

# Bringing Visions into Reality 2022



**Shree Vithalrao Joshi Charities Trust**

| Social | Hospital | Community Health | Women Empowerment | Education and Sports | Research



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**Shree Vithalrao Joshi Charities Trust,**  
Shreekshetra Dervan, Taluka Chiplun, Dist. Ratnagiri

January 2022



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## 1. Social & Spiritual Upliftment

Dervan, now marked on the world map as 'Shree Kshetra Dervan' is a small village situated on the Mumbai-Goa highway in Chiplun taluka, Ratnagiri district. About 45 years ago, a project was introduced for the overall development of this downtrodden village. The goal was to build a society that is capable, ethical, and fearless; one that can contribute towards a strong and successful nation. If each individual who is part of the society is happy, prosperous, and believes in the benefits of walking on the right path, this prosperity can be easily infused into all parts of society, and eventually spread across the nation.

A content individual with basic human values instilled in him will certainly gain physical & mental strength. Imagine a nation filled with an entire population of such strong and



Shree Sadguru Vasudevanantsaraswati  
Swami Maharaj



Shree Sadguru Sahajanandasaraswati Swami Maharaj  
(Shri Vitthal Ganesh Joshi)



ethical individuals! India is such a vast, diverse country that the efforts of the government in this respect will always be inadequate. As the so-called 'modern' society continues indulging in materialistic & pleasure-seeking pursuits, a need to raise awareness of their duties & responsibilities and to guide them on the path of action ('Karma Yoga') becomes inevitable. Such philosophy and belief highlight a need for selfless organizations working towards this cause with noble individuals who believe in serving humanity.

It was this goodwill and agenda, which motivated Shree Sadguru Sahajanand Saraswati Swami Samarth Maharaj (Shree Maharaj) to initiate a unique project at "Shree Kshetra Dervan", with the assistance of two organizations namely, "Shree Sant Sitaramba Walawalkar Charitable Trust" and "Shree Vithalrao Joshi Charities Trust".

The goal was simple yet ambitious under the given circumstances – to ensure the availability of basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, drinking water, health services and education for the poor and abandoned people of this poor society; to free them from the shackles of ignorance, superstitions, and lethargy; to make them feel proud of their history, culture, religion, their role in society and spiritual traditions; to make them aware of their duties

& responsibilities towards their country, religion, and countrymen! Several innovative programs have been introduced at material and intellectual levels to achieve these objectives. Also, new programs or innovative techniques are constantly implemented to keep up with changing times & needs.

The seeds of selfless service sowed by these humanitarian organizations over the past 45 years in the Dervan area, have now flourished and are sharing their fruits with everyone around.

## Shiv Samarth Gadh

The great emperor, Chhatrapati Shree Shivaji Maharaj, is a source of pride for the state of Maharashtra and also for the entire country of India. His life, his thoughts, his actions have been an inspiration and continue to awaken us of our hidden potential as a society. To bring forward such examples that will convert the self-centred society into a benevolent one, Shree Maharaj commenced the development of a unique memorial, 'Shiv Samarth Gadh' dedicated to Chatrapati Shree Shivaji Maharaj. He was successful in completing this memorial, despite facing tough challenges from many hostile & rigid groups in the process.

Salient features of the memorial include sturdy construction of walls almost making it feel like





a fort, a magnificent stone entrance, life-size statues of hundreds of armed soldiers, a temple dedicated to Shree Shiv Chhatrapati (the Emperor) & saint, Shree Ramdas Swami along with creative sculptures depicting important incidents from the life of the Emperor. The visitors almost feel like they are travelling back in time to experience our great history and the era of this great Emperor. The memorial has attracted and inspired people from all across India and abroad.

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Shivashrushti Sabhagruha



Shree Sahajanandasaraswati Maharaj and  
Bhaktashreshtha Kamalakarpant Walawalkar





## 2. Trust's Social Activities

To educate the society, raise awareness of human values, to guide the people on the path of action ('Karma-yoga'), the society must be comfortable & content in material matters. Philosophy or ethical principles cannot be imparted to empty stomachs. Therefore, before educating or guiding people in the right direction, Shree Maharaj first introduced programs to provide jobs in the region and helped raise their standard of living.

Some of the important humanitarian projects undertaken are listed below:

'Employment for those who seek it' – The organization initiated large-scale agriculture and related activities such as tree plantations and animal husbandry, which could easily provide jobs to unskilled agricultural labourers,



Employment for those who seek it



Provide food grains, cooking oil, sugar, clothes, blankets etc



Distribution of sarees



Animal husbandry



Supply of water using water-tankers



Construction material to the poor and needy



School Uniforms



Construction of roads linking remote villages

women and farmers from the region. This led to consistent & sufficient income for all those who are employed under this program. Agriculture is, fortunately, a year-long occupation and doesn't easily get impacted due to market ups or downs. Furthermore, it requires comparatively less investment to generate employment at this scale. These were the primary thoughts behind choosing agriculture as a main part of this program by Shree Maharaj.

The organization has issued identity cards to the agricultural & other labourers, which are used to provide food grains, cooking oil, sugar, clothes, blankets, etc., for free of cost or affordable rates ensuring adequate food and clothing for them and their families.

The organization dug wells and bore-wells in the communities to resolve a long-standing issue with water supply. In addition to this, the organization even today supplies water using water-tankers whenever and wherever necessary.

Construction materials such as bricks, cement, roof tiles, etc. for building &/or maintaining houses are provided to the poor and needy. This help in material goods instead of cash is to ensure it is used appropriately for the construction of their homes only.

Proper infrastructure and roads linking remote villages to the main roads or highways have been built by the organization.

Employees & their relatives get support in the form of clothing and jewellery (such as 'mangalsutra' – a key piece of jewellery for the bride) during marriages in the family.

Notebooks, school books, uniforms are distributed free of cost to the school children.

Girl students, completing 7th grade are gifted wrist-watches to encourage them to continue their education.

School benches, cupboards, tables, chairs, and educational materials are donated to the schools in villages.

Pre-school nurseries or day-care children are gifted with toys and provided with nutritious meals.

Toilets have been constructed in many schools in the villages.

Classics and other informative books are distributed to the libraries, thus encouraging and instilling good reading habits in children at a young age.

The 'Bhakta-Shreshtha Kamalakarpant Walawalkar Hospital' was built in 1996 to provide state-of-the-art medical facilities and services under one roof at affordable rates, which now benefits all the people in the Konkan region.

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Gift of wrist-watches



Toys for Pre-Primary Schools



Recitation competitions, scholarships etc.



Notebooks, text books and educational material



B.K.L. Walawalkar Rural Medical College



Inauguration of Medical college - Mr Vikas Walawalkar, Managing Trustee



Lecture Theatre



Library - Reading Hall



### 3. B.K.L. Walawalkar Rural Medical College

*“Developing a “cillage” ecosystem would need a rooted and integrated approach to holistic education and research, technology development, and management, as well as technology-enabled rural livelihood enhancement...”* Dr Anil Kakodkar, Padmavibhushan, former chairman of the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India.

Inadequate, inequitable distribution of the medical workforce remains a challenge across the globe, and India is no exception. Maharashtra state faces a major shortage of doctors, skilled manpower, particularly in rural and remote areas. The medical students want to practice in urban locations and work in the private sector. This results in a lack of doctors, nurses, and other paramedical manpower in rural areas and public facilities. Given the continuing challenges of the physician shortage in India, an understanding of our medical students’ prospective career plans,

their specialization preferences, choices for job location and sector, and views on working in rural and remote areas are essential for appropriate planning of human resources. By providing exceptional medical expertise, infrastructure, and technology to the areas that lack the same, we can create a healthcare education revolution in the rural areas.

In the knowledge era, with emphasis on capability and capacity building of rural youth in terms of holistic education, appropriate technology, and enhanced livelihood, there is a possibility for a more balanced distribution of income as well as population. This would, however, need knowledge bridges to be built between cities and villages, and the creation of an ecosystem that has been conceptualized as a “cillage” — a synergistic combination of city and village.

A dire need to provide modern medical services to the rural population led to the development of the B.K.L. Walawalkar Hospital. But it was a challenge to keep up with the resources required for the hospital and related medical programs for the region. 2015-16 marked as a monumental year for the Shree Vithalrao Joshi Charities Trust with the completion of their milestone project, the ‘B.K.L Walawalkar Rural Medical College’ in Kasarwadi, Sawarde which is affiliated to Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS), Nashik. Medical students from this college will have real-life training at the Hospital and will be able to offer



Biochemistry lab



Museum



Boys mess



Interns attending relief camps in flood affected Chiplun



Hostel room



In-house Fitness Gym



Girls hostel and mess



Hostel for PG Students

their services to the local communities. The key objectives of this medical college are to produce high quality and very research-oriented doctors willing to serve the rural population, in addition to being an academic institution of excellence that will help the foundation for curative medicine & public health in the region. Other objectives are to conduct research in priority areas, which will lead to positive policy changes and implementation in the field of preventive/curative medicine and public health.

Every year, 100 M.B.B.S students are admitted into the medical program. The stunning medical college construction is now equipped with all the facilities required for a standard medical college. The selected teaching staff is highly educated, skilled, and has dedicated themselves to this educational service. These factors all contribute towards making this medical college an ideal educational institute and the trust received a big appreciation for accomplishing a project of this nature in such a short timeline.

The B.K.L. Walawalkar Rural Medical College has a wonderful campus and boasts of infrastructure, designed extremely well to accommodate eight fully equipped and self-compliant departments; each department is spacious with all necessary ultra-modern equipment and ability to accommodate future growth with a lush green, pollution-free campus spread over 60 acres of land.

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## 4. Samarth Nursing College & College of Advanced Studies

Shree Maharaj was very compassionate for the poor, needy population of Konkan, and envisioned the development of society on all fronts. He believed empowering women, making them self-sufficient and thus enabling them to live a life with respect, will substantially contribute to the overall development of society. His vision was brought to life by his disciples with the commencement of Samartha Nursing School in the vicinity of the hospital for local girls. Some highlights of this extremely successful program:

- An 18-month ANM course was introduced in the year 2000 and the GNM course just 3½ years later.
- A complete Basic B.Sc.Nursing and Post Basic B.Sc.Nursing course, 50 seats are available through the NEET exam.



Samarth Nursing College



Demonstration hall



Computer lab



Hands-on training on advanced equipments



Guest lectures for nurses



Training from experienced Doctors and nurses from abroad



Apperenticeship



Lamp lighting and Oath taking ceremony

- M.Sc. (nursing) the course is available for Medical surgery, Psychiatry, Community Medicine, Pediatrics, OBGY (five seats each).
- This nursing school has gained recognition from both MNC and INC organizations and is ISO 9001- 2000 certified.

The 4-story nursing school building besides the hospital includes 5 lecture halls, laboratory, nutrition hall, demonstration hall, audiovisual hall, library, administrative office, a decent cafeteria, a recreation hall, athletic facility, and a dorm that accommodates hundreds of nursing students. Admissions are purely on merit. No one is admitted by accepting donations or funds. This ensures admission of poor and deserving girls of this region.

These courses have not only empowered these girls but has opened a new world of employment opportunities for them. Some have been employed with Tata Hospital at Mumbai, some have gone abroad with good remuneration packages, while some are well-settled in their villages offering quality health-care services. More than 1000 girls in the last 12 years have chosen the field of Nursing and become financially independent.



## College of Advanced Studies

Every major hospital needs well-trained Para-medical staff besides nurses. When the Dialysis machines arrived, it generated a requirement for trained Dialysis Technicians. With the increasing use of modern machines and equipment, demand for variety of well-trained technicians increased similarly. This led to the introduction of the 'College of Advanced Studies' at Dervan on the Independence Day, 15th August 2003. The college conducts courses like Forensic Medical Technician, Endoscopy Technician, Community Medicine Technician, and Emergency Medical Service Technician in affiliation with the Maharashtra University of Health Science and courses like Advance Diploma in X-Ray, Radiography, and Ultrasonography, Medical Laboratory Technology, and Dietetics. Diploma in Hemodialysis Technician, Diploma in Operation Theatre Technician in affiliation with the Maharashtra State Board of Technical Education.

The college has successfully implemented these programs for those who are not so 'academically' strong or cannot afford big cities for education; these courses have proved very beneficial to the local youth who hope for a decent life, and the hospital also benefits from this regular access to well-trained local



B.Sc. Biomedical Instrumentation students



DMLT, Dietetics, X - Ray students



Real-life demonstrations



Laboratory Technicians



The guidance of specialized staff



These courses have proved very beneficial to the local youth who hope for a decent life



College of Advanced studies

resources, which has also enriched the quality of the health-care services offered.

The College is also affiliated with the University of Mumbai and now offers two-degree courses - 'B.Sc. Biomedical Instrumentation' and 'B.Sc. Psychological Health and Behavioral Science'. The college had to go through the process of approval whereby the appropriate government officials examined the location, the facilities, and processes before giving their approval to start these courses in Dervan.

Since these courses are offered on the premises of the B.K.L.W hospital, the students learn and excel extremely well under the guidance of specialized staff and real-life demonstrations. Most students enrolled in these courses are from the rural regions of Konkan and have been successful in getting appropriate placements upon their graduation.

