



Shiksha Mandal, Wardha's

G. S. College of Commerce & Economics, Nagpur

(A Hindi Linguistic Minority College | A RUSA Beneficiary Institution)

NAAC Reaccredited 'A' Grade Autonomous Institution

Affiliated to RTM Nagpur University, Nagpur

AISHE ID: 18638

INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

7.3.1 Institutional Distinctiveness





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G. S. College of Commerce & Economics in Nagpur is more than just an educational institution; it is a symbol of excellence, innovation, and social responsibility. Over the years, this college has carved a unique identity for itself by pioneering various educational initiatives and embracing a culture of inclusivity. In this extensive article, we will delve deeply into the many facets of G. S. College's institutional distinctiveness, encompassing its historic journey as the first commerce college to obtain autonomy, its unwavering commitment to specialized courses, the meticulous implementation of the National Education Policy, the development of the Academic Bank of Credits, its progressive stance on gender equality, its multilingual education approach, the commendable free COVID-19 vaccination drive, and the heartwarming story of the college's adoption of a village through the National Service Scheme (NSS).

Rich Legacy and Governance:

G. S. College of Commerce and Economics, Nagpur, was established in 1945 by Shiksha Mandal, Wardha, to fulfill the requirement of Commerce education in the region during the pre-Independence period. Shiksha Mandal, Wardha, an educational trust, was founded in 1914 by Seth Jamanalji Bajaj, whom Gandhiji regarded his fifth son and Shri Shrikrishnadas Jajoo, a fellow Gandhian, led by Shri Rahul Bajaj, Chairman and MD of Bajaj Auto Ltd. and now by Shri Shekharji Bajaj. From the very inception, and held true even today, Shiksha Mandal's bearings have been thus inspired and guided by Gandhian philosophy. As a matter of fact, and history too, the first-ever national conference on 'Nai Talim', presided over by Gandhiji where he gave a call of "Education for Indians by Indians," was hosted by Shiksha Mandal at Wardha in 1937.

Gandhian philosophy, commitment to social and national causes, and fulfillment of students' aspirations for quality education at an affordable cost have shaped the ethos of both Shiksha Mandal, Wardha, and the colleges run by it. Over the years, the commitments have only intensified, and the quality of education has only increased, much to the benefit of all our stakeholder communities who have reposed faith in us and patronized us through thick and thin to make us a brand name in commerce education in this part of the world.

Gandhian principles, and values still form the mainstay of Shiksha Mandal's existence. Now running over eight colleges in diverse disciplines, Shiksha Mandal celebrated its centenary in 2014 in the august presence of the Hon'ble President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the Governor of Maharashtra, Ch. Vidyasagar Rao, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Devendra Fadnavis, and the Union Minister for Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari, who happens to be our alumnus, and Late Shri Rahul Bajaj, the then Chairman and MD of Bajaj Auto Ltd. and also the then President of Shiksha Mandal, Wardha, among other luminaries. Shiksha Mandal's contribution to the cause of education has also been acknowledged by the RTM Nagpur University as it conferred Shiksha Mandal with its inaugural "Ideal Educational Institute Award" for the year 2014-15.

With such a legacy, the institution feels itself duty-bound to implement its agenda of achieving educational excellence faithfully and rigorously through imparting quality education at an affordable cost and as such has remained committed to some of the healthy traditions espoused by our founders as follows:

- Commitment to society for imparting education of the highest standard without any discrimination of religion, caste, or creed on the principles laid down by our founders and Gandhiji.
- Fully transparent and fair policies of admissions, assessment, appointments, etc.



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- Value-based education with strict adherence to principles of ethics and morality in administrative and academic systems.
- Special student support to the underprivileged and the disadvantaged so that whoever wants education should not be deprived for want of funds or facilities.
- With the progressive approach, we have switched over to gender neutral uniforms to promote gender equity.

The combination of educational excellence, value-based education, societal outlook, and fair practices have lent the institution a very distinctive character owing to which we still remain the most preferred destination for commerce education in Central India as can be seen from our admission profile.

