

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

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**Genetic Mutation Diagnosis Facility available at Walawalkar Hospital through
latest Next Generation DNA Sequencing System**



From left Dr. Yogendra Shelke, Dr. Anup Neelavar, Dr. Anand Joshi, Mr. Vikasrao Walawalkar, Dr. Shripad Banawali, Dr. Abhay Desai, Dr. Sudhir Joshi, Mr. Ashokrao Joshi, Dr. Neelam Shirsat, behind Mr. Partha Prabhudesai (Lab Technician), Dr. Sunil Nadkarni, Dr. Netaji Patil (Radiologist), Suchita Devrukhkar, Dikshita Lad (Lab Technician)

Shri Vitthalrao Joshi Charities operated Bhaktashreshtha Kamalakarpanth Walawalkar Hospital, Sawarde, Tal. Chiplun, on 14th March 2025, was commissioned with a state-of-the-art system for diagnosing chromosomal defects using the 'Next Generation DNA Sequence System'. This state-of-the-art facility was inaugurated by offering a garland to the statue of Shri Sahajanand Saraswati Maharaj and lighting the lamp by Dr. Sudhir Joshi, a renowned Robotic Joint Replacement Orthopaedic Surgeon in Mumbai, Dr. Sudhir Joshi is also a trustee of Shri Vitthalrao Joshi Charities Trust. Shri. Ashok Raghunath Joshi (Chief Trustee), Shri. Vikas Walawalkar (Managing Trustee), Dr. Shripad Banawali (Director-Academics, Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai) Dr. Sunil Nadkarni (Spine Surgeon), Dr. Anand Joshi (Gastroenterologist), Dr. Rita Mulherkar (Scientist), Dr. Suvarna and Dr. Netaji Patil and rest. were present at the event. Genomic expert scientist Dr. Neelam Shirsat, who has worked hard to ensure that the people of Konkan benefit from this new system, was also present.

Science is advancing at a rapid pace and it is now essential that we keep up with that pace only then will we be able to make progress in terms of global health. In the coming decades, the direction of medical treatment will be entirely based on the body's genetic information and the important changes in it that cause a particular disease.

In every living being, four nucleotides A, T, C, D are intertwined in a chain of 'DNA' and when two such chains are combined with each other, a perfect 'DNA' is formed. Its 'string' is located in the embryo of each cell. Generally, in humans, we are 99 percent the same. But the remaining one percent makes us different from other people. But if for some reason this sequence changes, diseases like cancer arise. This facility has been established at Walawalkar Hospital to diagnose just this. Therefore, it will now be possible to accurately understand which 'DNA' change in a specific cell is responsible for cancer and which medicine will be applicable. This will help in increasing the life of a cancer patient. Also, understanding the germs of bacterial infection or tuberculosis and the right medicines to overcome it will also help in treating serious diseases. Birth defects in a newborn baby will be detected in the mother's blood in the first few days while the baby is in the mother's womb. Not only that, but now changes in the 'DNA' that cause diabetes and appropriate treatment will be possible accordingly. To shed light on this new method, the hospital has started a survey of diabetic patients. Awareness is being created by giving guided explanations to doctors to ensure that the benefits of this facility reach maximum patients. Efforts are being made to reduce the cost of each test. 'Neck Sac 1000' is a product of the American company 'Illumina' and this high-quality facility is easy to

use, fast, high-quality sequencing and has the facility of NIPT, transcriptome, exome sequencing and secondary analysis through computer. 'Rama Purushottam Foundation', a charitable organization, has borne the financial burden of this system. A separate air-conditioned room has been set up for this and its technical responsibility and research will be headed by genomic scientist Dr. Neelam. This latest genetic system in Konkan is sure to open the door to a new arena in health treatment.