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## 5. B.K.L. Walawalkar College of Physiotherapy (Under MUHS)

Physiotherapy has recently gained momentum as a branch of modern medical science, which includes assessment, planning, and implementing rehabilitative programs to improve or restore human motor functions, maximize movement ability, relieve pain syndromes and treat or prevent physical challenges associated with injuries, diseases, and other impairments. Physiotherapists apply a broad range of physical therapies and techniques such as movement, ultrasound, heating, laser, and other innovative solutions.

In 2019, the S.V.J.C. Trust achieved yet another milestone on their journey of social upliftment in this downtrodden region - the 'B.K.L. Walawalkar College of Physiotherapy' was established in affiliation with the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik to introduce physiotherapy education in the Konkan region beginning with a capacity



Cardiorespiratory Care



Neuro Care



Physiotherapy Care



Yoga Sessions For Adolescent Girls

of 40 students with the approval from the Government of Maharashtra. Some key highlights of this new addition to the campus:

- Bachelor of Physiotherapy a 4-year degree course plus mandatory 6 months internship.
- Excellent infrastructure & facilities with fully equipped Kinesiotherapy & Electrotherapy laboratories.
- A complete library dedicated to the college with the latest books, journals, digital library with internet access.
- Well established student residence and cafeteria, separately built for boys and girls.
- The Physiotherapy College is attached to B.K.L. Walawalkar hospital and B.K.L.



Physiotherapy College Students

Walawalkar Medical College, Kasarwadi, Sawarde, allowing students to gain maximum experience in real-life settings.

Students can stay fit and active by taking advantage of the massive international standard Sports complex within the campus, which incorporates more than 35 sports activities.



B.K.L. Walawalkar College of Physiotherapy



## 6. B.K.L. Walawalkar Hospital, Diagnostic & Research Centre

“Bhakta-shreshtha Kamalakar pant Laxman Walawalkar Hospital” is located about 16 Km from Chiplun, on the Mumbai-Goa highway in this remote village of Dervan. The hospital is a manifestation of Shree Maharaj’s vision to offer affordable health services to the poor & marginalized people in the Konkan region. This was just one step in the bigger plan for the overall upliftment of the society. A vision, which was accomplished by his disciples through hard work and most importantly with their tremendous faith & devotion to the cause initiated by their “Sadguru” .

The organization has initiated several programs for offering education and health services to all, which will ultimately result in the progress & prosperity of the entire society on all fronts. Slowly but surely, people began to believe in modern medicine instead of falling prey to



The Hospital started with an indoor patient ward of 30 beds



OPD Building



The hospital area stands surrounded by lush greenery



Operation Theatre

“magic”, “miracles”, “sorcery” and similar superstitions.

This ISO certified hospital has been on a growth trajectory & has set its sights on new objectives with the only aim of serving the society. A new Medical College was also built within the hospital campus to train capable doctors and build a pool of reliable resources, who will help serve the healthcare needs of the poor and the downtrodden.

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Spacious Wards



Indoor Patients Department Building



## 7. Ultra-modern Medical Technology

The hospital has 600 beds with 12 operation theaters. All the operation theatres are air-conditioned and include laparoscopes, image intensifiers, different types of monitors, and ventilators. These operation theatres are built to efficiently manage surgeries from simple procedures for the treatment of hernia to complicated ones like knee replacements, spinal, or cancer surgeries.

Intensive care units are available for patients who have undergone complicated surgeries, new-born babies, etc. Haemodialysis units are also available for patients in serious condition; 7 units from Fresenius Cabi are used for this very purpose. Various water purification techniques have been implemented, such as the RO System to ensure water purity required in dialysis treatment. Most modern computer systems have been introduced, which enable doctors to view and analyze patient reports

from any ward and administer treatment accordingly. In addition to this, the availability of the internet helps to obtain views of doctors from abroad in the treatment of special cases. All the attention to minute details along with the clean fresh air, the environment, and lighting have always impressed patients and their relatives.



Cario Vascular & Thoracic OT



WARDS



M.R.I.



CT Simulator



Digital X-Ray



## 8. Radiology Department - Backbone of the Hospital

As in any other hospital, Radiology is the backbone of this hospital too. The Department of Radiology of B.K.L. Walawalkar Hospital is known best for its quality diagnostic services like MRI, Ultrasound, CT scan, and X-Ray, Digital Subtraction Angiography

The expert team of Radiologists at the hospital excel at providing the best image-guided, minimally invasive techniques for diagnosis at the right time, which helps treating early-stage diseases or conditions, minimizing the requirements for surgery, and ensuring delivery of precise treatment to the patients. These radiology services are also used for various medical disciplines such as Gastroenterology, Pulmonology, Gastrointestinal surgery, Gynaecology, General surgery, Onco surgeries, etc.



Accident victims, Cancer patients, and those suffering from paralysis can be treated at the hospital with Spiral CT scan. Such facilities are very rare in the nearby region. Access to such facilities makes diagnosis and treatment easier and that is why this hospital is considered as a “medical oasis” by patients in Konkan Region.

The CT scan identifies ‘tumour’ in any part of the body; biopsies are immediately carried out. Interventional Radiology can be used to remove parts of tumour from lungs, chest, stomach, neck, etc., which can then be used for diagnosis. Similarly, the Digital X-ray machines installed with image distribution software offer much better quality x-ray images thus helping the overall diagnosis.

A special system has been implemented using Ultrasonography to proactively detect & treat medical anomalies in patients before they lead to complications. As per this system, sonography is conducted for free for poor patients once they are brought to the hospital in an ambulance. This has helped in the timely detection and treatment of kidney stones, problems related to uterus, and other tumours. The Doppler equipment is used to check blood flow, thus preventing gangrene before it hits the patients. Similarly, mammography helps detect breast cancer at a very early stage. The hospital offers treatments aided by modern

technology and these are just a few examples of how early detection or proactive measures are helping raise the health quality of the overall community in general.

The team of radiologists and experts from hospital work together to provide explanatory diagnostic imaging reports and opinions like X-Ray, MRI, ultrasound, and CT scan at affordable rates and help doctors to make the best decision in managing the patient’s treatment efficiently.



Mammography



Inauguration of MRI Centre -Dr Deelip Mhaisekar, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik



Mr Parthasarathi Mukherji- Advisor, CSR, Bajaj Auto Limited is honoured by Managing Trustee Mr Vikas Walawalkar



Mr Ajay Sathe of Bajaj Finserv speaking on the occasion

## The 'BAJAJ FINSERV MRI' facility:

The newest unit of the Radiology Department- The Walawalkar hospital received its own advanced MRI unit **with a generous donation by the 'Bajaj Finserv' organization** in July 2019. This modern, digital MRI unit with the newest 'Philips 1.5 Tesla' model is the first-ever such modern facility available in Konkan. Some key features of this MRI unit the hospital proudly hosts are as follows:

- Special built-in software in this MRI unit helps reduce the noise levels by almost 80% during an MRI.
- Designed to allow patients to see and hear the technician, or even listen to music, which goes a long way to ensure an effective result, making the patient feel comfortable and less claustrophobic.
- Specialized M.R.I. investigations like Spectroscopy, M.R.I. Venogram, Non contrast M.R.I. .
- Angiography, CSF Flow study, Single breathy hold livers can, whole body oncology study are available
- And to top it all, these MRI services are available at almost of the charges prevailing in bigger cities.



## 9. Department of Pathology and Biochemistry (Central Clinical Lab)

### - A boon to the populace of Konkan

The basic purpose of the Central Clinical Lab at the B.K.L.W. Hospital is to ensure the correct test is performed on the right person, at the right time, producing accurate test results that enable health care providers to make the right diagnostic and therapeutic decisions. Inferences made from a human pulse, blood tests reflect the overall health of the patient and are a key backbone of the health care services provided to the underprivileged patients from these rural areas. The results provided at the CCL enable healthcare professionals to make evidence-based diagnostics and decisions, directly impacting on many aspects of patient care including, but not limited to the length of stay, patient safety, resource utilization, and customer satisfaction.

The Pathology department is split into four sections: Biochemistry, Histopathology,



5 Part Haematology Analyser



HbA1C Analyser



Automatic Tissue Processor Histokinete



P 5 Embedding Module Histokinete



Pentahead Microscope



Coagulation Auto Analyser



Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrophotometry



Biochemistry Auto Analyzer

Cytology, and Microbiology; all these very crucial areas collaborate to achieve the higher goals of the hospital. All sections follow the standard operating procedures and laboratory practices as per the recommended norms.

The Pathology section is an important arm of the CCL and provides base-line routine tests to disease-specific special tests using modern technology, state-of-the-art equipment, and well-trained personnel like Pathologists, Lab technicians, etc., through the following sub-sections:

Haematology and Clinical Pathology, Biochemistry, Cytology, Histopathology and blood bank. Apart from varied routine haematological tests, tests related to liver, kidney are carried out using fully automated analyzers, which produce instant reports. Hormones & tumour marker tests are carried out using a high-end machine called Chemiluminescence. Newly added High-performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) test helps to monitor HbA1c levels in diabetics and also detect levels of haemoglobin variants helpful in diagnosing Haemoglobinopathies like Sickle cell disease, thalassemia.

## State of the art Histopathology

The Histopathology department helps in accurate diagnosis of tumours in the body, and

in identifying whether they are cancerous. This has helped treat and save many lives.

This department is equipped with-

- Automatic Tissue Processor – Histokinette
- Automatic Embedding Module
- Fully Automatic Microtome
- Automatic Coverslipper
- Grossing Station
- Automatic Slide

### Immunohistochemistry (IHC):

Advanced ancillary testing tools recently set up, such as Immunohistochemistry (IHC) effectively confirm the histopathology cases. IHC includes an automated ThermoScientific auto-stainer with its pre-heat treatment module. IHC testing can be done with many commercially available antibodies like CK7, CK20, CD20, CD5, PanCK, NSE, SMA and Breast markers (ER, PR, Her2/neu), to name a few.

The key point to note here is that the hospital not only successfully provides these services/ facilities in this remote region, but offers them at a fraction of the cost. The test results are available within 2 to 3 hours, which helps in the instant diagnosis of the patients leading to increased chances of success in the treatment. The internal and external quality control is performed regularly to ensure standard methodologies and procedures are followed.



Micro Autoscan Analyzer



Vitec Sensitivity Testing



Bacte culture



Laminar Airflow

## Advanced equipment available in the Pathology Department & CCL:

Biochemistry and Hematology Instruments  
Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS)

Fully Automated Biochemistry Analyser

5 part Haematology Analyser

3 part Haematology

Analyzer

Cobas Analyzer

Automatic Hematology Analyzer

Penta Head Microscope

## Microbiology Section:

The Microbiology section plays a crucial role in the accurate identification of bacteria, which is the key to the right treatment and an important part of the CCL. Acknowledging this, the hospital has established a very well-equipped microbiology laboratory with Elisa Reader, Washer, Laminar Airflow, etc. This equipment along with well-trained microbiologists and lab technicians have made it feasible to diagnose and research diseases like Dengue, Malaria, and Leptospirosis, along with most of the bacterial, fungal etiological agents & specific viral infections. Microscopic examination of various samples like blood, cerebrospinal fluid, urine, stool, wound

exudate or swab, respiratory secretions are performed & basic serological tests are carried out routinely.

## CBNATT

(Gene Expert under DR TB Centre):

For continued sustainability and optimization of treatment and care for Tuberculosis (TB) patients in the Konkan region of Maharashtra State, District Tuberculosis Unit, Ratnagiri has installed TB Gene Xpert machine at B.K.L. Walawalkar Hospital, Dervan.

The new revolutionary TB diagnostic machine was unveiled on 2nd February 2018. The Gene Xpert is a new test for TB and the machine can detect TB bacterium within two hours and also detects whether the bacterium has resistance to any of the common TB drugs. This facility has been beneficial mainly to patients from the rural area of the Konkan region. The unit forms part of the department's decentralization of the MDR TB treatment model aimed at making facilities accessible and closer to communities.

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## 10. Virology Research & Diagnostic Laboratory (NABL accredited)

Our new 'Virology Research & Diagnostic Laboratory' inaugurated at the hands of Dr Shripad Banavali (Director of Academics, Tata Memorial Centre) on September 18th, 2020 provides all necessary equipment for research and next-generation advanced technology to diagnose faster and more accurately in the Molecular Laboratory.

This advanced technology will help diagnose and prevent infections from viruses like COVID19, Dengue, Hepatitis A.B.C.D., SARC, H1N1, HIV, HPV, EPST In Barr virus, Ebola, MERS, ZIKA, Malaria, cervical cancer and many other communicable diseases. By knowing the viral load through the RT-PCR test, the treatment of these deadly diseases will be much easier. The laboratory will be a boon to Konkan and a benchmark in diagnostics for Molecular and viral lab.



Inauguration by Dr Banavali (Director - academics, TMC)



Dr Banavali addressing the audience



Mr Vikasrav Walawalkar addressing at the inaugural ceremony



Virology Lab Staff members



Dignitaries and staff members at the inauguration



Dr Vasudev Bhide's ( Seattle, USA ) Visit to the Lab (fourth from left)



Cold centrifuge for RNA extraction



RNA extraction process

The mechanism in the lab will encourage research activities on genotyping, cloning, mutation detection for hereditary diseases, microarray, cancer biomarkers, DNA methylation under the guidance of institute's Scientific Advisory Committee member and well-known scientist Dr Rita Mulherkar.