Establishment of College in Pre-Independence Era:

With such a proud legacy, G. S. College of Commerce and Economics, Nagpur, started its journey in 1945 as the first and an exclusive Commerce College in the City of Nagpur, with the vision of “उद्योगिनम् पुरुषसिंहम् उपेतिलक्ष्मीः” (“**Industrious and lion-hearted men generate wealth**”) has been standing tall as a pioneer and trend-setting institution among all the Commerce colleges in the whole of Central India. Living true to its logo, the College has, over a period of seventy-five years, ceaselessly strived to add more and more dimensions to its academic and research profile with an objective of transforming its students of the region into professionals of the top drawer by offering them multiple Commerce and Management programs/courses and other complementary/value-addition courses in the best possible environment and that too at an affordable cost to emerge as the most preferred destination for Commerce Education in this part of the world.

Thus, a pioneering Commerce College, known for its ever-evolving quality initiatives for the optimum delivery of Commerce education is an unmistakable and distinct identity that all the stakeholders have bestowed upon the College, and it is this distinctiveness that the College has been steadfastly preserving through stellar curricular and co-curricular performances over the years as could be seen from some of the following performance highlights:

I. Curricular Growth:

A. Curricular Growth before Autonomy:

- The college started its journey with B.Com. (1945) and M.Com. (1957) in English, Hindi, and Marathi mediums. To this date, it remains the only College in the Nagpur University to impart education in three mediums.
- Subsequently, the College started DBM and M.Phil. (Commerce) as per their demand in the 1980s. These courses have now been discontinued.
- In 1988-89, the College started MBA.
- In 2006-07, the College started B.Com. (Computer Application) and BBA.
- From 2008, we are Hindi Linguistic Minority Institutions.



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- In 2015-16, the College became University-accredited Place of Higher Learning and Research and offers Ph.D. programs in Commerce, Economics, and Business Management.
- The College has so far undergone three cycles (2002, 2010, 2016) and is gearing up for the fourth. At present, the College is having an A Grade with CGPA of 3.03 valid up to 31.12.2023. The College has opted to be accredited as a fully autonomous college.

B. Curricular Growth under Autonomy:

First Commerce College to obtain Autonomy:

G. S. College is not just another educational institution; it is a pioneer. It holds the distinction of being the first commerce college in Nagpur to obtain autonomy. This achievement underscores the institution's relentless commitment to improving educational standards and providing students with the latest and industry-ready educational exposure. Autonomy has empowered the college to take education to new heights, introducing career-oriented courses that prepare students comprehensively for their future endeavors.

The autonomy bestowed upon G. S. College is not merely a badge of honour; it is a responsibility the college takes very seriously. It signifies a commitment to delivering education that is both contemporary and relevant to the ever-evolving industry landscape. The college's autonomy serves as a testament to its vision of producing well-rounded graduates who are not just job-ready but are equipped to excel in their chosen fields.

Pioneering Specialized Courses:

In 2018-19, the College became autonomous and revised its existing courses introducing several academic reforms in terms of CBCS, Credit Framework, Assessment Mechanism, etc. It is still the only Autonomous Commerce College in the University. Another hallmark of G. S. College's distinctiveness lies in its proactive approach to commencing specialized courses. Recognizing the shifting needs of both the industry and students, the college has taken bold steps to offer programs that provide a comprehensive understanding of commerce and finance. These specialized courses, including B.Com. (Honours) and B. Com. (Finance & Accountancy), have been meticulously crafted to ensure that students are well-prepared for the challenges of the professional world.

In an era where employers seek candidates with a deep understanding of their chosen field, G. S. College's specialized courses offer students a competitive edge. The curriculum is designed to keep students abreast of industry updates, aligning their knowledge with the demands of professions like Chartered Accountant (CA) and Company Secretary (CS). Through these programs, the college has successfully bridged the gap between academic learning and practical applicability.

- The college has received grants of INR 2 crores under Component 3 under RUSA in the year 2018.
- In 2020-21, the College started for the first time in Nagpur University 2 new UG Courses of B.Com. (Honours) and B. Com. (Finance & Accountancy) with admissions from as many as 13 states of the nation.
- In the year 2023-2024, the College has got approval for offering the course of B.Com. (FinTech) for the first time in Nagpur University.



