to continue pursuing their studies in spite of many hardships.

Through the mentoring program students are offered an opportunity to discuss their personal improvement plans with their mentors. As a closely knit group, the students and the faculty have seamless communication flow among them which further ensures transparency leading to better care. Through these mentoring programs students are encouraged to take up higher studies and other competitive exams for career enhancement. The mentoring programs not only focus on high performers, but a considerable amount of time is dedicated to the slow learners to ensure they do not lack the motivation to perform better in life.

Another belief that stems from Godutai's vision and mission is 'Service to Nation is Service to God'. Students in the past have actively in NCC and NSS organizations for village cleaning, health and literacy programs. It is worth noting that 'Godutai' has become a household name in Kalburgi region. Parents and communities that we operate within recall our students – old and new as 'performers for life'. Staying true to the mission statement of developing independent thinking, speaking and living, the college promotes individuality among the girls by advocating entrepreneurial mindset. Every club activity, extra and

co-curricular activities planned as part of the student enrichment program involves the students in the decision making, planning, organizing and execution of the events. Industrial tours and visits to historical places are planned and executed by the students on their own. **AVVA** – the college’s annual fest is organized by the students to uphold the cultural values of the region. **Sogadu**, yet another milestone event at Godutai again allows its girl students and faculty to amplify the region’s cultural spirit. Through independent thinking and actions, our students have been true champions of the cultural symbolisms of the Kalburgi region.

Not only in the education and cultural sphere but also help our girls make a mark in the field of sports to appreciate the importance of healthy living, the institute has been promoting sports. Workshops on healthy living and nutrition, mental health and wellness conducted in the past ensure life lessons are not only passed on to the students but also make them ambassadors to promote the same in the society.

The Godutai management and its staff are immensely proud of the contribution made in the last five decades. The management recognizes that the job is work-in-progress and the entire team at Godutai continues to strive hard to empower women and girls of marginalized groups through sustainable initiatives in the field of education, which will enable them to be economically and socially secure. The institute will continue to adapt its pedagogy and student interaction points with the evolving nature of women’s education and empowerment in India.