Lecture by Dr. Yamini Kulkarni on 'Intellectual Property Rights and Copyrights'



Dr. Yamini Kulkarni giving a lecture on IPR and Copyrights

Bhaktashreshtha Kamalakarant Walawalkar Medical College is always aware of research. We have to solve our own problems and for that we need to be constantly aware. In that regard, how we can preserve our intellectual property and the rights related to it becomes important. On the topic of 'Intellectual Property Rights and Preservation', Dr. Yamini Kulkarni gave a lecture on March 1st, 2025 and guided the medical professors. Forty professors of the medical college were present at the lecture.

What if there is an invention or an idea, how do you prove its ownership? Intellectual Property Rights originate from this question and this is what is called Intellectual Property Rights (I.P.R). In this, we have the right to have a legal right to an invention, a symbol, an idea that we have brought to the world, so Intellectual Property Rights that is. I. P. R has been created. The information received in the workshop will give momentum to the subject of obtaining a patent definitely.

What if there is an invention or an idea, how do you prove its ownership? Intellectual Property

Dr. Bhushan Patwardhan (Former Vice-Chairman of UGC) and Dr. Nitin Karmalkar, Former Vice-Chancellor of Savitribai Phule Pune University paid a goodwill visit to Walawalkar Hospital and Medical College on 27th January 2025.



From left - Dr. Netaji Patil, Dr. Shrihari Hasbanis, Mr. Balasaheb Kajrekar, Dr. Shripad Banawali, Vaidya Prashant Suru, Dr. Sunil Nadkarni, Mr. Ashokrao Joshi, Dr. Bhushan Patwardhan, Dr. Nitin Karmalkar, Mr. Vikasrao Walawalkar, Dr. Nandan Kanvinde, Dr. Suvarna Patil, Vaidya Girish Tillu and others

In his own words about it-

"Visiting Dervan was an eye-opening and inspiring experience, showcasing the perfect synergy of spirituality, healthcare, education and holistic development dedicated to the upliftment of the rural community. At the heart of Dervan's transformation is the B. K. L. Walawalkar Rural Medical College and its 810-bed state-of-the-art hospital, nursing and physiotherapy colleges, which are serving the underprivileged population of the Konkan region. This highlights the importance of serving the rural community by providing quality healthcare even in the most remote areas, while also providing world-class education. An Olympic-class sports complex offering facilities for modern and traditional sports and an innovative school are other unique features of this vibrant campus.

The confidence in the eyes and body language of the young women from the small villages of Konkan was heartwarming. These girls, who would otherwise have withered away due to lack of access to quality education, have been seen blossoming again. They are exposed to futuristic subjects like robotics and space science, biotechnology, nutrition and dietetics, while also learning traditional skills in traditional arts, design and cottage industry products. This unique educational complex is helping them dream big and at the same time strengthen their roots.

Another attraction is the Shiva-Samarth Srushti, which depicts the inspiring life and legacy of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. The exhibition, through intricate sculptures and detailed narratives, brings history to life, inspiring visitors with stories of courage, vision and leadership.

These remarkable initiatives are run by the dedication of Shri Vithalrao Joshi Charities Trust and Shrisant Seetarambuwa Walawalkar Charitable Trust, under the visionary spiritual guidance of Shri Ashokrao Joshi and with the generous support of Shri Vikas Walawalkar, a renowned philanthropist from Mumbai. These trusts are committed to the holistic development of the society by promoting healthcare, education, women empowerment and preserving spiritual and historical heritage. I thank Dr. Nitin Karmalkar, former Vice Chancellor of Savitribai Phule Pune University, for introducing me to this inspiring initiative. The journey to Dervan was long but equally enriching. Moreover, it was made even more enriching by the knowledgeable company of Vaidya Prashant Suru and Vaidya Girish Tillu, with the interesting experiences they shared along the way.

It is inspiring to see the innovative research and social initiatives in Dervan. The coming together of visionary and intelligent people and their work for the upliftment of society has certainly left a distinct mark on the society. This is a place where spirituality is combined with modernity, and the future of rural India is sure to be bright. Truly, it is because of the selflessness of the promoters, devotees and employees that this work of God is happening here. May Dervan continue to inspire all of us to make meaningful contributions to the world around us.