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Curricular Growth under NEP:

From 2023-24, the College has started offering programs under NEP to become the only Commerce College under the Nagpur University to implement NEP. The implementation of NEP has resulted in the introduction of various new courses in addition to the change of nomenclature in various courses.

- Accordingly, the College has revised all its programs and introduced several electives as prescribed under NEP.
- Implementation of National Education Policy, 2020: G. S. College is not content with resting on its laurels. It has taken a proactive role in implementing the National Education Policy (NEP) of 2020. The institution's academic bodies, including the Board of Studies, Academic Council, and Governing Body, have been diligently working to align their educational practices with the NEP guidelines. This demonstrates the college's commitment to providing education that aligns with national priorities.

The implementation of NEP 2020 is a multifaceted process, and G. S. College has embraced it comprehensively. The institution's academic regulations and workload distribution for teachers have been meticulously crafted to adhere to the NEP guidelines. Furthermore, the college has sought the input and insights of industry experts and educationists to refine its educational framework.

Academic Bank of Credits (ABC):

One of the transformative elements of NEP 2020 is the creation of an Academic Bank of Credits (ABC). G. S. College has embraced this concept wholeheartedly. The college's NEP Implementation Committee embarked on a drive to generate ABC IDs for students. This initiative is a testament to the institution's forward-thinking approach to education.

The ABC IDs serve as a versatile tool for students to document and access their academic achievements. To ensure the successful implementation of this system, the college conducted training sessions for teachers, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to guide students in creating their ABC IDs. This progressive move highlights the college's commitment to leveraging technology for the benefit of its students and staying at the forefront of educational innovation.

Value-Addition Courses:

In addition to the regular UG/PG programs, the College also offers over a dozen value-addition courses in tie-up with various organizations viz. TCS, NSE, Bajaj FinServ, Tally Education, Cambridge English, ICMAI, etc.

Quality Initiatives:

To upkeep the quality parameters, the college is known for ethical conduct in the process of admissions and appointments which are purely on a merit basis. The college is known for its attendance benchmarks and is catering to the needs of underprivileged students by imparting quality education in the field of commerce. Most heartening is the fact that students from J & K are opting for the College under PMSSS. Academic excellence here is not an achievement but "Our Responsibility." All our efforts have resulted in producing a rich crop of illustrious alumni which also includes many from the underprivileged class and vernacular mediums.



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Innovative Teaching/Learning Methodology:

In addition to the introduction of new programs and courses, the College has made several improvements to its teaching methodology. It employs innovative pedagogical techniques to make learning more engaging and effective. The use of smart classrooms, e-learning platforms, and digital resources have become integral to the teaching process. These methods not only enhance students' understanding but also prepare them for the tech-savvy corporate world.

II. Multilingual Education Approach

G. S. College embraces linguistic diversity and takes a multilingual approach to education. It is the only college in Nagpur University to offer courses in English, Hindi, and Marathi mediums. This multilingualism is not just a matter of language; it is an expression of the institution's commitment to making education accessible to a wide spectrum of students.

Multilingual Mediums of Instruction:

The college's decision to offer courses in English, Hindi, and Marathi is a testament to its inclusivity. This approach ensures that students from diverse linguistic backgrounds can pursue education in their preferred language. It fosters a sense of belonging and allows students to grasp complex concepts in their mother tongue.

Encouragement of Vernacular Education:

G. S. College recognizes the importance of vernacular education in empowering students from non-English backgrounds. The college actively promotes the use of Hindi and Marathi as mediums of instruction, making education more accessible to students who may not be proficient in English who are equally competent and their success can be seen from our rich alumni profile.

III. Free COVID-19 Vaccination Drive:

In response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, G. S. College demonstrated its commitment to the well-being of its students and the community at large by launching a free COVID-19 vaccination drive. The institution recognized the urgency of vaccinating its student body and staff to create a safe and conducive learning environment.

Community Service and Social Responsibility:

This initiative not only reflects the college's commitment to the health and safety of its stakeholders but also its sense of social responsibility. By making vaccination accessible to its students, the college contributed to the broader goal of achieving herd immunity and mitigating the spread of the virus in the community.

