

Project NIRMMA Concept Note

## **Overview:**

Maniben Nanavati Women's College, named after Smt. Maniben Chandulal Nanavati was a freedom fighter, humanitarian, social worker and a strong promoter of khadi. She worked closely with Mahatma Gandhi during the Indian struggle for independence. Known as 'Khadi Mata,' she contributed immensely towards promoting khadi as a cottage industry that would contribute to the economic development of the nation at grassroot level. Not only at economic level, but khadi for her was an ideology that would bind the nation despite its wide diversities. Her welfare and relief work for the upliftment of the poor and deprived sections of society were exemplary. An environmentalist in her own manner, she mediated many projects of collecting resources, recycling them and sharing them for reusing them. A disciplined Gandhian, so punctual and particular in her daily routine, she lived a healthy life of 95 years. The institution upholds her legacy and principles.

Project NIRMMA is one such step towards a strong nation building and encouraging healthy, responsible citizenship. Project NIRMMA, launched in January 2018 by IQAC, is an ideology that has been imbibed by each stakeholder at MNWC. The acronym stands for:

- Non-violence, Peace and Humanity
- Integrity; Honesty and Truth
- **R**espect for All
- Mutual Support and Harmony
- Mental and Physical Health, Well Being, Hygiene and Cleanliness
- Appreciation and Gratitude

Since its inception, the College has been involved in moulding young minds to be healthy, responsible citizens so as to contribute to the wellbeing and progress of the nation. Be it environment, literacy, conservation of natural resources, anti-dowry movement, physical health, mental health or any other matter of national importance, our students have contributed extensively to community projects. Such a massive contribution is not possible without promoting personal well being and inculcating strong value systems among the students. Project NIRMMA has been launched with a purpose to focus on these two areas for our students.

## The Road Map :

The College has a well established Gandhian Study Centre sponsored by UGC under its scheme - Epoch Making Social Thinkers of India. The centre conducts a wide range of activities addressing social causes.

The National Service Scheme (NSS) Cell of the College, Rotaract Club, Youth Red Cross and Women Development Cell offer various platforms to students to sensitize them to social, environmental, mental and other problems of society. The NSS Special Camp is organized every year with activities planned under a social theme. Leadership camps, medical camps, gender sensitization programmes and other activities are conducted on regular basis.

Apart from these, the Sports and Yoga Committee conducts Yoga sessions once a week for all First Year students. For the Second Year students, a fifteen hour course on 'Value Education Through Gandhian Philosophy' has been introduced by the Gandhian Study Centre. 'Samatva'- the gender sensitization week and Satrangi, the LQBTQIA collective by students are other initiatives under the project.

## MOUs, Linkages and Collaborations:

The College has tied up with various organizations, to name a few - DIYA Foundation, Mumbai, Stree Mukti Sangathana, Mumbai, Mission Green Mumbai, Anti-Dowry Movement, Mumbai, Responsible Netizens, Inner Wheel Club of Bombay Airport, Bombay Municipal Corporation, Airport Authority of India United, way, Mumbai and others.

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