Bhushan Patwardhan

Prof. Shekhar Mande and Prof. Sharmila Mande's goodwill visit to the hospital

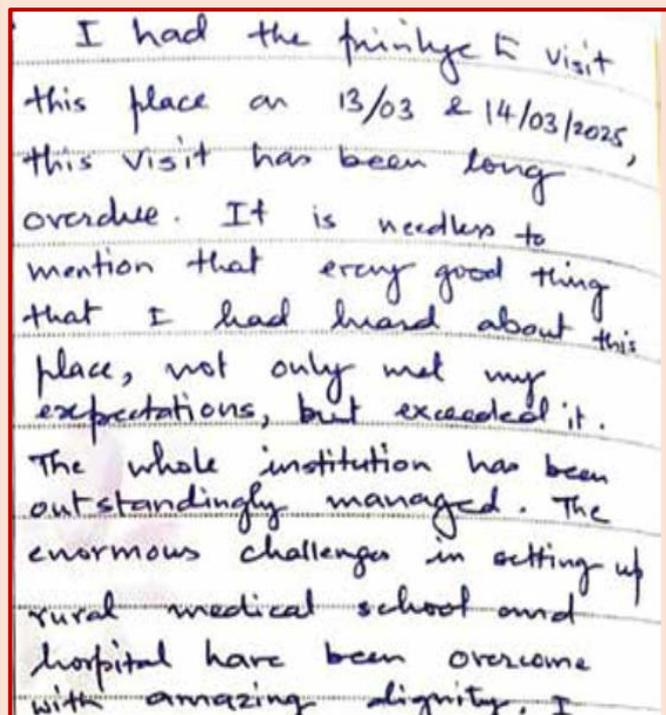


From left: Dr. Netaji Patil, Dr. Yogendra Shelke, Dr. Sunil Nadkarni (Spine Surgeon), Mr. Amit Salvi, Dr. Shripad Banavli (Director Academics, Tata Hospital, Mumbai) Mr. Vikas Walawalkar (Trustee), Mr. Ashokrao Joshi, Prof. Shekhar Mande and Prof. Sharmila Mande, Dr. Suvarna Patil (Medical Director), Dr. Sharmila Kanvinde, Dr. Rita Mulherkar

Prof. Shekhar Mande and Prof. Sharmila Mande visited B.K. L. Walawalkar Hospital on 13th and 14th April 2025. Shekhar C. Mande is a biologist and former Director General of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) of India and former Secretary of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) of the Ministry of Science and Technology and Director of the National Centre for Cell Science, Pune.

In 2005, she was honored with the highest science award in India in the biological sciences category, 'Dr. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award'. She visited the institute and inquired about all the activities including the hospital and expressed satisfaction with the work of the institute, stating that this institute is a good example of the difficulties in rural areas while creating such institutions and how they have been overcome, and also promised to provide all possible help in the future. Sharmila Mande has obtained her 'PhD' degree in Physics from the prestigious 'Tata Institute of Science'. Valuable research is underway on the subject of 'micro biome', the bacteria in the body. She also expressed her intention to participate in the research being conducted at Walawalkar College.

Prof. Shekhar Mande's opinion



I had the privilege to visit this place on 13/03 & 14/03/2025, this visit has been long overdue. It is needless to mention that every good thing that I had heard about this place, not only met my expectations, but exceeded it. The whole institution has been outstandingly managed. The enormous challenges in setting up rural medical school and hospital have been overcome with amazing dignity. I

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All the very best!

Das Navami festival celebrated at Shri Shiv-Samarth Gad, Shri Kshetra Dervan!