In a broader view of imparting training and education in Molecular biology & virology, Dr M.G. Deo Molecular Laboratory has been established in B.K.L. Walawalkar Rural Medical College. The training in Genetics, DNA extraction and PCR is imparted to young aspirant budding medicos, students in this well equipped molecular laboratory.

The laboratory has been established as per ICMR guidelines and accredited by National Accreditation Board for Testing & Calibration Laboratories (NABL), a Constituent Board of Quality Council of India.

The laboratory is well equipped with advanced equipment with cutting-edge technology such as Real Time PCR machine, Biosafety cabinets class IIA2, -80°C deep freezer, -20°C deep freezer, Cold centrifuge etc. The Roche Company's RT PCR Machine 'The LightCycler® 96' is fully automated. Results are specific, generated automatically as compared to other company's machines (where graphs are analyzed and results have to be interpreted manually), and with no false positivity in it.





## 11. Blood Bank & Blood Component Centre

A well-equipped Blood Bank began operations on 27th August 2000, while the Blood Component Centre became operational in 2010 directly enhancing the quality of medical service being offered to more serious patients.

Anaemia, accidents, or blood loss during delivery of a child can put the lives of these patients into grave danger; using some key components from the blood such as Red Blood Cells, Platelets, Plasma, Cryoprecipitate, etc., can help save such lives. It is the first time that such a facility is available at a hospital in the Konkan region & saved many serious patients.

The hot & humid weather conditions of Konkan, coupled with working in muddy fields during the sowing season, lead many young farmers to fall prey to severe diseases like Leptospirosis, Dengue, and Malaria, etc.



Blood Donation



Platelet Agitator



Microscope



Laminar Airflow



Centrifuge

If the body falls short of platelets, it can only be saved with platelet transfusion. To meet this need, the FDA approved laboratory at the hospital boasts of an independent refrigeration arrangement for all the different blood components, platelet agitator, Elisa Reader, Laminar airflow, etc.

To maintain an adequate quantity of blood in the blood-bank considering all emergencies, steps are taken to convince people of this need, and then blood-donation camps are conducted in surrounding villages. The blood bank & the blood-component centre have proved to be a boon for the people of Konkan.

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Blood Components



## 12. Orthopaedic Surgeries & Rehabilitation Medicine

Geographically, Konkan is a rugged section on the western coastline of India with winding roads and 'ghats' (narrow passages on the mountains). Travel is a challenge and road accidents are quite frequent. Most of the population is engaged in agriculture/farming, so it's common to have injuries while working in fields, such as falling from a tree, or when carrying big loads of crops/wood logs over their heads. Any such accident or injury can leave the farmers incapacitated for life. To prevent this from happening, the hospital introduced an Orthopaedic department well-equipped with specialist doctors to serve such patients. This department has a separate, well-equipped operation theatre with Image Intensifier and has the necessary facility to perform joint and spinal surgeries.



Endoscopic spine surgery



Modular operation theatre for joint surgeries



Performing supra major surgeries



Spacious Wards

A range of different surgeries from knee replacement, hip replacement along with special procedures like Baloon Kyphoplasty for collapsed vertebra, etc. is performed by skilled doctors. Many patients have taken advantage of these treatments and the success of these operations has attracted patients from big cities, who come for this specialized service offered at the hospital for a fraction of the cost.

The Department also runs a fellowship programme in joints and spine under Maharashtra University of Health Science

Research at international levels is underway to study the 'Platelet-rich fibrin' as a means to accelerate the healing of tissues. For

the last six years, Dr Sunil Nadkarni (Spine surgeon) has been conducting research and has successfully treated many patients by using the least amount of patients' blood, churning it in a very specific manner, and then using that to support or strengthen the tissues. He is also currently conducting research using a small part of the patient's tissues to regenerate newer tissues in the 'Tissue Cultures Lab'. The Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Commission, Government of India has provided financial aid to demonstrate proof of concept for autologous regenerative therapy using platelet-rich fibrin enriched with human herniated intervertebral disc tissue to enhance regeneration of the human herniated intervertebral disc.

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Endoscopic spine surgery workshop by Dr. Satishchandra Gore



### 13. Therapeutic Cell Culture Facility–First In Konkan

Facility was inaugurated on 8 October 2021 by chief guest Dr.Renu Swarup (Secretary, Govt. of India /department of Biotechnology) and Guest of honour Dr.Anil Kakodkar (AICTE distinguished chair, Chairman Rajeev Gandhi Science & Technology Commission, Former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission) Low back pain due to degeneration of intervertebral disc (IVD) is a major health problem resulting in significant disability as well as adding to the economic burden. Discectomy is a very common procedure done worldwide to relieve this pain. At present, all the surgically removed disc tissue is mostly discarded. However, there are reports that state that progenitor cells in the IVD can be grown ex-vivo and have the potential to be used for IVD repair and regeneration. We report that the viable cells can be harvested from surgically removed herniated disc tissue and can be



Inauguration of the facility



Vikasrao Walavalkar (Director SKLS) speaking at the occasion



Chief Guest Dr. Renu Swarup



Guest of honour Dr. Anil Kakodkar



Dr. Sunil Nadkarni (Director SKLS)



Dr. Rita Mulherkar (Director SKLS)



IVD tissue sample collected in operation theatre



Preparatory Room

potentially used in cell-based therapy. To carry out this cell-based therapy / clinical trial, certain guidelines recommended by authorised agencies needs to be followed.

BKL Walawalkar Rural Medical College attached hospital which is a 600 bedded hospital with state of the art facilities is located in a rural place at Sawarde. One more unique facility for this cell therapy has been added to this hospital i. e GMP compliant Therapeutic Cell Culture Facility. GMP or Good Manufacturing Practices, this system needs to have certain norms, certain activities which guarantee that the material which we are using is of good quality and is safe to go into the humans. There are certain designs and layout that has to be looked upon for constructing a GMP facility. This facility is fitted with an air handling unit which provides clean air and also provides the required movement with appropriately designed heating, ventilation and air conditioning. In addition, there are special quality panels and flooring which is required to maintain a clean atmosphere. There is a pressure cascade where the air flows from the process area which is the cleanest area in the GMP facility. Entry to this facility is restricted to the authorised personnel. This facility is created for manufacturing cells for patients suffering from low back pain. In this facility, the IVD tissue sample which is collected in operation



Process Room

theatre during surgery is processed. The biological material is passed through a dynamic pass box and the personnel enter through the change room, after the downing of gown, cap mask, shoe cover and then enter into the preparatory room. The biological material is collected and the patient information is recorded. The biological material then passes

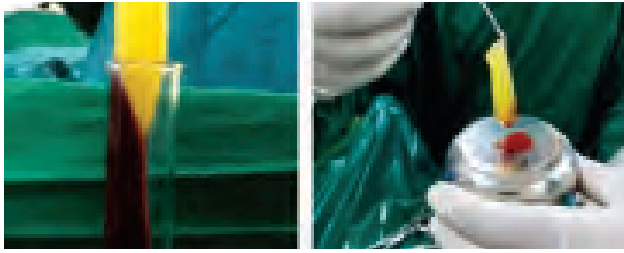
through another pass box from the preparatory room to the process area where the sample is processed. Once the cells are grown they are photographed and when a sufficient number of cells is achieved they are again transported to OT in a cool box for injecting back into the patient. All the quality tests are done and recorded before injecting.

This unique therapy is expected to benefit the patient with back pain and help in faster recovery. This will be the first of the kind therapy in India which we propose to offer at an affordable price to patients in rural India. This facility is developed under the guidance of Dr Rita Mulherkar (Scientist and former professor, ACREC, TMC) and Dr Sunil Nadkarni (Spine surgeon)



The biological material passes from the preparatory room to the process room

## Biomedical Innovations Research Project



Dervan plug biological solution to a biological problem - autologous, cheap, easily made, rich cocktail of healing proteins.



Dervan wearable posture monitor  
Importance of Head posture : Dervan head band



Dervan Posturight Brace: Modified for cosmetic acceptability  
(Head band, Soft cervical collar, Stick, Lumbosacral belt)



Dervan Head Brace: Mirror reading device to enable reading without dropping the head

## Research Project by BIRAC (The Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Commission)

(By Department of Orthopedics and Molecular biology)



Platelet Rich Fibrin

To demonstrate proof of concept for autologous regenerative therapy using platelet rich fibrin enriched with human herniated intervertebral disc tissue to enhance regeneration of human herniated intervertebral disc.



Research by BIRAC





## 14. Comprehensive Urology Services: A boon to Konkan

The hot and humid weather of Konkan, coupled with a shortage of potable water and high content of minerals in water lead to an increased risk of kidney-stones amongst the population. If these kidney-stones are not treated in time, they can further damage the kidneys. Our Urosurgery department with Specialist doctors & ultramodern treatment has led to a quick recovery for patients. Patients are brought to the hospital from nearby villages & sonography is conducted for free, helping the early detection of kidney stones. For appropriate treatment, the hospital is equipped for Endourology to treat kidney stones.

For conducting surgeries with Endoscope (minimally invasive), a range of equipment such as Cystoscope, Ureteroscope, Nephroscope, Image Intensifier, C-Arm, etc. are also available at the hospital.



Urology OT



Urology Endotrainers



Urology workshop by Dr Lang (Germany)



Urosurgery



NICU



Paediatric OPD



Vaccination



Paediatric ward



## 15. Child Care: Making Future Bright

The hospital has a separate 'Paediatric' ward for treatment of children under 19 years of age. This ward is well-equipped with a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (N.I.C.U) with 20 beds to treat complications at birth, premature births, underweight children or children with congenital defects, jaundice, etc.

The Paediatric Department is established with all necessary equipment such as a ventilator, phototherapy with LED, Syringe Pump, Central Monitoring, Warmer, Electric Weighing Machines, Central Suction & Oxygen, Double Volume Exchange Transfusion, etc.

Children born at the hospital as well as those who are referred to the hospital are administered vaccines under suitable immunization programs. The latest & pain-free immunization programs are available at the hospital. Child & mother admitted to this

section are offered free food & clothes until their health improves; a “Baby kit” (which includes all necessary items for a new-born) is gifted when they check out of the hospital.

For older children who need special care, there is a PICU section with 10 beds, which is also well-equipped with a ventilator and NIBP system. They can cure many disorders or perform surgeries for hernia, cleft-lip & palate, kidney stone & other problems related to the urinary tract, etc. This is the first of its kind facility available to patients in Konkan, which provides a comprehensive treatment under one roof. It has helped save thousands of new-borns and young children, undeniably proving to be a boon in this remote region.

Specialist opinion for congenital diseases for paediatric cardiology, nephrology are available.

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Paediatric OPD



Paediatric OPD



Spacious Paediatric ward



Cataract operated



Counselling by social workers



Ophthal OT



Ophthal OPD



## 16. Eye Care: A 'Vision' Accomplished

The Ophthalmology department has its ecosystem of supporting services and facilities. In addition to an OPD section, it proudly boasts of distinct measures available for conducting surgeries.

Cataract leads to issues with vision and then coupled with old-age medical conditions, it adversely affects the lives of poor people, sometimes even leading to accidents. To counter this massive problem in the community, cataract-surgery with the help of phaco-unit is offered at extremely low rates. During the surgery and recovery period, the hospital makes lodging-and-boarding arrangements for the patients free of cost.

The Digital screen is used to assess imperfections in vision; the imperfections are then corrected by using A-scan, Slit-lamp,

Operating Microscope, Phaco-unit, etc. Laser treatment is available for treating retina related issues caused by diabetes, high blood pressure, or improper functioning of kidneys.

Every three months, the hospital arranges a camp for cataract-surgeries completely free of cost, to eradicate blindness from the region.

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Examination for eye diseases



Visual acuity test to measure how clearly one can see



Seeing the world through the eyes of poor and downtrodden people



Dr David Warrel Emeritus Professor, Oxford University, Tropical Medicine with a patient affected by a scorpion-sting



Dr David Warrel, Dr Patil and the recovered patient with his family



The hospital has developed the treatment using anti-snake venom from frozen plasma



The hospital was the first to identify the bacteria that cause Leptospirosis.



## 17. Special Treatment for Snake-bites, Scorpion-sting and Leptospirosis

The Konkan region is very well-known for snake-bites and scorpion-stings. Many patients lose their life when treated with some local 'medicine' or by so-called 'sorcerers'. The Walawalkar hospital conducted in-depth research on this and has developed a special treatment for such bites or stings.

Snake-bite causes blood-coagulation deficit leading to kidney failure; hence treatment is developed using anti-snake venom from frozen plasma. This cheap and effective treatment has saved the lives of many patients.

A scorpion-sting affects the functioning of the heart, putting the patient's life at risk. It was first documented on 2D Echo and coronary angiography at this hospital. The hospital has also developed a cure for this and continues to save numerous lives.

The farmers in the region have to sow the seeds during the monsoon season, which means they have to stand in the muddy wet fields during this task. These conditions coupled with another common problem of rats, cause Leptospirosis, sometimes even leading to death. The hospital takes pride in the fact that it was the first to identify the organism that cause Leptospirosis. The identification of the cause made preventive care much easier, thus saving the lives of scores of farmers today and for the future.

ICMR Andaman and CMC Vellore helped in this research work.

