

**Shri Vitthalrao Joshi Charities Trust's**  
**B. K. L. Walawalkar Rural Medical College & Hospital**  
**Shree Kshetra Dervan Vartaptra**

April 2025 | Year - 13 Publication - 4 | Monthly, pages 10. | Regn. No. - MAHMAR/2022/86035

**Mr. Kurush Irani & team from Bajaj Finserv paid a visit to Walawalkar Hospital**

Mr. Kurush Irani (President, CSR), Mrs. Shubhangi Bochre (Deputy National Lead, CSR), Mr. Soham Dhapte (Senior Manager, CSR), and Ms. Swapna Vazlwar (Senior Lead, CSR Communications) of Bajaj Finserv visited the Dervan



**From left - Swapna Vazlwar, Shubhangi Bochre, Dr. Suvarna Patil, Soham Dhapte, Kurush Irani, Jyoti Iyer, and Dr. Netaji Patil**

Educational Campus on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April 2025. The visit was organized to inspect the on-going work done by Bajaj Finserv through its 'Corporate Social Responsibility' (CSR) scheme and to interact with the beneficiary students pursuing health education through this scheme.

In the financial year 2024-25, Bajaj Finserv assisted 165 students with their educational fees, food, and lodging expenses. The beneficiaries include nurses (ANM, GNM, BSc nursing, PB BSc, MSc), Allied Medical Services Courses include (OT technician, Haemodialysis technician), Advanced Diploma in Medical Lab Technician (ADMLT), Diploma in Dietetics, Biomedical engineering, and Allied Medical Services degree (BSc in Paramedical Technology).

Expressing his views, Shri. Kurush Irani (President CSR) expressed satisfaction over the scale of this work and its impact on the rural people. He was particularly impressed by the Trust's approach to finding solutions to health problems, keeping in mind the exact nature of the problems and solving them, and instilling this approach right down to the employees of the Trust. "It is not people's fault that they have to suffer due to centuries-old superstitions; the fault lies with those who know this but do nothing to reduce it." He fell in love with this motto, which is a strong pillar of the organization! He also praised the experienced doctors and staff of the organization, who have made such a huge work possible. He highly appreciated the high quality and excellent production of all the resources here, including 'Dream Health Park'. He also said that this is the first time we are seeing such a charitable organization that runs continuously on the principle of neither profit nor loss, on the basis of

**Bajaj Finserv representative interacting with beneficiary students**



management skills and a clear vision.

After meeting and talking to the staff, students, and the rest, visiting all the departments of the institution, they were deeply impressed by the academic quality, resources, teaching skills, discipline, healthcare skills, and management of teaching.

He expressed his wish that their relationship with the Trust would remain cordial for a long time. All the guests expressed their satisfaction with the hospitality and cooperation. He also informally commented that it felt like being at home.

### **Inauguration of a Modern Intensive Care Unit for Respiratory Diseases at Walawalkar Hospital**

On 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025, the inauguration ceremony of the new ward for the Respiratory Intensive Care Unit was held at B. K. L. Walawalkar Hospital, Dervan.



**Modern Respiratory Intensive Care Unit**

Nowadays, due to environmental pollution, the incidence of respiratory disorders has increased significantly. Due to this, the cases of serious illness due to respiratory disorders have also increased. Therefore, considering the issues of providing urgent services to the patients in case of emergency and making it affordable for them, Walawalkar Hospital has decided to provide respiratory services to the Konkan people so that they can get the right benefits of the Mahatma Phule Scheme and to save the lives of serious patients the intensive care unit has been opened.

Dr. Netaji Patil, Dr. Amey Paranjpe, resident doctors, sisters, nurses, and other staff of the hospital were present on this occasion. Equipped with all modern facilities (ventilators, infusion pumps, monitors, blood oxygen and carbon dioxide measuring devices, arterial blood pressure, lung function and rest), this 12-bed intensive care unit will treat diseases like asthma, pneumothorax, tuberculosis, pneumonia, pulmonary hypertension, lung diseases and Respiratory failure and rest, and other types of urgent and serious illnesses will be easier to treat.

The air-conditioned, spacious, and well-equipped intensive care unit has been opened only for patients with respiratory diseases. Each bed has the facility of Central Oxygen Air Suction. In addition, the ventilator of the 'Schiller' company will be able to provide artificial respiration to patients who are short of breath and have difficulty breathing. Along with this, angiography of the blood vessels of the lungs and, if necessary, endoscopic examination of the respiratory tract, Bronchoscopy can also be done. An echocardiography machine has also been provided to check the heart function. High-quality equipment and highly trained respiratory specialist doctors and nurses have been planned for the early diagnosis of pneumonia. Patients from Ratnagiri district and remote areas of Konkan who have serious lung/respiratory diseases will definitely be able to benefit from these facilities at Walawalkar Hospital.

