

**Mahatma Education Society's**  
**Pillai College of Education and Research**  
**Chembur Naka**  
**Chembur, Mumbai-400 071**  
**Annual Report 2012-13**

*“Excellence is never an accident; it is the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction, skillful execution and the vision to see obstacles as opportunities.” - Anonymous*

Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur is deeply committed to raising the bar in achieving excellence in the field of education. The institution has come a long way in its endeavor to promote academic excellence and create humane, self reliant teachers to meet the local and global challenges of society.

The academic year 2012-13 has been a year of several achievements and successes. The institution renewed and reaffirmed its quest for quality in transactions with the A-Grade accreditation by NAAC. The requisite curricular and co-curricular activities were completed successfully overcoming confidently the challenges thrown up by the modified syllabus and the credit based semester system. A dynamic and supportive management and motivated staff that are the backbone of PCER played a crucial role in meeting the goals of the institution.

The past year's abundant activities and achievements have set new benchmarks in terms of range and quality. The following endeavors and accomplishments bears witness to the institution's firm commitment to the noble values enshrined in its vision and mission.

**Assembly:**

- To inculcate values and develop cultural awareness of student teachers.

In view of preparing student teachers to cultivate value based transactions and quality in their tasks, the day at the institute commences with the assembly, which includes a prayer and two minute ecologist message along with reading the news headlines of the day, sharing personal experiences, narrating anecdotes, moral stories etc.

The thought for the day is put up on the black board by the students. Discussions are conducted on the various issues highlighted in the daily news in order to promote awareness, confidence and public speaking skills among the students. Various festivals, national and international days are celebrated and observed with great zest and zeal in the assembly. Skits, speeches, songs dances are presented with great enthusiasm by the students.

### Workshops:

- To develop the intellectual skills, understanding, self-awareness and creativity of student teachers.

Several workshops were conducted on a wide range of topics throughout the year. They are as follows:

- Self-Management
- Lamasa workshop
- Micro Teaching
- Puppetry
- Workshop on Research Methodology
- Personality Development
- Multiple Intelligence
- Action Research
- Transaction Analysis
- Year Plan
- Unit Plan
- Blue Print
- Conflict and Stress Management
- Facing an Interview and Resume Writing
- Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation

### INTER- COLLEGIATE FESTIVAL-VALEUR:

- To develop the competence and confidence of student teachers.

An inter-collegiate festival was conducted which showcased the talents of students from various B.Ed colleges. The main event was the Principal Mathews Chacko Extempore Elocution Competition which is a tribute to our Late Principal Mathews Chacko who was a person with great oratorical skills. There were other events galore such as poster competition, mehendi competition, rangoli competition, essay writing, bouquet making and wealth from waste.

### CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- To augment the intellectual and creative talents of the student teachers.

There were a variety of programmes and celebrations conducted throughout the year which saw the enthusiastic participation of our students began with the inaugural programme of the B.Ed course and encompassed the celebration of Independence Day, Teacher's day, Diwali, Christmas, Republic Day, International Women's Day, Annual Day, Valedictory etc.

Our students participated and won laurels in various intercollegiate competitions. We participated in the community service day programme of MES by taking the students of NASEOH to the programme at Dr. Vasudevan Pillai Campus, Panvel and organizing various activities for them and spending an enjoyable day with them.

### The ICBN Initiative:

- To utilize the alumni resource for the capacity building activities of the institution.

The Intellectual Capacity Building Network is the initiative of our alumni who are actively contributing to the intellectual growth of our institution. The various programmes conducted by them in this regard includes-

- A paper reading session on 'Institutional Best Practices in MES'.
- Workshop on Research Methodology.

### Practice Teaching and Internship:

- To develop the teaching competencies, methodologies and confidence of the student teachers.

The practice teaching and internship programme are vital to the effectiveness of the teacher training programme. It is the whetstone where the student teachers sharpen their skills as teachers and facilitators. Through sessions in various schools in Mumbai the student teachers gained firsthand experience of content and conduct management.

### Add-on Courses:

- To prepare the student teachers to meet the challenges of the modern day classroom.

#### ➤ Competency Based Programme in Inclusive Education:

In order to prepare the student teachers for their changing roles in inclusive classrooms a Competency Based Programme (CBP) in Inclusive Education was planned and organized by Prof. Samita Shetty which consisted of 12 sessions over a period of five days. The students went

for field visits to the National Association for the Blind and Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicap.

➤ COMPUTER SUPPORTED COLLABORATIVE LEARNING:

A training programme to improve the student teachers' content knowledge and pedagogical skills was conducted by Prof. Sneha Raikar in the economics method. This programme combined ICT and collaborative learning in order to improve the teaching efficacy of the student teachers. The participating students were divided into groups and developed their lessons through Meta Studio software. Group efforts through collaborative learning helped the student teachers to generate innovative ideas about economic concepts and teaching aids.

Extension Work:

- To create awareness of the various socio-cultural issues among the student teachers.

To facilitate the sensitization of the student to the socio-cultural realities students carried out extension work projects encompassing social issues. To realize this objective the following projects were undertaken by the institute –Anna Poorna Yojana, Population Education Club, Survey of Women's Status and Information and Communication Technology. Various activities such as essay writing, song composing skit, expert talk, poster competition, food mela, debate etc were conducted. Our students won the second prize in the poster competition for PEC Project and third prize in the skit competition for SWS Project.