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Dr David Warrel  
Emeritus Professor, Oxford University, Tropical Medicine



Hospital Corridor



Inauguration of Comprehensive Cardiac Care Centre by Hon'ble Mr Deepak Kesarkar, Minister of State for Finance, Rural Development, Maharashtra State



Mr. C.P. Tripathi of Bajaj Finserv speaking on the occasion



Cardiac Intensive Care Unit



## 18. The Department of Cardiology

The Department of Cardiology has been functioning for the last 15 years and continues expanding in all aspects of Cardiology. At present they have two full-time in-house cardiologists performing the highest number of cardiac interventional procedures in the Konkan region. Most of the patients get free treatment under the public health scheme 'Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Arogya Yojana'. Some of the unique speciality services not commonly found in the rural region are now available at the B.K.L.W. Hospital:

### Bajaj Finserv Cath Lab Generous donation from Bajaj Finserv

Concerning our mission, B.K.L.W. Hospital has started the Cath Lab setup with state-of-art ultramodern machinery PHILIPS FD-10. This cutting-edge technology 'Cath Lab' has allowed the Hospital to offer Angiography,



Angioplasty, and other facilities to patients with cardiovascular issues. The technology performs cardiac imaging applications like diagnostics, interventional, and minimally invasive surgical procedures.

Given the high volume of cardiovascular cases the hospital treats, this advanced lab benefits a significant number of patients. Most of the patients get free treatment under the public health scheme 'Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Aarogya Yojana'.

### **Bajaj Finserv Cardiac Theatre** **Generous donation from Bajaj Finserv**

Cardiothoracic surgery treats conditions in the heart, lungs, and chest. A few common cardiothoracic surgeries and procedures include Angioplasty, Stent placement, Ablation, Pacemakers, and implantable cardioverter-defibrillators (ICDs), Coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG), Heart valve repair or replacement, etc.

The department of CTVS (Cardiothoracic and vascular surgery) is fully equipped with a Hi-Tech modular Operating Room and 20 bedded CICU for cardiac patients. The team of experienced Cardiac Surgeons, dedicated nurses and well-trained paramedical staff are capable of handling all types of cardiac patients - critically ill referred patients, complex



Inauguration of Cardiac Theatre by Dr Pravin Shingare, Director, DMRE



Cardiovascular & Thoracic surgeries



Moment at first Bypass surgery at BKLWH



Cath lab

angioplasties like chronic total occlusions, bifurcation stenting and left the main stenting.

The state-of-the-art, zero bacteria operation theatre with HEPA filtered laminar airflow system, is equipped with special (Simeon Medical, Germany) surgical lights, fully electronic OT Table (BELMONT Electro Hydraulic Operation Table, Japan) operating table and

anaesthesia machine (Drager, Germany). The operation theatre has the latest heart-lung machine, Maquet (Germany), and is equipped to perform all types of cardiovascular surgeries.

And once again it is important to note that most of the patients are operated free of cost under the public health scheme 'Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Arogya Yojana'.

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FD 10 Philips Cath Laboratory



## 19. Battle with Cancer (A Tata Memorial Outreach Centre)

A deadly disease like Cancer can be fought with the application of knowledge and persistent efforts. It needs resources and medical staff who is committed and willing to work tirelessly for this. The Walawalkar Hospital is dedicated to the treatment of Cancer with all its might, with resources and knowledge. The rate of cancer cases has increased considerably in the region, blamed on the twin-evils - addiction to tobacco & liquor and ignorance of the side-effects of these addictions.

The simple villagers usually fall prey to the superstitions in the treatment of cancer (as a matter of fact, for many other diseases as well). So the hospital collaborated with the renowned Tata Memorial Hospital (Mumbai) for cancer treatment in 2003. They introduced a campaign in the Ratnagiri & Sindhudurg



TMCROP - MOU Agreement Dr Dinshaw & Mr. Walawalkar



Inauguration of Bhabhatron Radiation Unit By Dr Anil Kakodkar and Dr Rajan Badave (Dir. Tata Memo.hospital)



Dr Shripad Banavali, Dir. Academics and Medical Oncologist ( Tata Memorial Hospital) examining the patients



Cancer awareness and screening camp at Ratnagiri



Cancer Survivors Meet



Cancer oesophagus Screening Van



Dr Dinshaw (Tata Memorial Hospital) visiting B.K.L.W. Hospital

districts to conduct a detailed survey of the region with a team of doctors visiting every home to identify cancer cases. So patients can avail treatments from Biopsy to Radiation at the hospital for free of cost, while their lodging & boarding needs are taken care of.

The cancer studies in India show that approximately 22% of the cancer deaths are due to the regular consumption of tobacco, cigarette, and alcohol and around 70% of the total cancer deaths happen in the low and middle-income countries. The estimated medical cost for cancer treatment is comparatively high. So it is evident that we need a strong and powerful medium to fight deadly cancer. The renowned cancer specialist, Dr Shripad Banavali (Director of Academics, TMC) invented Metronomic Chemotherapy, low-cost oral chemo, and the most effective treatment plan and has thus offered a new ray of hope for cancer patients in the region by bringing down the cost of cancer treatment.

The hospital is engaged in creating awareness about the disease in all possible ways, to eradicate Cancer from the Konkan region. The hospital has received the 'Best Oncology Hospital - Americare Award' for its innovative and humanitarian services.

## Radiation Facility

### Exceptional blessing for this rural region

There are 3 key addictions that people of this region fall prey to - Gutkha, tobacco and alcohol. Gutkha is a chewing tobacco preparation made of crushed betel nut, tobacco, kattha, paraffin wax, slaked lime, and sweet or savoury flavourings and contains carcinogens leading to oral cancer. Alcohol and tobacco also are addictions that inevitably end in Cancer. In their fight against cancer, the hospital decided to first identify early symptoms and introduced a program called 'Model Cancer Control Programme' in collaboration with the 'Tata Memorial Rural Outreach Program' (TMCROP).

Radiation Therapy is one of the key treatments under this program. Acknowledging that Cancer cannot be destroyed without Radiation Therapy, the hospital installed "Bhabhatron II" and Brachytherapy with the help of the Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India & the Tata Memorial Hospital. CT Simulation is used to control the Radiation effectively.

HDR Brachytherapy (High-Density Radiation) helps in the treatment of cervix cancer among women and Cancer of the Oesophagus (Food pipe). Such state-of-the-art treatment is offered to patients for free. During Radiation therapy, the patient needs to stay in the



Cobalt Unit-BHABHATRON-Radiotherapy Unit



CT Simulator for Radiation Planning



Brachytherapy



Inauguration of Dervan Cancer Registry

hospital premises for about 1 month. For that reason, the hospital has a special dormitory, where separate rooms are available for the patient and his/her relative, with excellent arrangements for food and washrooms. Suitable treatment at the right time in a positive environment with a less financial burden helps quick recovery of such patients.

Under the guidance of Dr Shripad Banavali, research is currently underway to utilize an “Immune Modulating Radiation Therapy” (IMMRD) to cure patients with small doses of radiation. The Tata Memorial Hospital in Mumbai has also adopted this methodology

for the treatment of their cancer patients based on this experience at B.K.L.W Hospital. This treatment in the form of small pills enables patients to take them in the comfort of their own home at a low cost of merely 200/- rupees for the entire month. Nothing less than a miracle, the results of this medication were awe-inspiring for the medical world to observe a disease like cancer dissolve with small pills worth pennies. Several research papers have also been published about the low dose radiation, which has effectively cured cancer of the oesophagus at the B.K.L. Walawalkar Hospital.

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Dormitory for cancer patients



## 20. International Alliances and Volunteers

The activities and humanitarian work at the Walawalkar Hospital have gained international attention as this tiny, neglected village of Dervan, firmly established its place on the map of India.

The noble work at the hospital has been appreciated by an international audience, leading students from different countries venturing towards Dervan to study and learn at the hospital. Until now, students from Rosalind Franklin University (USA), The University of Barcelona (Spain), National University of Singapore (Singapore), The University of Hamburg (Germany) and The University of Oxford (U.K) have visited and worked at the hospital. These visits also introduced international guests to Indian culture and its people.



Medical students from Barcelona University



Dr Angela Custer, Germany



The U. S. Medical Students team



Students from National University of Singapore



A dedicated group of medical professionals from Newcastle (U.K.)

## Annual Medical Camp by U.K. Team

A dedicated group of about 30 medical professionals from Newcastle (U.K.) has been visiting Dervan every year for the past 16 years and conducting complicated surgeries. The poor villagers of the Konkan region would never dream of travelling abroad for advanced treatments, but the B.K.L.W hospital has brought these treatments to their doorsteps.



Dr Sanjay Deshpande (UK) providing training to medical and nursing students

## Basic Surgical Skills Workshop by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, U.K.

Another exciting opportunity and moment of pride for the region- the historic 900-year-old Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, U.K. (world's first-ever university to teach surgery) has now introduced their 'Basic Surgical Skills course' at the Walawalkar Rural Medical College (first one in India). This is a unique training opportunity introduced in India for the first time, thanks to the guidance and efforts of Dr Kanvinde (Orthopedic Surgeon from the U.K.) and Dr Sunil Nadkarni (Spine Surgeon).



British Faculty Guidance to Students



Dr Paul Fisher, Dr Ian Wallace, Dr Nandan Kanvinde and Dr Sunil Nadkarni at Basic Surgical Skills workshop

An ultra-modern 'Basic Surgical Skills Lab' is constructed for this program and interested students are trained on surgical skills by the extremely talented Surgeons from the Royal College, right here in this facility. This course covers the basics of hygiene before surgery



and includes hands-on training along with demonstrations of how to clean wounds, different types of stitches, diathermy, removal of tumours, specific ways to operate on the stomach, handling of muscle treatments, etc.

It is quite an honour for the Walawalkar Rural Medical College to be selected for and have this training opportunity with a prestigious university and its staff. The training by specialized foreign doctors, the B.K.L.W hospital facility, the pleasant rural surroundings in addition to the low cost have attracted many domestic and international students to travel to Dervan and take advantage of this unique opportunity.

### The Royal College of Anaesthetists an U.K. Collaboration

The Walawalkar Rural Medical college recently partnered with another prestigious institution - The Royal College of Anaesthetists, U.K., for a special 6-week training course designed and delivered by their staff right here in Dervan. Walawalkar Hospital and the Rural Medical College are the first ones in all of India to be chosen by the Royal College of Anaesthetists, U.K. to send their staff for training. These specialists introduce and educate the students at B.K.L.W. Hospital with the latest technology, concepts in the field of Anesthesia during the 6-week program.



Dr Ian demonstrating Basics of hygiene before surgery



Hands-on training along with demonstrations



Randy and Beth from The Royal College of Anaesthetists, U.K.



TIME course for Medical Students



Dr Christoph Lang and Dr Taiseer Sayegh (Right)



Prostate Biopsy Simulator- Laparoscopy Training By Dr Taiseer Sayegh



PCNL demonstration by Dr Christoph Lang



Mr Marks Scharfen, Managing Director, Richard Wolfe India being honoured by Mr Walawalkar

## International Workshop on Endo Urology

The Knappchaft Clinic, from Saarland, Germany, and the B.K.L.W hospital collaborated to run a one-week 'Urology' training camp in December 2019. This camp was hosted under the guidance of the very well-known Dr Christoph Lang, Chief of Urology at Knappschaftskrankenhaus, Sulzbach, Saarland, Germany, and an esteemed professor. Dr Sneha Naik (Asst. Professor of Urology) and Dr Taiseer Sayegh (Asst. Professor of General Surgery from Restful Clinic in Saarbruchen, Saarland, Germany) also participated in this workshop along with Dr Lang. This training camp included specialized topics such as TUR Prostate, Ultrasound guidance Prostate Biopsy, TUR-Bladder Tumor, Uretero - Renoscopy (semi-rigid and flexible), RIRS - Retrograde Intrarenal Surgery, and PCNL/ Mini PCNL (Percutaneous Nephrolitholapaxy)

It is important to note that Richard Wolfe, India provided 5 different types of simulators for this training camp - the Advanced Mini Perc Simulator, Prostate Biopsy Simulator, TURP Digital Simulator, 70 Watt Urology Laser Machine, Laparoscopy, and URS Simulators. This training camp included demonstrations on almost 25 different types of urology-related surgeries and representatives from different parts/organizations of India took advantage of this unique training camp, which was a boon to the medical journey of our nation.



## 21. Initiatives for Women's Health by the Community Health Department

Women in these under-developed regions work very hard to maintain their household with the least resources at their disposal. Yet, ironically they are the most neglected and taken-for-granted member of the family. Such hardships from a young age in addition to malnutrition and negligence lead to deteriorating health as early as 40 years of age or even before.

Besides these factors, there is another major stress about delivering a boy (not a girl) to continue the lineage of the family. These factors commonly impose detrimental effects on the physical and mental well-being of the rural women.

A malnourished woman will ultimately give birth to malnourished children. Besides that, living with age-old myths, superstitions, poverty, lack of confidence and poor working conditions lead to growth of negative thinking in these women.



Check-up of pregnant mother by gynecologist



Medicines and nutritious laddoo as supplementary food



Do's and Don'ts in Pregnancy - Health awareness



Concentration on the health of pregnant women



Doctors & nurses well-equipped with medicines and 'nutritious ladoos', treat the poor & malnourished pregnant women



The women would feel comfortable giving birth at the hospital



A gift basket, which includes a variety of items required for the new-born



Dohale Jevan

The hospital is the 'friend in need' for these neglected & marginalized women. Every 3 months, it holds a camp for women over 40 years of age. The hospital arranges for their transportation and they go through several medical tests including blood tests, Sonography, Mammography, etc.; treatments are provided immediately if required. It's a norm to believe that death is cheaper than spending money on medical treatment. Therefore, the hospital offers the entire camp, transportation, and treatment free of cost to make them feel wanted, transform their negative thoughts, and learn to believe in themselves.