**The second consecutive WORKSHOP on 'Sinuses' was successfully concluded by the Ear, Nose and Throat Department at Walawalkar Rural Medical College & Hospital.**



**On 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025, an 'Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Cadaveric Workshop' was organized by the Ear, Nose and Throat Department.**

In this workshop, 18 surgeons of ear, nose, and throat were trained in sinus surgery by expert doctors. 10 cadavers were used for this training. The ear, nose, and throat surgeons gained expertise in sinus surgery by performing surgeries on these cadaveric bodies. Surgeons from Mumbai, Pune, Sangli, Miraj, Nanded, and Ratnagiri participated in this training.

Many renowned ear, nose and throat specialists like Dr. Rajesh Yadav from Shatabdi Hospital, Kandivali - Mumbai; Professor Dr. Shashikant Mashal from Cooper Hospital – Mumbai; Dr. Trupti Gadkari from Kurla Bhabha Hospital – Mumbai; Professor Dr. Praseon Mishra from Bharati University – Pune; Dr. Paresh Chavan from Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College - Pune and from Bharati University - Sangli Dr. Sachin Nikhle were present for the training.

The training session was carried out smoothly as the equipment required for this camp, such as an endoscopic system, camera, telescope, debrider, drill, etc., was available at Walawalkar Hospital. The dissection workshop was equipped with all the facilities like those provided in a surgical theatre, including tables, cameras, lights, and rest, so the participating doctors felt as if they were operating on a live patient. Several manufacturers and vendors related to ENT, like Santosh Surgicals, Kolambkar, Survel, Univ Labs, and Medtronic, provided this equipment.

The specialty of this camp is the soft-embalmed cadavers. The cadavers are made of a special solution that makes them soft and therefore easier for surgeons to learn. Such cadavers are not available anywhere in Maharashtra. The work of making these special cadavers available was done by Dr. Prashant Amula, Professor, Department of Anatomy, B.K.L. Walawalkar Medical College. To make this camp a success, Dr. Rajiv Keni and Dr. Pratik Shahane, ear, nose, and throat specialists from Walawalkar Hospital, worked day and night and were given valuable guidance by Dr. Dharangute, Dr. Sandeep Sathe, and Dr. Netaji Patil.

## A State-of-the-art flow cytometry facility is available at Dervan Hospital



Walawalkar Hospital is always at the forefront of modern technology and accurate diagnosis, and with the desire to continuously make new technology available for the treatment of the people of Konkan, a modern facility like 'Flow Cytometry' has been started. This facility will make it possible to diagnose many types of diseases from a blood sample. For example, classification of blood cells, diagnosis of blood disorders (hematological), diseases like cancer, immunophenotyping, as well as CD4 cell count of HIV infected patients, and the rest. This will make it possible to select the right medicines by evaluating the patient's immunity. The CD4 count will be obtained more efficiently and accurately. This will save time and improve the results. Immune disorders can be diagnosed quickly and accurately.

This unique technology in Konkan, which provides accurate diagnosis, has been opened for patients under the guidance of experts from various faculties. The charitable organization 'Rama Purushottam Foundation' has maintained social awareness by providing huge help for this facility. By setting up this facility in an air-conditioned room, scientist Dr. Rita Mulherkar will monitor the usefulness of this machine for research.

## Students of Samarth Nursing College, Dervan, organized a public awareness campaign on the occasion of World Leprosy Day



**Awareness campaign in the Chiplun market**



G.N.M. First year students of Samarth Nursing College, Dervan, on 31st January 2025, gathered the public together and created awareness on a large scale in Chiplun on World Leprosy Day. For this program, the students were well guided by the faculty of the college, the Health Officer of Chiplun Taluka, the Health Assistant, the staff of Urban Health Centre Chiplun, and Dr. Ravikiran Sir, Assistant Professor, B. K. L. Walawalkar Hospital. To create awareness on this day, the students gathered people near Chiplun Bhaji Mandai and Chiplun S.T. Stand by giving slogans and presenting a street play in front of them. Health

officers of Chiplun taluka, health assistants, and doctors from Urban Health Center Chiplun were also present for this street play. In their street play, the students of the Nursing College tried to remove the superstitions and misconceptions about leprosy in society. They raised awareness about the remedies and various treatments available. A large number of citizens attended the program and gave a good response. Finally, the program

ended with a slogan about leprosy, and the students expressed their gratitude to all the attendeesz

## World Cancer Day was organized at Samarth Nursing College, Dervan

Nursing students of Samarth Nursing College, Dervan, Sawarde celebrated World Cancer Day on 04<sup>th</sup> February 2025. An inter-collegiate four-kilometer running competition was organized on the occasion of this cancer day. In this competition, students and teachers of Samarth Nursing College and M.E.S. Nursing College, from Lote,



participated. The competition was held from the SVJCT Sports Complex to Dervan Phata and back to the SVJCT Sports Complex. Professor Shivprasad Halemany, Vice Principal of M.E.S. Nursing College, was present as the chief guest for this competition.

