

UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI

Press note

Date : 15th July 2014

Center for Excellence in Community College

Mumbai – As a part of the vision of 2030 initiative, The Government of India has decided to start 200 community colleges all over India with the focus on skill development and extended fullest co-operation to the University of Mumbai. For establishing a centre of excellence in community college Department of Higher and Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra has decided to allot 7 acer land in Thane district which as the Government of India has analysed the gaps between jobs and skill and has developed strategy for skills development at the National Level. It will also help to develop the society economically and socially. The primary goal of Community college is to empower all those students who are academically, personally or economically less privileged by enhancing their employability through training and development and enable them to move in the direction of self reliance.

The concept of Community College is being initiated first time in the University of Mumbai and has launched its first 4 Community colleges.

The primary responsibilities of Community colleges will be-

- Creation of Employment opportunities within the local area.
- Promotion of self employment and small business development.
- Development of competencies and employability.
- Respond to the social needs and issues of the local community.

The community colleges initiative will contribute significantly (about 10%) to the overall target of skill development of 500 million people in India by 2022.

The distinguishing feature of Community college is that it allows students to work and study simultaneously.

It serves as a Community based institution of vocational education and provides a platform for skill development and lifelong learning.

Only 25 lac vocational training seats are available in India whereas 1 crore 25 lac people enter the labour market every year.

Largest share of new jobs is likely to come from the un-organised sector, which employs up to 93% of National workforce.

Community colleges will offer a 24 month course, with an exit route after 12 months.

Courses offered by Community colleges are open to students in the fields of Arts, Science, Commerce, Information Technology and any other domain which the Community college decides to offer to the local community from the employability pursuit on the strength of funds allotted by the Organization.

Concept of an Associate Degree

It is the two year Associate Degree awarded to by the University in Community Colleges which enables the student to seek employment in Sectors related to his course. It also paves the way and enables all the aspiring students, who want to pursue further studies in Graduation to directly join the third year of regular Bachelors Degree course as per the eligibility criteria and norms as per University of Mumbai through transfer of credits. Those who have cleared their H.S.C (12th standard) or any other recognized equivalent course are eligible to opt for the course on merit.

Salient Features of the Community College Programme

- To commence a new generation Associate Degree programme with an exit route after the first year.
- Exit route adds flexibility to the programme by giving students the option to acquire a certificate at the end of the first year and opt out of the course.
- Students who successfully complete the two year course will be awarded an Associate Degree.
- Students who acquire an Associate Degree will have the option to seek admission to a regular Bachelors Degree course or search for suitable employment opportunities.
- University of Mumbai will provide the necessary inputs on the Academic side.
- Core competence with reference to soft skills will be of prime focus and importance.
- Syllabus aims to bring an attitudinal change and develop the right mindset in participants.
- Targeted primarily towards economically under-privileged students of backward region.
- As skill is the result of transforming knowledge into practice ratio of theory and practicals will be 50:50.
- Business ethics and corporate social responsibility have been given additional value based inputs.

The foundation course of 12 months is designed to be universally applicable to all sectors of Community College

The 12 months of the second year leading to Associate Degree will focus only on skill based Industry specific training to occupy positions of market developers in the Industry.

On successfully completion of the first year course, students will be awarded “Certificate in Foundation Course”.

Certificate of Associate Degree will be awarded to students on their successful completion of the two year course with right skill sets and competencies.

Students who have acquired the “Certificate of Associate Degree” will be eligible for admission to Regular Bachelor Degree courses.

Courses in community college

- Health Care
- Hospitality
- Security
- Floristry (flower arrangement)
- Food and beverages
- Culinary Arts
- Salon
- Pharmaceuticals
- Nursing
- Certificate Course in house keeping

Hon'ble Shri. Rajesh Tope, Minister for Higher and Technical education,

- 7 acres land will provide for the community college as soon and the courses will be for 2 years.
- Pass out student's will get opportunity to work in abroad
- Main focus on skill development of the student's
- In next 10 years , my Moto is skill at least 50 crores Population.
- This is the first project and as soon as possible we will try our best to open the college

Hon'ble Shri. Jitendra Awhad, Minister for Medical Education and Horticulture

- Student's who are deprived from the education, Keeping this in mind we have decided to build community college in Thane District.
- Most of the Oriented Courses should be there for students, so they can acquire whole knowledge in it.
- As a Minister, I will fulfill all the needs and desires of the People

Hon'ble Dr. Rajan Welukar The Vice Chancellor of University of Mumbai

- This Project is for the student welfare and very thankful to Shri. Rajesh Tope and Shri. Jitendra Awhad that they showed the intention to give the land to the University of Mumbai.
- Even in more areas we are planning to build a community college.

University of Mumbai has always strived to impart Quality Education. It has always created and sustained a culture of Excellence on numerous occasions University of Mumbai has defied the norms, broken the shackles and taken path-breaking initiatives in the field of education to be a step ahead of others and cater to the ever-changing and ever-growing aspirations of the youth.

One such unique initiative has been taken by the University of Mumbai to strengthen and develop the concept of Community Colleges.

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