## Health of pregnant women - The Walawalkar Maher Yojana

Early marriages, multiple pregnancies, poverty, alcoholic husbands, insufficient food, and heavy physical labour on the farm and at home lead to malnourishment in most women within the Konkan region. To strengthen the roots of society, the hospital decided to concentrate on the health of pregnant women. A team of doctors & nurses was formed, well-equipped with medicines and 'nutritious ladoos'; these teams visit the villages, treat the poor & malnourished pregnant women right at their doorstep to ensure safe, healthy delivery and post-recovery.

The villagers believe that the delivery of a pregnant woman is a natural event and there is no need for a hospital for this purpose. Also, most of the hamlets and villages of the Konkan are so inaccessible that usually, villagers can't reach the hospital in time for medical help. The hospital initiated a 'Maher scheme' (Maher means the parental home) to resolve this issue. The expectant mother is brought to the hospital 15-20 days before the delivery and this period is utilized to train her on how to take care of a new-born, treatment & bath, health, clothing, and the baby's diet. While being discharged after delivery, she is presented with a gift hamper which includes a variety of items required for her new-born. These schemes are introduced with expectations that the women would feel comfortable giving birth at the hospital and are introduced to proper ways of taking care of their new-borns once they return home.

### Special Schemes for pregnancy and delivery - Walawalkar Yashoda Yojana

Shree Maharaj envisioned a society where women played a key role in directing the society on the right path and raising an accomplished, cultured future generation. With this philosophy as a guiding force, the organization has always kept 'women' at the core of all its initiatives.



Traditional rituals during baby shower program



Guidance for preparation of nutritious food



Creating health awareness about child care, upbringing, diet, physical & mental health, exercise, etc.



Dohale Jevan - Baby shower ceremony



The hospital arranges workshops for newly-weds



The hospital arranges workshops for newly-weds



The 'Mangalagaur' (a festival for newly-wed brides)



Through the various traditional games or activities, the relevance of physical exercise is explained

Starting with pregnant women, the hospital has introduced several schemes that have made the process of child-birth less challenging in the given surroundings. These women are brought from their remote villages to the hospital using an ambulance and the delivery of their first child is carried out for free. Every Thursday, the doctors and nurses host an information session to guide pregnant women about child care, upbringing, diet, physical & mental health, exercise, etc. Locally prepared nutritious 'ladoos' are also provided along with medicines.

There are times when some pregnant women have to be admitted due to complications like heavy blood loss, epilepsy, etc. The state-of-the-art medical facilities at the hospital including the blood bank, specialized doctors & surgeries on-site have been instrumental in saving the lives of many such women & children.

To minimize the emergency cases, Gynaecologists from the hospital visit the Primary Health Centres in different villages every Thursday for the medical screening of pregnant women and guide them. The nutritious ladoos provided regularly by the organization have shown remarkable improvements in the weight of mothers, and their children, thus fulfilling the first and the

foremost goal of making the mother healthy and helping build a healthy, cultured future generation.

## Health workshops for newly married couples

Marriage, a sacred step, and beginning of a joyful journey for the couple. However, it is necessary to understand the foundations of marriage for a long-lasting relationship. The hospital arranges workshops for newlyweds and imparts scientific knowledge about hygiene, birth, and importance of family planning concerning the health of the mother & also for the well-being of the entire family. The information is provided on how to take precautionary measures and avoid the birth of a mal-nourished child, sexual health, AIDS, etc.

The hospital cares about the mental health of these rural women by communicating with them in various ways and establishing informal contacts with them. Guidance and advice are given by the hospital through various workshops, counselling sessions, and meetings, create confidence among them and keep a positive state of mind in pregnancy and at the time of delivery. Physically and mentally healthy mother gives birth to a healthy baby. The hospital organises the 'Mangalagaur' (a festival for newlywed brides) where traditional



Birthday celebrations



Explaining the importance of hygiene, immunization and diet during the early childhood



Get-together for 'in-laws'



Awareness of the high risk pregnancy. Baby shower Programme arranged at PHC level.



Maheer



Traditional naming ceremony - female child birth



Traditional naming ceremony - female child birth



Baby Kit

games or activities are arranged. Through these games, the relevance and importance of regular physical exercise, nutritious diet, and cheerful mind is instilled on their mind to make their motherhood a joyful experience.

## Workshops for lactating mothers & birthday celebrations for infants

The next stage after birth is to ensure proper development of the child, its care, and health. To monitor the health of the mother and the new-born, the hospital organizes 'common birthday celebrations' every month. This also ensures the mother and the child are in contact with the hospital in case of need. Every child is invited to common birthday programme when he/she completes 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> month and the first year. The child is blessed at this ceremony, gifts are given out along with monitoring of his development and vaccinations. The mothers are once again informed on how to avoid malnourishment in her child, while mothers with healthy children are appreciated.

## Get-together for 'in-laws' & 'baby shower' ceremony

An important relation in every family is that of the mother-in-law and the daughter-in-law. Every daughter-in-law struggles to keep up with the expectations from the mother-in-



law, especially the birth of a grandson. The hospital organizes gatherings to help bond the daughters-in-law and mothers-in-law. Doctors explain to them the reasons behind the birth of a daughter or son, how it's not dependent only on women, how to take care of a newly born baby irrespective of their gender, etc. These are attempts hoping that it will result in welcoming any baby (even if it's a girl) with joy & happiness, which is exactly the objective of this program.

Birth of a child is by far the most blissful event for a mother; but young age, lack of knowledge and awareness about pregnancy, fear of delivery (especially the possibility of delivering a baby girl) causes the expectant rural mothers to be under stress all the time. To release this pressure, the hospital arranges Baby shower ceremonies for the local expectant mothers, so they feel special and cared for. This helps with a pleasant state-of-mind, boosts their confidence, and thus leads to a stress-free delivery. It is also an opportunity for the hospital to build a life-long bond & gain the trust of these local women.

## Rural Empowerment and Community Health (REACH)

The next part to empower women, to make them capable is to ensure their financial



Newborn babies are like little suns as they bring light and warmth into the life



Postnatal care of mother and newborn



Health awareness to lactating mothers



Empowering women



Spreading awareness about health, hygiene, and literacy along with skills-training



These women now prepare local delicacies, sewing, making creative envelopes, bags from paper, manufacturing purses, simple jewellery, etc



The rural women participate in the monthly meetings, pay their contributions, keep records, take loans from the group if needed



To empower women is to make them financially independent

independence to a certain extent. There was a greater need to make women more confident, bring them together to share their joys & sorrows, exchange ideas, etc. The Rural Empowerment and Community Health (REACH) program began in 2007 with this objective. Spreading awareness about health, hygiene, and literacy along with skills-training, which can help generate some income, are some of the objectives behind the formation of self-help groups as part of this program. Currently, 466 such groups are operating in various villages. Collective farming is one of the successful activities of the group and they are all overjoyed with the fruits of their labour. These women have now learned to prepare simple local delicacies, sewing, making creative envelopes/bags from paper, manufacturing purses, simple jewellery, etc. It has given them a source of income, a sense of independence, and made them financially strong to a certain extent.

The rural women have now experienced the advantages of these self-help groups so they gladly participate in the monthly meetings, pay their contributions, keep records, take loans from the group in case of urgent needs, regularly pay interest, etc.

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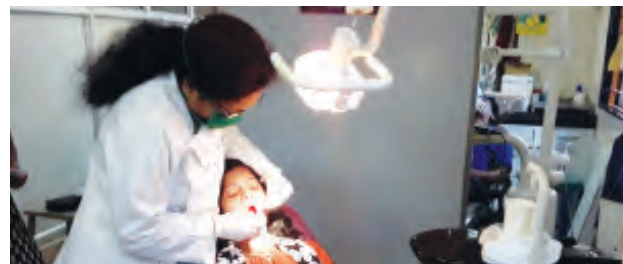
## 22. Initiatives for Adolescent Girls

### The Walawalkar Sukanya Yojana:

Many times a malnourished new-born doesn't yield positive results even with timely treatment. The reason for it has been traced to the poor health of the mother from her childhood. When this came to light, the hospital focused its resources on improving the health of women right from their teens. For the development of a healthy & strong society, it is necessary to provide positive, favourable conditions so that the girls can eventually grow into psychologically & physically capable women. With this objective, the hospital initiated a scheme for empowering young women. The 'Walawalkar Sukanya Project' (Sukanya means 'Maiden') was introduced in 2011 where rural girls between 10 to 19 years of age are invited to attend 1 day or 4 day camps on health awareness. Beginning the day



Blood investigations



Dental check up



Fitness tips with exercise and Yoga



Adolescent Girls Meet



Certificate of participation



Yoga and Meditation sessions



Adolescent Boys awareness meet



Health Education sessions

with yoga & exercise, they have a day packed with all-encompassing programs from health checkups to hygiene to nutrition.

They are tested for haemoglobin, calcium, fat, muscle, weight and height using scientific tools. Up to date, almost 50000 teenage girls from the region have been tested.

They are also introduced to self-hygiene, dental hygiene, menstruation, mental health, and nutrition. The girls receive sex education and information about AIDS from experts in those fields.

Moreover, the girls are also trained on first aid, and CPR so they can calmly handle scorpion or snake bites or be able to save someone during a heart-attack in the absence of medical support.

A striking observation during these camps was the deficiency of haemoglobin in almost 80% of the girls from the region. The average weight of the girls was only 35 to 40 kgs, way below the expected standard. So they get special training on nutrition, how to cook healthy meals using local ingredients, cleanliness, how to build toilets, and even recommendations on books they can read.

In short, they are trained to become the ideal 'Divine Homemakers' and on track to become positive, confident future mothers as envisioned by Shree Maharaj.

At the end of the camp, a written exam is administered to ensure and test if the girls have gained the required knowledge. They receive a certificate of completion at the end of the camp, but the hospital's responsibility does not end here. The hospital takes responsibility for their future health and well-being, supports & provides them with an opportunity for future education, and ensures they become self-dependent, progressive women in the future.

Impressed with this initiative, the Indian Statistical Institute of Calcutta has praised and awarded a certificate of recognition to the B.K.L.W hospital.

## **TALENT: Transforming life through adolescent nutrition**

The 'Adolescent Girls Health and Empowerment' program has been conducted successfully for the last 22 years by the S.V.J.C. Trust in this rural part of Maharashtra. A 'Regional Centre of Adolescent Health & Nutrition' was also introduced and inaugurated in 2018, and has now received international recognition and financial support. This 'Dervan pattern' was adopted as a base by the Medical Research Council, U.K., and The University of Southampton and is currently being implemented in 9 centres across the globe (Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Kenya, South Africa and 4 places in India - Mumbai, Pune, Mysore, and Dervan).



Screening camps are arranged in villages



Delegates of the first workshop on 'Collaborative Network for Adolescent Nutrition and Health in Sub-Saharan Africa and India'



Guidance and interaction with consultants



The representatives discussed and framed an outline for research



Dr David Ross and Dr Caroline Fall



Interaction with Adolescent girls



'Regional centre of Adolescent Health & Nutrition' was inaugurated in 2018 by Shri Ashok Raghunath Joshi, Trustee



Regional centre for adolescent health and nutrition

The program, now known as 'TALENT' (Transforming Adolescent Life through Nutrition) hosted its very first workshop at the B.K.L.W Rural Medical College, a very proud moment for Dervan. This first workshop on 'Collaborative Network for Adolescent Nutrition and Health in Sub-saharan Africa and India' from 4th to 9th February 2018 was attended by researchers, doctors, and nutritionists from the various centres. Dr David Ross, Adolescent Health Researcher and Guideline Development, WHO, Geneva, and Dr Caroline Fall, Ped. Epidemiology (Southampton, U.K.) were special guests on this event.

The doctors, researchers had a thorough discussion on the health, nutrition, and psychology of adolescent boys and girls. Undernourished teenagers have a higher chance of developing 'non-communicable' diseases such as diabetes, blood pressure, or heart problems in the future. The representatives discussed and framed an outline for research, interventions on the eradication of these 'non-communicable' diseases through proper nutrition and awareness at the right age, thus leaving with a ray of hope to bring a massive change in the way these issues are treated world-wide.

The research plan developed at the first workshop was implemented for a few months

where children between the age of 10 to 12 and 15 to 17 along with their parents were contacted to understand, discuss and record their diet, health, and physical exercise routines. This information was then accumulated for the next workshop held in August 2018 in Johannesburg, South Africa. Dr Mrs Ulka Banavali (Nutritionist) was selected to represent the B.K.L.W. Hospital at this workshop.

### A research project by Rajiv Gandhi Science & Technology Commission (RGSTC):

“New Directions for Research in Diabetes in India: The harbinger of future Diabetes- An Adolescent and preconception Health Perspective (DERVAN cohort) Stage-1”

### Departments involved

Medicine / ObsGyn / Paediatrics/ Pathology/ Biochemistry/ Radiology

### Objectives

- To provide Health Education to adolescent girls, parents, teachers, nurses and paramedical workers in the study area.
- To assess the physical growth, nutrition and cognitive functions in adolescent girls.
- Measure the micronutrients in the blood sample.



