

Women Development Cell (WDC)

Committee Members:

Prin. Dr. Vijetha Shetty	President
Teachers In-Charge	
Prof. Dr. Maya Hande	Convener
Prof. Dr. Shefali Naranje	Member
Prof. Jennifer Marfatia	Member
Prof. Nisha B.	Member
Prof. Saraoj Gamare	Member
Mrs. Madhura Shinde	Member
Mr. Ashish Ringe,	NGO Representative (UJAAS)

Student Representatives

Ms. Pooja Gupta,	TYBCOM	Student Secretary
Ms. Muthulaxmi Yadav,	TYBCOM	Member
Ms. Kajal Nikalje	FYBCOM	Member
Ms. Aastha Jaiswal,	SYBCOM	Member
Mr. Vineet Machewar, TYBMS	Member	
Mr. Vedant Ayare, TYBMS	Member	

Objectives of the Cell: -

1. To organize programmes to promote Gender Equity.
2. To empower girl students through various workshops/seminars for self-development.
3. To inculcate mutual respect by counseling and guidance.
4. To encourage students to participate in certificate programmes.

The college has a Women Development Cell, which is constituted according to the guidelines of the University of Mumbai. The Cell functions accordingly and organizes programs for students and staff every year to create sensitization on gender-related issues in consultation with the college's Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC).

The following is the list of activities organized in the year 2023-24:

1. Session on Menstrual Hygiene

College Women Development Cell, in collaboration with NSS and Afroz Shah Foundation, organized a session on Menstrual Hygiene on August 3rd, 2023. The resource person, Ms. Deepika Lohia, illuminated the menstrual cycle and propagated awareness about effective menstrual hygiene practices. She advocated using menstrual cups as an eco-friendly alternative to traditional sanitary pads and elaborated extensively on their benefits.

As part of the session, Nominal-Price Menstrual cups were distributed. This initiative aimed to provide women with a sustainable, cost-effective menstrual hygiene solution.



Session on Menstrual Hygiene



Session on Menstrual Hygiene



Session on Menstrual Hygiene

2. Participation in a "Women Empowerment and Higher Education" seminar organized by Savitribai Phule University, Pune, on October 23, 2023.

Prof. Saroj Gamare attended a "Women Empowerment and Higher Education" seminar organized by Savitribai Phule University, Pune, on 23rd October 2023. Dr. Anjali Deshmukh, Vice-Chancellor of Savitribai Phule University, Dr. Nandita Rao, an accomplished academician and women's rights advocate, and Ms. Shalini Verma, a renowned entrepreneur and alumna of the University of Pune, were resource persons for the workshop.

They highlighted key focus areas like women empowerment, opportunities in higher education, and challenges faced by women.



Participation in a seminar on "Women Empowerment and Higher Education" organized by Savitribai Phule University

3. Gender Audit 2022-2023

A gender Audit was conducted for the academic year 2022-2023 on 20th January 2024. The Gender Audit Committee members consisted of:

- Dr. Gracy D'Souza – Assistant Professor and Convener WDC, J.M.Patel College, Goregaon
- Advocate Kartikee Korgaonkar- Practicing lawyer at Bombay High Court, National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) & Family Court.
- Mr. Ashish Ringe - Sr. Executive Project - Ujaas, Aditya Birla Education Trust, Mumbai.

The committee members appreciated the Women Development Cell's activities and gave valuable recommendations for future activities.



Gender Audit Committee



Gender Audit Committee with Management and Principal

4. Session on Human Trafficking

A Session on Human Trafficking was organized on 15th February 2024 with Prakruthi Trust. Students were given information about the statistics of Human Trafficking in India and shown a short film. A group activity was conducted to make students realize the measures to be undertaken to safeguard them from such crimes. The resource person, Ms. Sakshi Kaushik, highlighted the role of youth in reducing such crimes. The session was interactive, and students got a clear picture of the problems faced by society because of these crimes.



session on Human Trafficking



session on Human Trafficking

5. Certificate Course on Cyber Security

Girl students completed a free cyber security course offered by Suntech Computers, Goregaon. Aadhaar and Capgemini sponsored the course under the Digital India Campaign. The course was 20 hours—2 hours for ten days. It aimed to promote cyber security/wellness and empower girls to play a vital role in resolving cyber issues and creating awareness at their level. After the course, an online exam was conducted, and certificates were awarded to female students. Students found the course helpful in handling cybercrimes in today's digital era.



Dr. Maya Hande, with students and participants in the cybersecurity course,

6. District Level Self Defence Training Workshop

On International Women's Day, a District Level Self Defence Training Workshop was organized with the Department of Students' Development, University of Mumbai, on 7th March 2024. The program was organized by Prof. Anuja Narvankar, Prof. Nisha B., and Dr. Neelu Khosla.

Dr. Nilima Inamdar, PSI. Hemlata Vaje, Dr. Zarin Sethna, Adv. Vaishali Rode and Mr. Ganesh Yadav were the workshop's resource persons. Topics like a healthy diet, mind empowerment, women and law were also covered, and basic self-defense training was imparted to female students.



Principal and students with Adv. Vaishali Road



Dr. Zarine Sethna, with principal



Principal and students with PSI. Hemlata Vaje



Teachers and students with Dr. Nilima Inamdar

7. Celebration of International Women's Day

International Women's Day was celebrated on 9th March 2024 with great excitement, involving teaching and non-teaching staff and students from aided and self-financing courses.

The convener, along with the teacher members and students of the WDC, greeted and distributed sweets to all the teaching and non-teaching staff of the college. They also acknowledged the contribution of supporting staff, security guards, and housekeeping staff.



Celebration of International Women's Day with office staff



Celebration of International Women's Day with library staff



Celebration of International Women's Day -WDC members with principal and staff



Celebration of International Women's Day with teaching staff.

We thank Management, the Principal, and college IQAC for their encouragement in organizing these activities. We look forward to our students' constant involvement in them.