The competition began with the breaking of the Shreephal (coconut) by the chief guest, and the Vice Principal of Samarth Nursing College, Professor Tejal Surve, welcomed the chief guest and the students carried the torch. After that, the rules of the competition were explained to the students, and the competition began. In this, two girls and two boys, as well as a teacher, were declared the winners and they were honoured with certificates, medals, and prizes.

On the occasion of Cancer Day, cancer patients were invited for their guidance. The chief guest for this program was Mr. Rakesh Gawannge, who was invited as he was a cancer patient who had recovered from cancer. Professor Tejal Surve, Vice Principal of Samarth Nursing College, welcomed him and all the patients present with flowers.

Nursing students tried to create awareness about cancer through their speeches. Mr. Rakesh Gawannge shared his own experience with other patients, because of him, patients received guidance to overcome cancer. This program was successfully carried out by G.N.M. 2nd year students under the guidance of Professor J.C. Madam.



## Students of Samarth Nursing College, Dervan celebrated International Women's Day



International Women's Day was celebrated with enthusiasm on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at SVJCT's Samarth Nursing College, Sawarde, Kasarwadi. The entire college actively participated in this program, organized under the respectful guidance of Principal Prof. Tejal Surve, Prof. J.C. Jacob, and all the other professors. The program's layout, sequence of speeches, and character drama competition involving inspiring women were coordinated by Nikita Gomane. The program began at 11:00 AM, traditionally with the lighting of the lamp. All the students welcomed the guests with applause.

After the lighting of the lamp, speeches were made by the students, and the students also recited poetry and presented motivational songs. This was followed by a character drama competition depicting inspiring women. Vaishali Dalvi and Vinayak Dhage judged the competition, and the first three contestants were honored.

Also, various competitions like poetry, storytelling, short stories, and folk dance were organized in collaboration with B.K.L. Walawalkar Hospital and Rural Medical College, as well as the Department of Psychology, Nursing, and Physiotherapy. Our students actively participated in these competitions and won many prizes. The program concluded with a motivational speech by teacher Akanksha Mulye, and she told the inspiring story of a woman who completed a marathon at the age of 65 for her husband's treatment. This story was encouraging. Prizes were given to the winners. The program was organized by the third-year students of GNM.



## Students of Samarth Nursing College, Derwan, created awareness on the occasion of World Health Day.



SVJCT's Samarth Nursing College, Kasarwadi, Sawarde, celebrated World Health Day on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025 to create awareness among students, staff, and community about the importance of maternal and newborn health. The event was in line with the global campaign to promote healthy living. The entire event was planned by the students of B.Sc. Nursing 5<sup>th</sup> semester, and under this event, they presented a street play at Urban Health Center Chiplun and Rural Health Center Derwan.

The program began at 11.30 AM with a speech by Dr. Deshmukh, who welcomed all the people present and highlighted the importance of World Health Day and maternal and child health. A short video of the World Health Organization was shown to introduce this year's theme. He spoke about preventing maternal mortality, the



**Dr. Gajanan Velhal, Head of the Department of Community Medicine, Speaking on the occasion of World Health Day**

importance of prenatal and postnatal care, nutrition of pregnant women and newborns. He also answered questions from students, staff, and the community.

The students prepared artwork and poster presentations based on the theme of World Health Day. Also, the fifth-semester B.Sc. Nursing students presented a play highlighting the challenges faced by women in rural areas regarding healthcare. The program was held in the presence of Dr. Gajanan Velhal (Head of the Department of Community Medicine), Dr. Pankaj, and Dr. Sonam. The program was coordinated by Pranali Panchal and Akanksha Mulye. The program helped create awareness about maternal and newborn health among about 100 members. This encouraged discussions on the challenges in healthcare and the importance of timely medical help and good nutrition. Dr. Gajanan Velhal appreciated the students for their great participation in the celebration of the national health programs.

## Foreign Language Day - Celebrated with enthusiasm

At Shri Vithalrao Joshi Charities Trust English Medium School and Junior College of Science, Foreign Language Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm in the presence of Pediatrician Dr. Parvati Halbe. On the occasion of Foreign Language Day, Alicia Padros, Deputy Director and Head of Language Department of Goethe-Institute Max Muller Bhavan Pune, paid a goodwill visit to our school. She was accompanied by Vaishali Dabke, Project Manager, Educational Services, and Indrajit Pawar, Coordinator. The coincidence of their visit on Foreign Language Day



**From left - Sharayu Yashwantrao, Vaishali Dabke, Chief Guest Dr. Parvati Halbe, Special Guests Alicia Padros, Dr. Kripa Kulkarni, Pradnya Parkar**

were felicitated by the pre-primary school principal, Pradnya Parkar.