V. Adoption of a Village through NSS:

The National Service Scheme (NSS) is an integral part of G. S. College's commitment to community service and social responsibility. The college has gone a step further by adopting a village through NSS, demonstrating its dedication to rural development and upliftment.



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Empowering Rural Communities:

The adoption of a village signifies the institution's dedication to making a meaningful impact on rural communities. Through various NSS initiatives, G. S. College students and faculty engage in activities that address the needs of the adopted village, including healthcare, education, sanitation, and skill development.

Educational Outreach:

The college's NSS unit conducts regular educational and awareness programs in the adopted village to promote literacy and awareness about health, hygiene, and social issues. These initiatives not only benefit the villagers but also provide G. S. College students with invaluable experiential learning opportunities.

Thus, the institutional distinctiveness of G. S. College of Commerce & Economics, Nagpur (Autonomous), is a testament to its unwavering commitment to providing quality education, embracing innovation, and fulfilling its social responsibilities. From its rich legacy and governance rooted in Gandhian philosophy to its pioneering role as the first commerce college to obtain autonomy, the college has consistently pushed the boundaries of educational excellence.

The college's specialized courses, implementation of the National Education Policy, introduction of the Academic Bank of Credits, progressive stance on gender equality, multilingual education approach, free COVID-19 vaccination drive, and adoption of a village through the National Service Scheme all contribute to its distinctive character.

VI. Infrastructure Expansion:

In response to the increasing academic demand and a rising student population, the college, which originally began in a rented bungalow, has undergone a remarkable transformation. It has evolved into two campuses spread across an expansive area exceeding 7 acres. Furthermore, the college has taken the initiative to establish dedicated housing facilities for both male and female students.

Conclusion:

Thus, G. S. College stands as an institution that not only imparts knowledge but also instills values and empowers students to become responsible and socially conscious citizens. Its journey of over seven decades reflects a commitment to inclusivity, quality, and innovation, making it a shining example of an educational institution that is not just ahead of its time but also deeply rooted in its cultural and social context.



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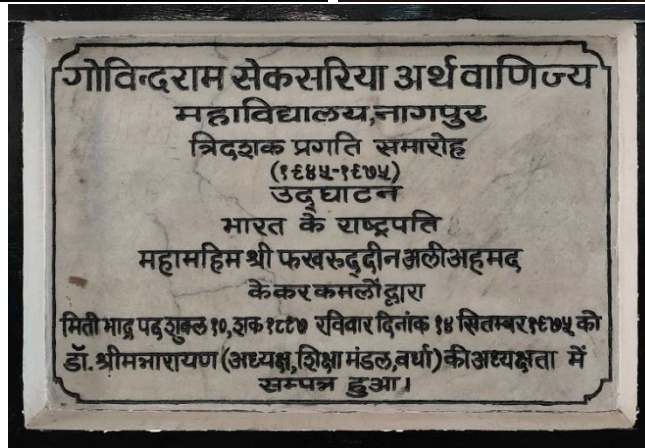
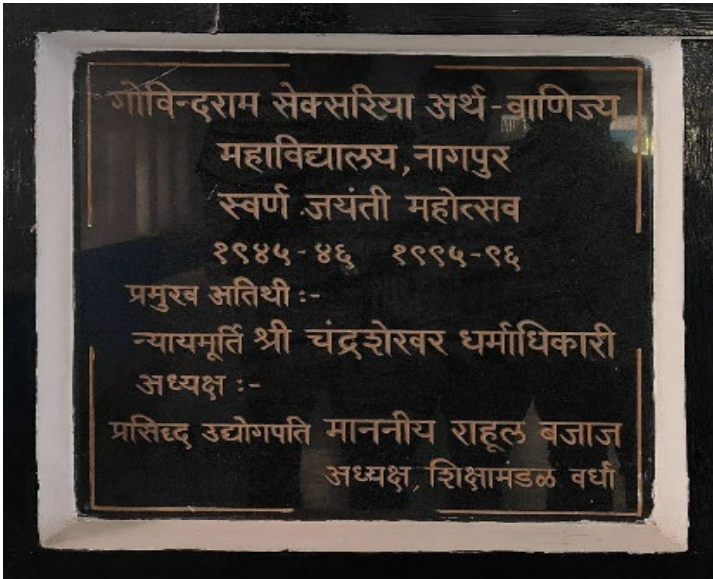
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Representative Photographs