The



Hon. Mr. Omkar Joshi lighting the lamp



Hon. Shri. Omkar Joshi distributed the prizes along with Shri. Vikasrao Walawalkar

Brahmavrinda at Shrikshetra Dervan started the Das Navami program with a collective recitation of Shantisukta. Hon. Shri. Omkar Joshi, Manager at Life Insurance Company, as well as an Indologist and a practitioner & teacher of Indian paintings, was the chief guest. The dignitaries worshipped the image of Samarth and lit the lamp. Shri. Yash Kapadi introduced the chief guests. The trustee of the organization Shri. Vikasrao Walawalkar felicitated the guests with shawls, shripal and bouquets. The director of the school Mrs. Sharyu Yashwantrao welcomed the head of the Dervan center Shri. Shembekar Guruji and the coordinator Shri. Kolte Guruji with flowers.

Speaking during the introduction, the school principal Mrs. Sharyu Yashwantrao explained the role and nature of the Dasanavami festival started by Shri Sadguru Digambaradas Maharaj and also gave information about the new nature given to this festival by Shri Ashokrao Joshi. While talking about the work of Samarth, he explained that the students will understand the use of the aartis, stotras, and mental verses from his literary heritage in their childhood when they grow up and that it is our duty to preserve Indian culture. He praised the award-winning students and motivated them to succeed every year.

After this, the students recited the well-written hymns and aartis that they had recited for the competition. In this, the students of class 4 of Dervan No. 1 School recited Sadguru Vandana, the students of class 2 of Dervan Sutarwadi School recited Manobodh, the students of class 1 of Dervan English Medium School recited Baba Maharaj's aarti, and the students of class 6 recited Ramchandra Vandana. After this, the prize distribution program of the recitation competition held on the occasion of Dasanavami festival was concluded. Chief guest Shri. Omkar Joshi presented prizes to 173 students. After this, Chief guest Shri. Omkar Joshi interacted with the students in the form of stories. While talking about the invaluable contribution made by Samarth in nation building, he mentioned that Samarth was the secret support behind Shivaji Maharaj reaching Swarajya safely after escaping from Agra. He said that Samarth was giving Shivaji a message about the various tricks he used while writing letters and the precise movements of the enemy party. While telling the story of Yama Nachiketa, he strongly mentioned that if one wants to go from the beloved to the beloved, he must have wisdom. While talking about the importance of reciting the name, he narrated how Valaya became Valmiki. He said that the foolish aspects of Samarth's Dasbodh make us think and unknowingly we start looking into our own inner self and then we cannot help but realize the power of Samarth. Prabhu Ramchandra and Shri Hanuman were the only two deities worshipped by Samarth; while reasoning about this, he said that Samarth considered the dream of building a nation like the kingdom of Ramraya, who was the ideal of life, and for this, Samarth wanted to create a young generation like Hanuman who was wise and strong. He expressed such thoughts in simple words and in a fluent style. Towards the end of his speech he said to students do not eat junk food, avoid using mobile phones, increase your observation power along with studying and reciting, which will help you know right from wrong. At the same time, Omkarji advised the students to keep their body and mind healthy and strengthen their minds.



After this, Mr. Omkar Tambe thanked the chief guest Mr. Omkar Joshi and all the audience present. The program concluded with the recitation of the collective Varayachna and Prasad was distributed. On this occasion, the trustees of the organization Mr. Ashokrao Joshi and Mr. Vikasrao Walawalkar, school director Mrs. Sharyu Yashwantrao, center head Mr. Shembekar, coordinator of the Pathantar competition Mr. Kolte, principals of various schools, teachers and students were present in large numbers.



Lecture by Mr. Adhish Thite to medical students on the topic of 'A.I.' (Artificial Intelligence) in Medicine



Mr. Adhish Thite expressing his thoughts

Currently, the use of artificial intelligence in the medical field has begun in large numbers, and in the coming years, research in the field of AI will accelerate tremendously, and most medical treatments will be available immediately using AI systems. And therefore, AI will be useful for future medical students in medical treatment and analysis of medical images. Medical treatment tools will help doctors in providing quick access to patient-related information or research to help make decisions about treatment, medications, mental health, and other patient needs. AI expert Adhish Thite explained with examples how AI tools are used to analyze medical images such as CT scans, X-rays, MRIs, and other images,

and how AI can compete with human intelligence. Adhish Thite is working as the Chief AI Strategist in San Francisco, USA. Therefore, this workshop was organized on March 1, 2025, so that future doctors can benefit from his experience. Students also responded well by asking many questions and doubts.