While the school principal, Sharyu Yashwantrao, was introducing the program, she stated that a bold decision was taken to teach foreign languages in this school of small village school. She mentioned that the seeds of foreign language teaching were planted 14 years ago. This initiative started with German, and later Spanish was included. Today, this seed has transformed into a rich program. This initiative has given students new opportunities to understand world cultures and has also broadened their horizons. She said that the remarkable success of the students in international language tests is not only academic but also prepares the students to explore new worlds, understand different perspectives and become global citizens.

Dr. Kripa Kulkarni, who has been serving the rural students in the service of knowledge for many years with the noble aim of enabling them to learn foreign languages, expressed her happiness at coming to this place for so many years while talking to the attendees. She also mentioned that this happiness has doubled since the students of Senior KG have also started to learn Spanish from 2024, and praised these children. At the same time, she also praised and thanked the teachers of the pre-primary department who, in her absence, made the children revise words in a foreign language.

Project Manager Vaishali Dabke told the story of a mouse family to explain why we should learn a foreign language and what its advantages are. She explained how our language is useful through the story and said that it is also necessary to learn at least one foreign language. Today, there are a lot of job opportunities available in Germany, so she encouraged the students and their parents by appealing to them to learn German definitely. After this, the students who achieved proficiency in the German and Spanish language competitions held during the year were honored by the guests with prizes.



The keynote speaker, Dr. Parvati Halbe, began her speech in Spanish. She expressed her interest in learning foreign languages and had the opportunity to learn Spanish for three years during the COVID period. While talking about the importance of language in life, she said that despite her mother tongue being Kannada, her school education was done in Marathi medium, and

medical education was done in English. Being a pediatrician by profession, when parents bring their children who are unable to speak but are crying because something is wrong, they expect that, as a doctor, we should understand the language. She understands the 'Crying Language' of small young children very well, which makes it possible to adopt the right treatment method, as well as she said that it can become a mediator to understand the emotions or words spoken. Emphasizing on the importance of learning a foreign language, she explained from personal experience that acquiring different languages opens up many doors of knowledge for us.



Students presented cultural programs in German and Spanish, including nursery rhymes, word antakshari, dance, drama, and the rest, in various performance programs. This instilled confidence and interest in learning foreign languages among the students.

After the program, special guest Alicia Padros expressed her appreciation for the participation of the students. She said, Students, you presented a very good program. I am very proud to say that even though you are far away from Europe, you are still interested in learning foreign languages. In India, you are used to speaking many languages; we Europeans have a lot to learn from you - we must learn unity in diversity, how to live together, and how to work together. We also need your help because Germany and other European countries have a majority of an elderly population. If you continue to learn German, Spanish or another foreign language, you will have many educational and job opportunities, and you will be able to succeed anywhere in the world, she encouraged the students and wished them well for their future endeavours.

The program was moderated by teacher Riya Mahadik, and students learning foreign languages danced. The school's principal, Ms. Pradnya Parkar, thanked the guests and the present parents. The program concluded by singing 'Vande Mataram'



**Bhaktashrestha Kamalakar pant Laxman Walawalkar Rural Medical College and Hospital, Diagnostic and Research Center**

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## State-level pre-competition football training camp concludes

At SVJCT Sports Complex, Ratnagiri District Football Association organized a training camp for boys and girls under 13 years and also for boys under 17 years. The state-level tournament for boys under 17 years will be played in Lonavala from April 11, 2025. Also, a training camp for boys and girls aged 13 years has been organized at Dervan Sports Complex from April 15 to 17, 2025. Both teams selected for the tournament will participate in the state-level football tournament organized by the Western India Football Association.

The coach of this team is Devendra Salvi, while the manager is Vinod Mhaske; both are present for the training camp. The players selected for the camp made good use of the swimming pool and gymnasium in the sports complex to improve their fitness. Along with this, in collaboration with Walawalkar Physiotherapy College, the players were also trained on how to overcome their ailments through exercise. The facilities available here are helping the budding footballers of Ratnagiri district to improve their skills, and District Football Secretary Dhanraj More expressed his gratitude to the organization, expressing the hope that it will be beneficial for the upcoming competition season.



Owner, Printer, Publisher, Editor: Shri. Vikas Kamalakar Walawalkar Printed at Dhanashree Offset, 3/208, Patrakar Colony, Kuvarbav, Ratnagiri and published by B.K.L. Walawalkar Rural Medical College and Hospital, Diagnostic and Research Center, Dervan, Po. Sawarde, Tal. Chiplun, Dist. Ratnagiri 415 606.

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Registration Number: MAHMAR/2022/86035