Rich Legacy and Visionary Leadership





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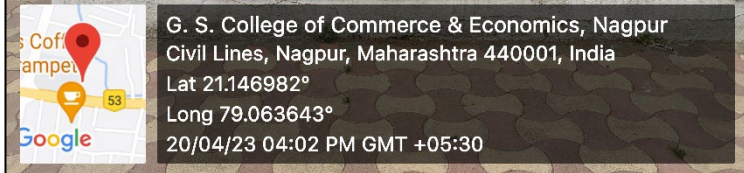
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Implementation of National Education Policy, 2020



Registration of Institution on National Academic Depository (NAD) Portal

Registration of students for Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) IDs for linking it with college NAD ID

Adoption of Village by NSS Unit



Teachers with villagers at Nagazari (Adopted village)



Village adoption by NSS Unit



Faculties with school authorities at Nagazari (Adopted village)



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Free COVID-19 Vaccination Drive



Shri. Sanjay Bhargava, Chairman, Shiksha Mandal, Wardha, Dr. P. M. Paradkar, Nodal Officer, Dr. B. S. Pandey, Shri. N. K. Kapgata and officials of Orange City Hospital & Research Institute



Shri. Sanjay Bhargava, Chairman, Shiksha Mandal, Wardha, Dr. N. Y. Khandait, Principal. Dr. R. T. Sahu, (HOD B.Com. (H)) and students with officials of Orange City Hospital & Research Institute



Shri. Sanjay Bhargava, Chairman, Shiksha Mandal, Wardha, Shri. N. K. Kapgata and officials of Orange City Hospital & Research Institute while vaccinating students.



Students after vaccination at Orange City Hospital & Research Institute



Khamla Square, Nagpur
Orange City Hospital & Research Institute
Lat N 21° 6' 46.1988"
Long E 79° 3' 55.7208"
15/06/21 10:46 AM

Students during vaccination at Orange City Hospital & Research Institute



Khamla Square, Nagpur
Orange City Hospital & Research Institute
Lat N 21° 6' 46.1988"
Long E 79° 3' 55.7208"
15/06/21 10:47 AM



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Students at selfie point after vaccination



THE TIMES OF INDIA, NAGPUR
FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 2021
P. 4

YOUR NEWS

Shiksha Mandal holds vax drive for its staff, students

Firmly believing that vaccination is the only key to control Covid-19 pandemic, Shiksha Mandal of Wardha patronized by Bajaj Group had decided to bear the cost of Covid vaccination for all its beneficiaries including staff and students of all its education institutions. Orange City Hospital & Research Institute (OCHRI) was selected by Bajaj Group as their vaccination partner. Respecting the nationalistic spirit of Bajaj Group, RNHPL management decided to charge only Rs100 for vaccination even though Union Government had stipulated Rs 150 as facilitator charges. This vaccination drive commenced at OCHRI on June 10 to commemorate the birthday of Rahul Bajaj in presence of chairman of Shiksha Mandal Sanjay Bhargava, RNHPL chairman Udaybhaskar Nair, RNHPL directors Dr Usha Nair and Dr Vidya Nair, principal of GS College of Commerce Dr NY Khandait and OCHRI director Dr Anup Marar. Dr Noorul Ameen and Prashant Tichkule are leading teams of Neeraj Patil, Sr Febamol, Sr Rahel Patrange, Sawant Waghmare, Ganesh Iyer and Avinash Ganar for success of the drive.