Inauguration of RGSTC Programme by Shri Ashok Raghunath Joshi, Trustee



Team of 'Dervan Cohort'



Hon. Dr Anil Kakodkar visited 'Dervan Cohort'



Health Education to adolescent girls



Proforma filling of adolescent girls



Body Composition study by 'Tanita' machine



Health Investigations at hospital



USG of adolescent girls

- Create a high-risk group.
- Follow them every year to assess physical growth and nutrition.

## Unconventional Approach

Under this initiative, the process of building a substantial squad from the regional cohort will allow each member to get educated on nutrition, Barker's hypothesis, and its implications on their health, future pregnancy, and also the impact of their current nutrition on the health of the subsequent generations. Other than adolescent girls, there will be many other representatives included the local population in the education process, such as the village stakeholders, government officials, school teachers, and parents.

The aim is to go beyond traditional methods of measuring the haemoglobin to see the anaemia prevalence, and for the first time in the Konkan region, this approach will help measure and get the real micronutrient profile of this adolescent age group. This will also provide a good basis to compare the results to the findings of a small study done on adolescent girls at the Walawalkar Hospital. And the results of the fasting glucose in this age group will also give a clear indication of the glycemic risk in the region.



## An Opportunity for Konkan

The immediate effect of this initiative will be on collecting and improving the health parameters of the teenage girls who participate in this study and emphasizing not using supplements, tablets, or drugs. The project will also raise awareness amongst parents, teachers, and guardians of girls for their overall health and nutrition. After the initial screening, they can identify particular nutritional deficiencies and other abnormal outcomes (obesity, underweight) even though the holistic approach to treat the adolescents from either risk groups will continue. The subsequent outcomes of the initial screening will be analyzed by risk stratification and the risk of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in the high-risk group may be comparable to that of normal or no risk group. The Konkan population is extremely lean, so the determinants of NCD risk are likely to be very different than the conventional and this will enable the stakeholders to modify their health policies according to local needs.



Blood investigation



Importance of exercise and meditation



Dietary importance in growing age



Dervan Cohort participants

## DERVAN Cohort Study

Adolescence is a period of rapid growth creating increased demand for energy and nutrition. It has been postulated that nutritional deficiency during adolescence can have a negative impact on the future health of the individual. This is particularly important in girls as malnutrition will also affect their offspring. The negative effects of adolescent malnutrition can persist throughout the reproductive life. Adolescence can be an opportunity to correct nutritional deficiencies and thus possibly reduce the risks of development of non-communicable diseases (diabetes, hypertension, cancer) in later adulthood.

We are conducting research into the effects of nutrition on adolescent girls of Ratnagiri district by a prospective cohort study (aDolescent and prEconception health peRspective of Adult Non-communicable diseases cohort also known as DERVAN cohort).

Our study focuses on the physical health, nutritional parameters and cognitive profiles of adolescent girls, during the prenatal and postnatal period and we aim to follow this cohort and their offspring for 20 years. This is the first adolescent cohort from Konkan region where no prior detailed epidemiological data is available apart from few government surveys. This study will enable us to understand the

health profile of the region's adolescent girls and assess their health priorities. Long-term follow-up will provide longitudinal assessment of the risk factors for the development of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in their adulthood and in their future offsprings. Cohort recruitment began in June 2019. Our aim is to recruit more than 1500 adolescent girls, age 16–18 years, The recruit's cognition, diet and physical activity are recorded. The following investigations will be performed: body composition by anthropometry and bioimpedance, and blood pressure, fasting blood sample to measure glucose, insulin, lipids, micronutrients and hormones, abdominal ultrasonography to measure liver, pancreas and kidneys. A biorepository has been created for long-term storage of blood, urine and saliva samples for future analysis. By this longitudinal study, we aim to identify the effects of malnutrition on the behavioural and biological measures in adolescent girls of KONKAN and evaluate if these are associated with the onset of noncommunicable diseases in adulthood. As of November 2021, we have recruited 1000 adolescent girls.

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## 23. Eradication of Malnutrition – A Mission!

Based on research and observation, the B.K.L.W. Hospital took upon itself to improve the health of malnourished children in the region. Every week, a team from the hospital travels to various villages with all the necessary equipment and medications. They assemble children & their mothers at the village pre-schools with the help of the pre-school staff. Each child and mother go through medical examinations, recording their weight & height along with following up on specific medical conditions. Patients who need further treatment are transported to the hospital using hospital ambulances.

### Walawalkar Ladoo Gopal Yojana

Malnutrition in Konkan is a social disease, which can easily be treated with proper nutrition. Geographically located in



Pediatrician interacting with Kids



Hilly terrain region to climb to reach aganwadi - Regular visit



Providing the nutrition supplement Ladoo made by hospital



Providing the nutrition supplement Ladoo made by hospital



Communicating with the kids



Nutritious Ladoo and other food supplements.



Regular visit of the anganwadi kids to the hospital,



Regular health check up by the paediatrician for the anganwadi kids

mountainous terrain with poor soil quality, Konkan has extreme hot & humid weather on top of already low poverty levels. This has led to widespread nutrition issues amongst the population. To build a strong, positive & capable society, it was necessary to break this vicious cycle of malnutrition. And with this objective, the hospital decided to increase awareness of nutrition and developed a 'Ladoo' (a nutritious delicacy prepared from nuts, honey, dry dates, saffron, milk powder, jaggery, local whole grains and some natural herbs such as 'Ashwagandha', 'Shatavari', 'pimpli', 'sunth', 'ahliv' etc.). They contain 5% Iron, 84% Calcium, 68% Carbohydrates 10% Protein, and other vitamins.

As described earlier, these ladoos are distributed every week to ICDS centres (preschools), pregnant women & adolescent girls for free in all villages. Each person receives 2-3 ladoos for each day. These ladoos provide the daily nutrients required to this population, which struggles even for one decent meal of the day, and to track the effects of this nutritious supplement, the weight & height of the recipients is measured regularly. Furthermore, women are also trained on how to prepare a range of healthy food at home from easily available local ingredients in their regions. Until now, thousands of pre-school children from the 3 districts of Ratnagiri,

Sindhudurg, and Satara, have received this service.

Regular consumption of these ladoos has shown remarkable improvements in Haemoglobin content in the blood & weight of the children and women. Such positive changes in pregnant women always help in delivering a healthier child. A report from the Maharashtra State Public Health Laboratory has indicated that this “Ladoo” contains about 410 Kcal energy per 100 grams, which proves its importance.

The hospital has been distributing these “Ladoos” to the malnourished population since the year 2000 and has continuously worked towards its goal of improving the overall health of the whole society.

## Child Nutrition & Development Centre - Walawalkar Sudama Yojana

Malnourished children who don't respond positively to the treatments at home are admitted to the 'Child Development Centre' along with their mother for 21 days.

A 21-day schedule focusing on the child's diet and overall health is prepared. When necessary, the child is fed nutritious food every 2 hours. Counselling services are offered to the mother to improve her understanding of



Explaining the importance of food in early childhood



Distribution of free iron, calcium, multi vitamins and other medicines



Live In Sunshine - Visit to Shiv Srushti



Counselling services



Registration of the kids



Recording the Anthropometry



Recording the Anthropometry



Medicine distribution

child development. They use pictures, films to elaborate on the various stages of growth & development of a child along with reasons for malnourishment. Sessions dedicated to culture, sports, and readings are conducted. Speech-therapists guide speech improvement. They are also taught how to construct a pit-washroom. They are taught how to grow their garden, which would help keep the area clean & beautiful. The Child Development Centre helps treat severe grade malnutrition using many innovative approaches.

Many times, women & other family members neglect minor ailments of children, thus leading to severe health issues at a later date. Sometimes a common cold can turn into a serious respiratory problem or asthma. 'A stitch in time saves nine'. Timely treatment can help improve the health of the child and avoid long-term disabilities and issues. The hospital admits the children for 3 days in case of minor ailments and conducts all necessary tests; treatments are provided for free of cost under the guidance of expert doctors, and nutritious food is provided every day.

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## 24. Dental Health Programme for schools

### Walawalkar Dant Chikitsa Yojana

One of the key issues that came to limelight during the surveys conducted in the rural areas was the severe dental decay in the malnourished children. Almost 80% of the young rural population showed signs of dental decay, which in turn led to digestive problems. Toothpaste and toothbrush are rarely found in any of the village homes. Consumption of gutka or tobacco aggravates this condition and leads to the high rate of oral cancer in the region. Shree Kaka Maharaj, therefore, introduced the 'Walawalkar Dental Hygiene Program' for testing, diagnosis, and timely treatment of dental problems in the young population.

With the approval of the District school board, the hospital organizes regular dental checkups



Language no barrier



Dental checkups of all school children



Proper brushing techniques and gargling



Dental hygienists visit schools to conduct dental examinations



Each student receives a free dental kit



Students needing additional treatments are treated at the Dental OPD



Bright and confident smile



General examination in community

of all school children in the villages under the district authorities. 3 dental hygienists travel across the region to all schools to conduct dental examinations and also educate the students on proper brushing techniques, gargling, and raise awareness of the drawbacks of chewing gutka or tobacco. Each student receives a free dental kit, which includes a toothbrush and toothpaste. Any students who need additional treatments are brought back to the hospital using hospital transportation and treated at the Dental OPD for silver or cement fillings, root canals, etc. About hundreds of dental checkup camps have been completed and thousands of students have been examined. Many of them were brought to the hospital for free treatment and improvement in their dental health was observed. The S.V.J.C. Trust has spent over 1 crore rupees on this initiative with a long-term vision for the betterment of the region and to avoid the disasters awaiting these rural kids without proper dental hygiene and timely treatment.

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## 25. Free Dispensary

Illiteracy, misconceptions about modern treatments, and social aspects are some reasons that stop the conservative residents of the region from taking treatment at the hospital. Many times, the sheer intimidation of modern technology, huge buildings and wards, and even the procedures of registering the patients keeps these rural residents, unaccustomed to the 'urban' atmosphere, away from the hospital.

A 'Free Dispensary' was introduced by the hospital as a plan to remove these irrational fears and to avoid people denying themselves of medical treatment even with a known risk to their lives. The hospital also went beyond just 'free' and tried to introduce really simple processes to make it easier for the patients. The services of this free dispensary can be availed without a case-paper and payment for



Free dispensary camps at villages



General health checkup



Health education



Health checkup camps at PHCs



Free specialty screening camps at villages



Medicines are distributed in health checkup camps

diagnosis or medicines. Tests such as X-rays, Sonography, and blood-test, etc. are carried out free of cost for needy patients. The waiting times are really short if the test results come back with a recommendation for surgery, it is carried out at very low charges.

Now the question is, why should the hospital be doing this? It does so because the foundation of the hospital is based on the belief that every human being is a manifestation of the Supreme Being, and service to these poor patients is like serving the Almighty.

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Organizing mega screening camps at villages



## 26. Mobile Medical Unit

### Part of the 'National Rural Health Mission'

Not every village has a government-run medical centre. So the hospital has introduced a 'medical-team-on-wheels' or rather a 'Mobile Medical Unit', whereby the medical staff visits these remote, inaccessible villages in a specially prepared vehicle under the National Rural Health Mission. This vehicle is equipped with its small pathology laboratory, operation theatre, and medical store. With a properly planned schedule, the team visits one village each day. The village representatives, the leaders, qualified personnel, and women from the self-help group support this medical unit for the examination of the villagers, pregnant mothers, and adolescent girls. Free medicines are provided and in case of need, the patient is brought to the hospital for further treatment



Mobile Medical Unit



The vehicle is equipped with small pathology laboratory, operation theatre, and medical store



The examination of the villagers, pregnant mothers, and adolescent girls

by specialist doctors. This is one way for the hospital to make a positive contribution and leverage the government's initiative for the National Rural Health Mission.



## 27. An Oxygen Plant: A step towards self-sufficiency

The hospital needs a huge quantity of oxygen in its ICUs etc. It was being supplied by private manufacturers from Pune, Karad, Kolhapur etc. through cylinders. Irregularities in its



supply were causing an embarrassing situation sometimes. Hence we have set up two oxygen plants taking into consideration our present and near-future requirements. Liquid Oxygen Tank System

It consists of a storage tank, a vaporizer, and a gas pressure regulator station as well as a reserve supply. Bulk oxygen is stored as a cryogenic liquid at approximately  $-183^{\circ}\text{C}$  and then is vaporized to gas by use of ambient air vaporizer, which uses ambient atmospheric heat. Liquid storage is less bulky and less costly than the equivalent capacity of high-pressure gaseous storage. The cryogenic oxygen has a purity of up to 99.5% or more. The capacity of this plant is 13,000 liters which is more than sufficient for our needs.

When half of the capacity is used, the producer automatically receives the intimation through GPS System and within a day or two they arrange to top up the tank. For contingencies, another Plant using advanced Pressure Swing Adsorption technology has also been set up which supplies oxygen. PSA plant works on Zeolite molecular sieves to separate the oxygen

from the air. The PSA plants generate oxygen with purity up to 95%, which meets the specifications of Indian Pharmacopeia and US Pharmacopoeia.

The capacity of this Oxair Oxygen Generation Plant Model No. OA 200 is 95 liters per minute or 20 Jumbo cylinders per day.