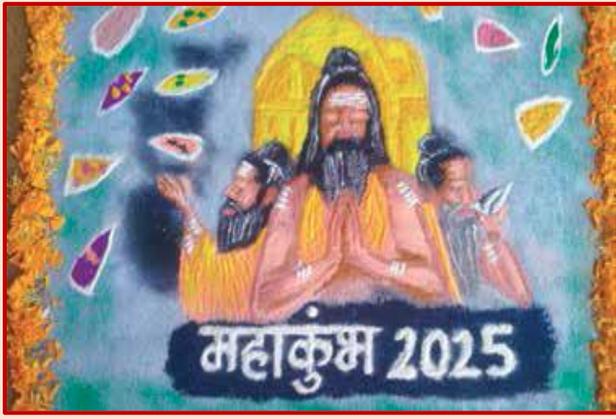
'Skill Development' Awareness through Haldikunku Program by Walawalkar Hospital



A community haldikunku gathering was organized by Shri Vitthalrao Joshi Charities Trust and Walawalkar College during the Maghi Ganapati festival at the Shri Ganesh Temple located on the hospital premises.

The Haldikunku gathering, which is held every year, is attended by women from Sawarde, Dervan, Furus, Kosambi, Dahivali, Kharvate, Nivali, Turambav, etc., as well as other surrounding villages in Panchkroshi. All the Women spontaneously participated, about 1370 women attended the Haldikunku ceremony. On the occasion of the program, the Skill Development Center organized an exhibition of various types of decorative items, decorative door hanging, purse, wallet, Khadi bags, file folders made with khan cloth, soap, perfume, Ayurvedic oil to make women self-reliant and encouraged women and young women to take up training.





Lecture by Mr. Nijanand Sarwate on the topic 'Building Energy Systems'



Mr. Nijanand Sarwate giving a lecture

On 17th February 2025, a guided lecture by Mr. Nijanand Sarwate on the topic 'Building Energy Systems' was organized for the students of English Medium School. Mr. Nijanand holds BE (Mech.), MS in Energy Systems with specialization in building energy systems from North-eastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, US and is working in the same field in the US.

He started his lecture with the concepts of Renewable and Non-Renewable Energy. Non-Renewable (coal, petroleum fuels, natural gas and nuclear power) and Renewable (solar PV, wind power, geothermal power and hydropower) Energy sources are used in building energy systems for power, temperature control and cooling. Fossil fuels and nuclear fission also provide a large amount of energy, but they pose environmental

and sustainability challenges. He further explained to the students about the 'energy systems of tomorrow' and gave information about Nuclear Fusion, a promising technology for future energy needs. To achieve energy sustainability, modern buildings focus on energy efficiency, smart control systems and carbon emission reduction strategies. In this regard, Mr. Sarwate explained the concept of 'Green Building'. Green buildings are buildings designed to enhance the health and well-being of their occupants while minimizing environmental impacts. These buildings use eco-friendly materials, efficient lighting and heat retaining windows. This reduces energy consumption. A well-planned solar schedule allows for maximum use of natural light and also maintains warmth. Indoor environmental quality is improved by ventilation, low-emitting materials and control of common building pollutants. Keeping in mind durability and ease of maintenance, low-maintenance and long-lasting buildings are designed. Emphasis is placed on waste management and recycling strategies. The combined use of all these elements helps in sustainability, occupant health and long-term cost savings for green buildings.

At the end of the lecture, the students asked many questions related to the topic and had their doubts cleared, highlighting the importance of the topic.

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