Community Work:

- To inculcate in student teachers the attitude of giving back to society.

Our student teachers worked in collaboration with several NGOs like the National Society for Equal Opportunities for the Handicapped (NASEOH), Snehasadan and Prem Daan for rendering community services.

Career Cell:

- To promote the confidence and career prospects of student teachers.

Our active career and placements cell conducted career based workshops and facilitated campus interviews. Some of the schools who visited PCER for campus interviews include-Poddar Group of Schools, Avalon Heights, Arya Vidya Mandir, Dr. Pillai's Global Academy, Universal Group, The Akanksha Foundation and Teach India.

### Key Differentiators:

- Tutorial Groups: Various activities are held to improve students overall performance.
- Study Circle: To maximize learning abilities based on the principles of group dynamics.
- Library Reference: 30 hrs compulsory library work to improve reading and vocabulary skills.
- Guiding Professor: To guide the lessons and improve the quality of the lessons to be given.
- Mentoring Session: Student mentors help other students through academic and moral support.

### Staff Enrichment:

- Several faculty members participated in national and international seminars/workshops/conferences and presented papers too.
- The senior staff have been the visiting faculty for M.Ed and M.A in Education at our sister concern at Panvel.
- Regular presentation sessions are conducted in the staff room wherein the faculty shares their knowledge on various topics with their peers.
- A few of the faculty members are pursuing their doctoral studies and several of the teaching staff has undertaken research projects at various levels.

### The Fiesta of Activities includes:

- A Symposium on Interface between Teacher-Education Colleges and Secondary Schools was conducted to bridge the skill gap between teaching methodologies practiced at teacher education colleges and the current methodologies practiced in schools.
- A Food Festival and Jumble Sale was organized with the proceeds going to a charitable cause.
- The annual Sports Day was conducted at the RCF grounds in Chembur in which all students participated in a variety of events.
- An educational visit to various schools and colleges of Pillai Group of Institutions was organized.
- An expert talk by a gynecologist was conducted on Women's Health Issues.
- Participation in Inter Collegiate competitions and winning prizes in various events.
- Participation in Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations held by Mumbai University on 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct to observe World Peace Day at the Gateway of India.
- Participation in Yuva Diwas on 12<sup>th</sup> January, Mumbai University.
- Talk by experts on awareness of illnesses like AIDS and Cancer.

- Our literary endeavor the annual college magazine DAWN was published.
- Participation in the programme held at ICSW, Chembur presided by astronaut Sunita Williams.

### Feathers in our cap:

- Dr. Sunita Wadikar and Asst. Prof. Vani Achari have successfully completed the Minor Research Project financed by the University of Mumbai.
- Dr. Brij Bala Suri, Dr. Reni Francis, Dr. Mary George Varghese completed their doctoral studies.
- Pillai College of Education and Research conducted a Consultancy Programme with Fr. Agnel Polytechnic. Principal Dr. Sunita Wadikar spearheaded the session along with Prof. Samita Shetty, Dr. Reni Francis and Prof. Sunita Jain.
- PCER has been declared a lead college with 11 cluster colleges under it by Mumbai University.
- Pillai College of Education and Research received its 2f and 12b status from the UGC.
- PCER has been approved as an IGNOU Centre.
- Trans Academia - an International Journal of Education received its ISSN-2319-3492.
- PCER Chembur has received a grant for Research Methodology Workshop from ICSSR.
- Dr. Brij Bala Suri's columns are a regular feature in the Hindi newspaper 'Shanti Pravah'.
- Prof. Sunita Jain and Prof. Swasti Dhar have cleared their NET exams.
- Prof. Sandhya Bhise received her P.G. recognition.
- Prof. Vinita Desai was awarded the Gold Medal from the University of Mumbai for securing 1<sup>st</sup> rank at the M.Ed. University Examination.
- PCER initiated Add-on Courses:
  - CBP-Competency Based Programme in Inclusive Education
  - Computer Supported Collaborative Learning
- Our teaching faculty has also been invited as resource persons for various seminars, workshops, to be on interview panels, as judges at various academic events, and as moderators, examiners, paper setters and conveners for revision of syllabus at the university.

### Projects ready to take-off:

- PCER is providing a course in Basic Computer Skills and Personality Development to underprivileged girl students and Functional Literacy in English and Personality Development for their mothers who are working as domestic helps.
- PCER is collaborating with reputed schools in Mumbai with regard to practice teaching.

### Our future plans:

- To organize a national seminar sponsored by NAAC and UGC.
- To undertake UGC sponsored research projects.
- To add to the publications domain.
- To undertake a major project in the area of community work.
- To introduce add-on self financing courses.

The remarkable achievements are the result of team effort and the credit for putting our institution on this amazing growth trajectory goes to the support and vision of the management, the co-operation and dedication of the teaching and non-teaching staff and the efforts and enthusiasm of our students.

To sum it up the year 2012-13 has been an extremely fruitful and successful one for PCER, firmly set on travelling the path towards excellence.

*'Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence'*

*-Vince Lombardi*

Dr. Sunita Wadikar  
Principal  
PCER,Chembur