MMU Registration at village



Anganwadi Sevika Melava



Seminar for village leaders, social-workers and pre-school workers (Anganwadi)



Food is our first and best MEDICINE. Dietary sessions for Anganwadi workers of Chiplun taluka



## 28. Seminar for village leaders & Anganwadi (pre-school) teachers

Villages have their unique personalities. An important link to the villages is the village head; any social activity requires interaction with these leaders or village representatives and government officials. There are also other key personnel such as the social-workers and pre-school (Anganwadi) teachers. The hospital organizes separate seminars for these representatives since it is important to engage and make them aware of the various hospital programs. Specialist doctors brief them about the various programs introduced by the hospital. This is yet another way in which the hospital is trying to spread health-awareness, to help every human-being achieve/maintain good health and happiness. All the seminars, meetings, and get-togethers towards achieving this aim involve the Ratnagiri District government officials, Collaborative Child Development Program, Supervisors, and the Child Development Project Officials.



## 29. Public Health Schemes

### Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Arogya Yojana

The B.K.L.W Hospital has been empanelled for the 'Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Arogya Yojana' (formerly known as the 'Rajiv Gandhi Jeevandayee Yojana') since November 2013. Under this scheme, people with an income of less than INR 1 lakh/per annum are eligible for free medical treatment valued up to INR 1.5 lakh. The list of treatments included in this scheme for free services covers almost 972 surgeries, therapies, and procedures under 30 specialities with 121 follow-up packages.

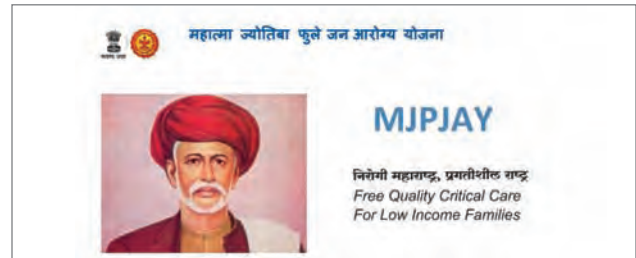
The B.K.L.W. Hospital has all diagnostic and advanced treatment facilities thus enabling and saving thousands of cardiac or other patients from the underprivileged rural areas to take free treatment under this public health scheme.



Public Health Schemes



MJPJAY



MJPJAY Beneficiary along with MJPJAY Staff



Ayushman Bharat Yojana



Ayushman Bharat Yojana



Indian Cancer Society



ICS Fund Inauguration

## Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (Healthy Bharat: The Prime Minister's Public Health Scheme)

The B.K.L.W. Hospital has also been empanelled with the PM-JAY scheme, which covers medical + hospitalization expenses for almost all secondary care and most tertiary care procedures. 1350 medical packages covering various surgeries, medical and daycare treatments including medicines, diagnostics, and transportation are covered under this PM-JAY scheme, which goes a long way to ensure a complete health treatment package for the rural population.

## Indian Cancer Society (ICS, Mumbai) & Dr Arun Kurkure Initiation & treatment Fund

A common occurrence at the hospital is the inability of the poor underprivileged patients from the surrounding rural areas, who find it hard to pay the high costs of initial diagnosis, which further deters them from returning for their actual treatment. To overcome this hurdle, the Indian Cancer Society (ICS) came up with the Dr Arun Kurkure Initiation and Treatment Fund, aimed at poor patients who cannot afford the initial costs of diagnosis and/or need help in covering their treatment costs.





## 30. Scientific Advisory Committee

Right from the very beginning, the 'Community Health Department' at the B.K.L.W. Hospital has organized many social programs for improvement in health and to bring a basic change in the mentality of the rural population. But, to take the hospital to the next level, it was important to get involved in integrated, locally relevant research in healthcare and get guidance from the right experts to introduce new initiatives in the future. This requires

resources and experts in various fields with a genuine intention to contribute to the betterment of mankind. With this aim in mind, the 'Scientific Advisory Committee' of the hospital was formed with the following leaders to guide & dissect new projects, weigh their pros and cons and help implement them successfully:

1. **Dr Anil Kakodkar** (Chairman), Member, Atomic Energy Centre & INAE Satish Dhawan Chair of Engineering Eminence
2. **Dr T. Ramasami**, Scientist, Researcher, Social Activist, Administrator, Former Secretary to Govt. of India; Ministry of Science & Technology
3. **Dr Rita Mulherkar**  
Scientist, Researcher, Administrator  
Ex. Chairman & Professor, Mulherkar Lab, ACTREC, Navi Mumbai



Scientific Advisory committee members



Guidance from the experts

**4. Prof. B. Ravi**

Engineer, Researcher, Educationist, Institute  
Chair Professor, Mechanical Engineering  
Department, IIT, Powai

**5. Shri Chandrashekhar S. Garde**

Engineer, Researcher, Professor, LMISTE  
Dept. of Engineering & Applied Sciences  
Vishwakarma Institute of Information  
Technology, Pune

**6. Shri Jayant Kumar Banthia**

Medical Administrator, Social Activist  
Chairman, SICOM & Ex-Chief Secretary,  
Govt. of Maharashtra

**7. Dr Shripad Banavali**

Oncologist, Researcher, Administrator  
Professor & Director of Academics, Tata  
Memorial Centre, Mumbai

**8. Dr Arvind Natu**

Professor of Chemistry at IISER Pune and  
Research Ambassador of the DAAD,

**9. Shri Vikas Walawalkar**

(Permanent Member) Managing Trustee,  
Shri Vithalrao Joshi Charities Trust

**10. Dr Suvarna Patil**

Medical Director, B. K. L. Walawalkar  
Hospital, Diagnostic and Research Center  
and Rural Medical College,  
Ex-Officio Secretary of the committee



Scientific Advisory Committee Members



## 31. S.V.J.C.T. Dream Health Park

Self-awareness, contemplation, and being in control of our physical and mental health are key to healthy, happy living. With this aim in mind, to encourage youth to self-assess their health and to connect science with our culture and traditions, the Physiology department of the Walawalkar Rural Medical College introduced an innovative project, 'The S.V.J.C.T Dream Health Park', which was inaugurated by Dr Anil Kakodkar in the presence of Dr T. Ramaswami and Shri Chandrashekhra Garde in 2018.

This avant-garde endeavour is designed for children from 10 to 18 years but is equally appealing to adults. It embarks one on a journey from self-assessment of body & mind, to a knowledge of their current health, and the effectiveness of living a harmonious work and life in 3 key areas - Body(physical & social), Mind (intellectual & financial) and Spirit (emotional & spiritual).



Inauguration by Dr Anil Kakodkar in the presence of Dr T. Ramaswami and others



It is designed for children from 10 to 18 years



It is equally appealing to adults



Revealing the 'scientific rationale' or medical reasoning behind the mystic rituals of our ancient culture



Lokmanya Tilak mural



Veer Savarkar mural



Shri Bhayaji Joshi inaugurating the mural

## Lokmanya Tilak and Veer Savarkar Murals

‘Lokmanya’ Bal Gangadhar Tilak and ‘Swatantrya Veer’ Vinayak Damodar Savarkar - Two great freedom fighters, fearless nationalists, and inspiring noble socialists!

As the newer generations become accustomed to enjoying the fruits of a democratic nation we live in today, they tend to forget those who sacrificed their youth and laid their lives for the freedom of this country. An important quote by Veer Savarkar: ‘A nation that forgets its history will never have a prosperous future’. To remind the present young population of the struggle for freedom, the sacrifices made by these valiant personalities, and to learn from their selflessness, the S.V.J.C.T inaugurated the ‘Veer Savarkar and Lokmanya Tilak Murals’ depicting their journey through the fight for the independence of our nation.

The murals were designed and planned by the well-known artist Shri Suhas Bahulkar, and the stunning piece of art was carved by artist, Shri Ashok Sonkusre. The inauguration was performed by respectable, Shri Bhayaji Joshi (Sarkaryavah, Rashtreeya Swayamsevak Sangh) on 12th April 2019.

## 'T55 Anurag' Army Tank - A War Trophy

Army tank 'T55 Anurag', which played a crucial part on the Punjab border during the India-Pakistan war in 1965 and 1971, was gifted by the Indian Army to the S.V.J.C.T English Medium School. This war trophy was proudly received and inaugurated by retired Lt. Colonel Viraj Lad (4th Battalion, Jammu & Kashmir Rifles) on 13th December 2017.

This war trophy installed at the centre of the Sports Complex has attracted many visitors. It has been repainted, and also protected by a sturdy fence so that the visitors can view it from the proper distance and respect the war memorial. The Trust also takes necessary measures to maintain and protect this memorial during monsoon season.

## Facilities for Employees

Intending to provide medical services at the doorstep of the people in Konkan, the organization early on acknowledged the need for specialist Doctors in addition to a well-equipped hospital. The remote village, however serene, does pose a challenge to recruit experienced, specialized doctors, and other staff. With this in mind, the hospital developed excellent accommodation for doctors, nurses, technicians, etc. and provided remarkable



T55 'Anurag' Army Tank



Accommodation for doctors, nurses, technicians, etc.



Accommodation for doctors, nurses, technicians, etc.



Accommodation for visiting doctors, guests etc.



Excellent accommodation for visiting doctors



Kirana shop



Shree Ganesh Mandir



Canteen providing food at subsidised rates to staff, patients and their relatives

services for them and their families far beyond their big-city experiences:

The lush green hospital vicinity and the pollution-free rural environment is a boon in itself. Staff members are provided with free accommodation, electricity supply and water. The solar energy is used to provide hot water in the hospital, guest houses and residential staff quarters. Staff and their family members avail medical services at one-fourth of the cost.

Basic services such as plumbers, carpenters, electricians are provided with an on-call basis and easy availability of cooking gas.

The Garden and sports complex within the hospital complex contribute to a stress-free, healthy lifestyle, which is hard to find in the big cities. The general store is operated within the hospital premises with items of daily need made available at reasonable rates for employees and patients.

There is very restricted use of vehicles within the campus; pollution-free electric cars are made available where necessary to ensure the Hospital vicinity remains environment friendly.

These services help save the doctors their precious time and not spend hours following-up on such trivial tasks; they can concentrate on healing patients while leading a completely hassle-free life.

A huge Sewage Treatment Plant has been constructed with sufficient capacity to take care of the sewage from the hospital, staff quarters, canteens, etc. and purified water produced by the plant is used for the plantation around the Hospital area. Solid waste is processed in compost pits and manure is also used for vegetables and other plantations in the vicinity of the hospital.

## Olympic Cafeteria

Institute has a Cafeteria beside three canteens provided to each hostel to cater to the need of students and the staff residing in the campus.

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Pollution-free electric car



Olympic Cafeteria



Olympic Cafeteria



Olympic Cafeteria



Burma Bridge



See-Saw



Balance Walk



Mini Burma Bridge



## 32. Challenge Course

A new course called 'The Challenge' has been designed and introduced for students from the school and also for other kids in the area. This course aims at the overall development of the children, learning through adventure, challenging their spirit of taking risks and testing their energy. Participants challenge their own mental & physical capabilities and learn about concentration and team-work.

The challenge course consists of different modules like Raider Bridge, Horizontal Ladder, Parallel Ropes, Tyre traverse, Australian walk, A-frame, Balance beam, Blind-in-tent, Broken bridge, Cargo Net, Daggie Duo, Fire-fighter ladder, Hanging Islands see-saw, Support walk, and 35 other activities, thus challenging the curiosity & courage of the participant.





### 33. S.V.J.C.T.'s English Medium School & Jr. College of Science

The children from the Konkan region are intelligent enough but they lag when compared to children from the big cities due to their lack of fluency in the English language. Keeping this in mind, the SVJC Trust started an English Medium School on 14th November 1997 with only 19 students. Today, the school boasts 967 student strength with a standardized education and modern equipment made available in such a small village.

Hitherto the school has been conducting classes from Nursery to Junior College. The Junior College currently hosts only the Science faculty with foresight that it can help expand multiple career paths for the rural students. Now our educational institute has been elevated to the level of Senior College by its collaboration with the University of Mumbai's Garware Institute of Career Education and



S.V.J.C.T.'s English Medium School & Jr. College of Science



Chemistry Laboratory



Spacious Classrooms



Learning with fun activities



Computer Lab – Primary Section



Computer Lab – Secondary Section



Book Exhibition



Auditorium

Development by hosting two vocational Bachelor Degree courses viz. Bachelor of Biomedical Instrumentation and Bachelor of Psychological Health and Behavioural Science.

The progress of education in the school is commendable. The school strictly follows the 'First come First admission; No screening and No donation' policies. The school adores to a principle of fewer than 35 students per class, a 'no homework' policy, and has made arrangements for keeping textbooks & notebooks at school so students do not have to carry heavy bags back & forth. It has an excellent infrastructure comprising of 3 dedicated school buildings with science and computer laboratories set up with modern technology, attractive Pre-Primary classrooms with colourful and cheerful wall paintings, well-stocked and organized library plus reading room, a special Art & Craft room, indoor playground with rubber flooring, a large auditorium, a self-study room, play-ground and separate hostels for boys and girls with all the amenities for needy students.

## Extracurricular Activities for the Students

An atmosphere where students can learn with exploration and observation is created through various initiatives and by providing a range of resources.