Press Release

तरुण भारत www.tarunbharat.net

नागपूर, शनिवार, १२ जून २०२१ ४ आपठ नागपूर

जी. एस. कॉलेजच्या विद्यार्थ्यांसाठी लसीकरण

शिक्षा मंडळाच्या वतीने जी. एस. कॉलेजच्या विद्यार्थ्यांसाठी ऑरेंज सिटी हॉस्पिटल अँड रिसर्च इन्स्टिट्यूट (ओसीएचआरआय) येथे कोरोना लसीकरणचे वकरी आगोमन करण्यात आले आहे. राहुल बाबाय यांच्या वाढदिवशी १० नूतनपुत्र यांच्या प्रमुख उपस्थितीमध्ये या लसीकरणाला सुरुवात झाली. यावेळी शिक्षा मंडळ यांनी आग्रह संपन्न पाहिले. स्वतः नागर हॉस्पिटल प्रा. ति. च्या (आरएनएचपीएल) अध्यक्ष डॉ. उषा नायर, आरएनएचपीएलच्या संचालिका डॉ. दिवा नायर, जी. एस. महाविद्यालयाने प्रचारार्थ डॉ. रम. वाय. खंडवई, ऑरेंज सिटी हॉस्पिटलचे सल्लागक डॉ. अनुर मरार, डॉ. नुरत अमीन, प्रशांत टिचकुले यांच्या प्रमुख मार्गदर्शनात नील पटील, लहंत पत्रोरी, रावत वाघमारे, राधेय अग्रय आणि अदिनाथ गानार यांनी कार्यवाहीसाठी परिसर घेतले.

SUNDAY TIMES OF INDIA, NAGPUR
JUNE 20, 2021

TIMES CITY

To start offline classes, Shiksha Mandal vaccinates staff, students

Likely 1st Edu Institution In Maharashtra

Ananya Anuparth
@timesgroup.com

Nagpur: Keen to start physical classes as the earliest, the city-headquartered Shiksha Mandal is conducting a drive to vaccinate its 7,000 students and 600 staff members against Covid. This is probably the first-of-its-kind initiative in the state.

The century-old educational institution's inoculation programme is being held at the Orange City Hospital and Research Institute (OCHRI) in city and the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences (MGIMS) at Sevagram in Wardha district — both private organisations.

Sanjay Bhargava, the chairman and trustee of Shiksha

IN A NUTSHELL

- Shiksha Mandal runs 1 college — GS College of Commerce and Economics — in city and 7 in Wardha district — Bajaj College of Science, Bajaj Institute of Technology, RB College of Agriculture, Acharya Shrimannarayan Polytechnic, SJ Gramin Seva Mahavidyalaya and Rural Institute, Agriculture Science Course
- Strength around 11,000 students and 600 staff
- After Centre permission, Mandal proposed 14,000 doses of Covishield from Serum
- Vax programme starts on June 10 at a private hospital in Nagpur and Wardha
- Will then seek govt permission to start offline classes

JUNE 25 First dose
AUGUST 2nd dose

Mandal, said that though online classes were held, the "education of children has suffered greatly during the pandemic. Regular classes need to resume for proper teaching and learning. Since vaccination is the key to tackle Covid, we started the drive for staff and students on June 10. The second dose will be in August," he said.

Saying that the Mandal is the first educational institu-

tion in the state to take up such a programme, Bhargava said, "After the second dose, we will seek government permission for physical classes." In November last year, the Mandal had urged the state to allow resumption of offline classes.

Founded by industrialist Jambhalal Bajaj, the Mandal is providing the vaccines under the Bajaj CSR programme.

► 14,000 doses, P 4

Mandal has bought 14,000 doses of Covishield from Serum

Continued from P 1

The institution, presided by Rahul Bajaj, runs one college-in-city and seven in Wardha. Totally, there are around 11,000 students — 3,000 in city and 8,000 in Wardha. Bhargava said that around 1,200 from city and 3,500 from Wardha are above 18 years of age. "Around 2,000 have been vaccinated (1,000 in city and 2,000 in Wardha) till Saturday. The remaining students will be inoculated by June 26," he said, adding that consent was taken from the parents.

After permitting vaccination of 18+ from May 11, the Centre had allowed industries and corporates to procure doses directly from manufacturers to inoculate staff and their family members in association with its own hospital, dispensary or any private hospital. The Mandal has bought 14,000 doses of Covishield from the Serum Institute of India and this includes the booster dose.

OCHRI director Dr Anup Marar hoped that Bajaj Group's social activity will inspire other industrial groups, educational and financial institutions. "Vaccination is the only key to control this pandemic," he said.