### Some of these initiatives are:

- Art & handicraft workshops conducted by senior officials & expert artists from JJ School of Art, Mumbai.
- Experts from Nehru Science Centre (Mumbai) guiding activities of the "Aryabhata Sky Gazers" club (club dedicated to Astronomy related activities). Similarly, promoting conservation of trees through activities of "Vriksha Mitra" (Friends of Trees) club.
- Activities to promote knowledge of languages & literature through programs such as "Kalidas-Katta" (platform for debates on literature) & "Pustak-Jatra" (Bookfair).
- Promoting entrepreneurship at a young age through the "Young Entrepreneurs" club.
- Opportunities to learn foreign languages such as "German" & "Spanish".
- Lectures and guidance sessions are arranged with historians, scientists, army



Aryabhata Sky Gazers Club



Kalidas-Katta



Young Entrepreneurs



Vriksha Mitra



Republic Day Celebration



Independence Day Celebration



Ashadhi Ekadashi



Raksha Bandhan

personnel, sportspersons, and artists. Students are encouraged to explore various career paths with the Scientific Research, Indian Defense Services, and Sports.

- Feedback to the parents on the development of their children through an open discussion on parent-teacher interviews, a day specifically marked for this activity.
- Seminars/activities related to managing the study, imbibing values in children, focus on physical training, etc.
- Annual-day celebrations including cultural programs & sports events.
- Participation in inter-school competitions.
- Use of audio-visual equipment & e-learning wherever necessary.

## Celebration of Festivals

Festivities allow us to celebrate the spirit of life. Celebrating various festivals at school offers

students a chance to explore their creativity, be innovative and express themselves through their work; it also promotes cooperation, teamwork, and how to achieve group objectives within the framework of the established discipline.

## Atal Tinkering Lab

Recognizing the academic achievements and forward-looking scientific orientation, this school was selected for setting up the Atal Tinkering Lab under NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission hosted by the Govt. of India. The Atal Tinkering Lab has been set up to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the upcoming generation. Students are motivated to experiment & materialize their creative, innovative ideas with the help of modern multiple technologies provided by the AIM. This excellent opportunity has given students from this remote village, the satisfaction of stepping beyond their regular curriculum and to think outside the box!

## Study, Planning & Time Management Workshop

Workshops are conducted at regular intervals for Secondary & Higher-Secondary students on the following points:

- How to study
- Different techniques for studies
- Planning of studies during the examination
- Time Management for studies
- Studying under different kinds of pressures



Dr Anil Kakodkar in Atal Tinkering Lab



Atal Tinkering Laboratory



Art Workshop



Indoor cycling



E learning



Lezim



Mallakhamb



Our students who proved themselves at national level

## E-Learning

Once a week, an E-learning facility is made available to the students, where they participate in quizzes, revise what they have learned, solve puzzles, get audio-visual explanations and enjoy the modern ways of education in a playful manner.

## Physical Education and Sports

'Health is Wealth' – as the traditional proverb aptly puts it, a healthy body can support a healthy mind and the best way to achieve health is through physical exercise and sports. The school's mission is to ensure the all-round development of the students. Our state-of-the-art Sports Academy offers a range of facilities and guidance/training for physical activities and sports. We train the students for traditional sports such as 'Malla khamb' (Indian Gymnastics on a pole) and 'Yogasana' (Yoga) to the most modern sports such as soccer, swimming, badminton, volleyball, track events, archery, gymnastics, rifle shooting, etc. Our student Archer has won Gold Medal in Compound Archery at Khelo India National Competitions 2018 and 2019, for the two consecutive years. She is also the National gold medalist in Archery in School Games, 2019. She has won silver and bronze medals in the 3rd ISSF International Solidarity Archery Championship 2019 held at

Dhaka, Bangladesh, and has become the first international athlete of SVJCT. Some other students from the school have also excelled at national and state-level competitions for Yogasana, Mallakhamb, Track events, Archery, Soccer, Swimming, and Rifle shooting.

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Air Chief Marshal (Retd.) Pradeep Naik addressing the students



Dahi Handi Celebration



SVJCT's Sports Academy



Multi-sports indoor stadium



Accommodation for sportsmen



Unique covered stadium for Kho-Kho and Kabaddi



## 34. Sports Academy

Mental & physical strength is necessary to face the challenges in today's competitive world for the younger generation. A sport teaches the importance of overcoming failures without getting disheartened, the importance of discipline, hard-work and fair-play. It helps keep the body and mind healthy and also allows one to become strong enough (mentally and physically) to adopt patriotic values.

The S.V.J.C. Trust also accomplished yet another vision, adding to their long list of achievements - construction of a massive sports-complex with this exact objective in mind. This sports complex spreads over 18-acres of land, incorporates 20 different sports and costs almost Rs.300 million.

The sports complex is built as per the international standards for all sports - a



soccer field in the centre, surrounded by a 400 meter synthetic athletic track, spectator galleries on both sides, swimming pool on one side, gymnastic hall, indoor basketball and badminton stadium, shooting range, and a special hall for seated games (like chess and carom). Exclusive 450 square meters covered playfield is available for Indian games like Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Mallakhamb & Langdi. International standard sports climbing wall, equipped with all safety measures is ready for young climbers to test their skills.

An opportunity to learn and practice so many Indian and International Sports is now available in such a rural area.

- |                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Archery                          | Athletics    |
| Badminton                        | Basketball   |
| Chess                            | Carrom       |
| Football                         | Gymnastics   |
| Handball                         | Kabaddi      |
| Kho-kho                          | Langdi       |
| Mallakhamb                       | Swimming     |
| Sports Climbing                  | Table-Tennis |
| Volley-ball                      | Yoga         |
| 10 metre rifle shooting (Indoor) |              |

When the sports complex was constructed, it included all aspects required for hosting sports



Konkan's first 400 Meter Synthetic Running Track



A 25-meter semi-Olympic sized swimming pool



10-meter rifle shooting (Indoor)



Archery



Basketball



Volly Ball



Chess



viewers' stand

events such as excellent training, residence and meals facility for all athletes and trainers. The key goal of this project was to provide a facility that can recruit the best athletes from the Konkan region and empower these rural athletes to compete at national and international levels. Athletes under the age of 18 are trained in this facility. Since 2015, a huge sports event called 'Dervan Youth Games' is being organized during the 'Shiv Jayanti' celebration every year. This event is gaining a lot of momentum and athletes from all parts of India are now wishing to compete in this event.

### Konkan's first 400 Meter Synthetic Running Track

This special track installed at the Sports Complex has an outer layer of 'EPDM', a type of fine synthetic rubber, which adds flexibility, provides cushioning, and works as a shock absorber reducing knee injuries of the athletes. The oval-shaped track is 400 meters with 8 lanes, includes a 130-meter straight track for the 100/110 meter races and a 6X8 meter area for warm-ups.

A separate runway has been set up for long-jump, and tri-jump. There are 2 D-sections about 1350 sq.mt especially for discus throw, ball-throw, high jump, etc.

The track has viewers stand on both sides that can accommodate almost 1400 people. The sports complex office, the sports library, media room, washrooms, first-aid unit and cafeteria are all part of the stadium building.

## Swimming Pool, Gymnastics Hall, Shooting Range and More

A 25-meter semi-Olympic sized swimming pool based on international recommendations is quite an attractive vision in such a rural region. The pool is maintained using a top-of-the-line Spanish Filtration plant and a small kiddie-pool is also built to train children from 5 years and up. The swimming pool facility is fully equipped with appropriate change rooms and showers for males and females. The spectator area is on one side of the pool and the entire deck-area granite is installed using special techniques to ensure they are not slippery. Special lighting by Philips company has been used for the entire swimming pool area.

Another multi-sports building has been built by Herculean Sports and its design makes it easy to maintain & clean and the special floors ensure they are not slippery making it easy for athletes to manoeuvre. This facility includes two Badminton courts, one volleyball and basketball court each and 4 courts for various gymnastics activities equipped with roman rings, parallel bars, uneven bars, and pommel



Yoga



Sports Climbing



State level school chess competition



Divisional School Mallakhamb competition



Foot-ball Summer camp



National Dodge ball Championship 2020



National School Games Championship



Dervan Youth Games - Opening ceremony 2021

horse. Built with modern technology, without any support beams in the middle and with a roof 12meters from the base, provides the spacious area required for these sports. This building also has its change rooms for athletes, a special storage room for equipment and spectator stands on both sides which make it quite an appealing venue during events.

The 10 meter indoor shooting range is in the basement of the building, well lighted by the Philips company. The air pistol and rifle compound-air are filled using the latest technology German-made compressors. State-of-the-art weapons are made available for practice rounds. The entire shooting range is air-conditioned and has a special glass wall for the audience in the viewing deck.

### Unique covered stadium for Kho-Kho, Kabaddi

This recent addition is an attraction for sports lovers to visit SVJCT's Sports Academy. This is the first kind of sports facility in Maharashtra state. 100 meter long and 65-meter wide covered area where five Kho-kho & four Kabaddi grounds are accommodated. Special arrangement for mallkhamb and rope mallakhamb is also available for practice and competition. The design of the stadium incorporates mainly two components i.e., playfields as per national standards and covered seating steps for the public. The

stadium is provided with floodlights to facilitate sports activities during late night.

## Sports Team and Athlete Accommodations:

There are two separate buildings built especially for accommodation of athletes or teams during camps, training, or major events. Each building has spacious rooms, which can accommodate 8 to 10 athletes, fully-equipped with washrooms, shower stalls, hot water arrangements, electricity, and other necessities. The trainers are provided residence in another building while the sports complex staff has a complete separate residential building to ensure they have a pleasant stay during their working time at the sports complex with their families. The meal arrangements are made through multiple cafeterias in the complex. During major events, the cafeteria near stadium 2 is opened for all the attendees, volunteers, and athletes.

## Favourite Venue For Out-of-Town Camps, Training, And Tournaments

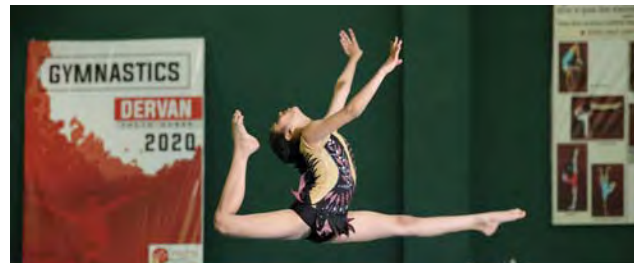
A running competition for girls was arranged in 2014 to inaugurate the running track, in which more than 250 girls participated. This was a logical step for a trust which strives for 'women empowerment'. The event drew well-deserved attention of sports enthusiasts from all over the state of Maharashtra and beyond. Over the



Prize distribution ceremony at Dervan Youth Games



Prize Distribution ceremony at Dervan Youth Games



Gymnastics



Gymnastics



Mr. Vikas Walawalkar, Managing Trustee, addressing the audience at Dervan Youth Games



Dervan Youth Games - Prize distribution ceremony 2021



Yoga Performance



Dance performance by students

years it has become a favourite venue for many sports such as mallakhamb, football, shooting, swimming, archery and gymnastics and has attracted athletes, clubs, and organizations from far places to host camps, training events, & tournaments due to the serene, pollution-free country-side environment, the exceptional facilities along with the accommodations & meals for a reasonable cost. Many summer camps are now hosted for school teams, and the S.V.J.C.T puts extra effort to find the right training and trainers for the attendees so that no talent goes untrained or unrecognized.

The sports complex is also now becoming the venue of choice for many recognized inter-school, district, and state-level championships. In 2018, this sports complex brought a proud moment to the village of Dervan by hosting the state and national level school championships for field sports, and the national chess and mallakhamb championships. Most of the teams representing Ratnagiri district are selected by and trained at the sports academy.

Shree Kaka Maharaj suggested that not only the players, but even sports teachers and coaches need to be trained properly. Accordingly, 'Train the Trainers' programme was initiated under which special training camps for coaches and sports teachers of local schools are arranged with the help of District sports authorities. This concept has been well accepted by the State level sports authorities also.

## Dervan Youth Games

A sports complex of this stature proved its worth when it hosted its first multi-sports 'Dervan Youth Games' in 2015. This event, now a yearly occurrence, is organized ahead of the grand 'Shiv Jayanti' celebration, which attracts thousands from all over the state of Maharashtra and beyond to this small village of Dervan!

Hundreds of of the volunteers of the trust travel to Dervan to facilitate this event and even though many of them have no background in the sports or experience with such events, they work hard to ensure a smooth, successful event.

Participation in these games has been on a steady rise, and by 2020, 5000 + athletes participated in more than 25 different sport events. 64 teams participated in Kho-Kho and the event took three days to conclude. The lively environment, the exceptional

facilities, the cleanliness, the quality and free accommodation, reasonable registration fees, subsidized nutritious meals, the professional attitude of the volunteers/staff along with the well-organized sports events are a pleasant surprise and bring a vibrancy in the air, which makes it a memorable life-time event for the participants who feel it was worth travelling to this remote village.

National and International level athlete and winner of the Khelo India championship - Isha Pawar; National Mallakhamb gold medal winner Nihal Vichare; National level player Riya Pakale; and National level Track athlete Arya Sinkar - are some of the athletes trained right here, at this sports academy in Dervan and a great testimonial of the high-standard training they received to enhance their skills and make their dreams come true. This is just the beginning of a journey the sports academy has now embarked on and allowed for every child in these remote areas to dare and dream!



Rainbow Colours

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