



## Government College for Women (Autonomous), Mandya, KA – 571 401.

(Affiliated to University of Mysore, Mysuru and reaccredited with B++ Grade from NAAC)

### *Institutional Best Practices (2019-20)*

#### 1. JNANASIRI - AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMME

Jnansiri is a programme which has the vision of impart and enhance knowledge of the students through various channels of the society like inviting resource persons from different disciplines, inspiring students, placement and co-curricular activities. Interdisciplinary programs draw from two or more academic disciplines that work together to create a powerful learning experience and emphasize integrative learning, critical thinking, and creative problem solving in students. Because these programs are centered on the unique ways in which these disciplines interact, students develop into broad-minded professionals ready to address some of today's most important issues, and make a valued contribution in our rapidly changing world. The faculty members formally hold the creative and innovative interdisciplinary approach to answering questions, solving problems and addressing contemporary issues from multiple perspectives.

The program prepare students for careers in the natural sciences, social sciences, communications and multi-media, education, humanities and much more. Studying topics thematically is one way to bring ideas together resulting in more meaningful learning. This type of study allows the student to learn by making connections between ideas and concepts across different disciplines. Students learning in this way are able to apply the knowledge gained in one discipline to another different discipline as a way to deepen the learning experience. Through interdisciplinary studies, students:

- ✚ Discover the value of integrating the study of various academic disciplines suited to their life-long interests.
- ✚ Learn creative solutions to some of today's most challenging problems.
- ✚ Become interdisciplinary thinkers who analytically and creatively embrace new ideas.
- ✚ Develop association skills while working with others who have different perspectives.



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- ✚ Are prepared for graduate and specialized study, and for careers in new and emerging fields.
- ✚ Students are highly motivated as they have a conferred interest in pursuing topics that are interesting to them. As a result, the content is often rooted in life experiences, giving an reliable purpose for the learning and connecting it to a real-world context. Consequently, the learning becomes meaningful, focused and deeper resulting in learning experiences that stay with the student for a lifetime.
- ✚ Critical thinking skills are used and developed as students look across disciplinary boundaries to consider other viewpoints and also begin to compare and contrast concepts across subject areas.
- ✚ Exploring topics across a range of subject boundaries motivates students to pursue new knowledge in different subject areas.
- ✚ Transferable skills of critical thinking, synthesis and research are developed and are applicable to future learning experiences.
- ✚ Interdisciplinary knowledge and application of different disciplines can lead to greater creativity.
- ✚ Worthwhile topics of research can fall in the ‘spaces’ between the traditional disciplines.
- ✚ This approach is sure to foster a love of learning, explode a spark of enthusiasm and address learning differences for students.

**Table 1: List of Special Lectures organized under Jnanasiri Programme in the Academic Year 2019 - 2020:**

Sl. No	Date	Name of the Programme	Name of the resource person	Number of students benefited
1	22/07/2019	Human values and their implementation	Suresh gowda Advocate High Court, Govt. of Karnataka Bengaluru	800



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2	10/08/2019	Job opportunities after graduation	Rajेशha K.R Trainer for competitive exams	900
3	29/08/2019	Women and Society	Stanely- Vadanadi Samsthe, Mysore	450
4	24/01/2020	Problems faced by Women on "National girls day" (bheti bachavo beti padavo)	S. Rajamurthy, Deputy Director, Dept of Women and Child Welfare "	575
5	27/02/2020	Arivina Payana Programme - Women's Rights	Sunanda Jayaram - Karnataka Women's Anti-Violence Coalition, Mandya	225
6	27/02/2020	Arivina Payana Programme - Women's Rights	Mallige - Karnataka Women's Anti-Violence Coalition, Mandya	225

### 2. JANAPADA-JATRE (Folk Fair Fest) – An interdisciplinary knowledge exchange programme

Mandya district popularly known as ‘Land of Sugar’ came in to existence on 1st of July 1939. Earlier it was part of Mysore district. It is one of the districts with fertile land in south Karnataka. Goal of Janapada Jatre: To impart interdisciplinary exposure to our students to make learning holistic in nature. It is an interdisciplinary knowledge exchange programme. As our college is surrounded by rich cultural heritage and folk patterns, our college celebrates “Janapada Jatre” in order to exhibit the overall folk culture of the sugar city - Mandya for the students and publics.

As every year, this year Janapada Jatre was celebrated on 06<sup>th</sup> of March 2020. Agriculture is the major occupation in the district. The prominent crops are Sugarcane, Paddy, Ragi, Jowar, Groundnut, Sericulture and Coconut. Worshipping Gods and Goddesses with offerings is a common ritual in Hinduism, as food is considered as Bramham, or supreme. One such inevitable part of Hindu pujas and rituals, sacred grains are worshiped by the Head of the Institution, Staffs, and the Chief Guest of the program every year on auspicious occasions of Janapada Jathre.



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The entry gate to the college gives an impressive greeting to the visitors during Janapada Jatre. Hoisting with rich "Heritage" of Mandya district . There will be a procession of "bullock cart" with the head of the institution, staffs and students and abundance of exhibits of large dolls of artists who perform the folk dances of Moodalapaya Yakshagana and also of Garudi. Garudi dolls are carried by people in ceremonial dance processions to the accompaniment of drums.

At the Janapada jathre cultural events related to folk culture are a regular feature every year. Some important festivals celebrated here, every year will be exhibited. Folk songs like Sobane, Jogula, Lavani etc and Folk dances like Nandi dhwja, Pata kunitha, Veera makkala kunitha, Onake kunitha, Garudi mela, Huli vasha, Kamsale etc. are exhibited which play a major role in the cultural history of the district.

On this occasion, the Dollu dance becomes the very center of activity around which other important things get built up. This dance demands strength, muscle power and the spirit of endurance. Dollu dance has gone on uninterruptedly generation after generation with renewed vigor and raciness of performance. Hardly any religious performance of a ritualistic ceremony or any village festival can ever take place without this dance. The performers form a semi-circle and involve in extremely swift and supple movements. The beat is controlled and directed by a leader who is positioned in the center. Slow and fast rhythms alternate and group to perform the specified dance. Along with this tala, tappadi, trumpets and flute, raised to a high-pitched tone. These instruments are used to reinforce the rich vibrations of Dollu. Huli Vesha performance often involves a group of people dressing up in tiger costume- tiger face masks or paintings, tiger stripes on the body, accompanied by yellow or orange coloured shorts. The group moves on the main streets of the college, dancing, accompanied by drums and music, entertaining the public on the way. During the dance, they make stops and perform some stunts and formations to keep the crowd more entertained.

Cultural Exhibition programme will be conducted in the janapada jathre. The household items of daily use by rural folk on display are cooking vessels, jars to store pickles, salt containers and serving utensils made of stone, wood and mud. Brass and copper vessels used for worship, tools and tackles used for harvesting and climbing trees to pluck coconuts, large sized pots made of mud used for storing grains, also exhibited here. The alumni and college students



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prepare delicious traditional food of Mandya and sell in Janapada jatre which is called as Ahara mela or Food exhibition. The different food prepared by the students includes - The staple food items of Mandya district which include rice, raagi, and jower (millet). kosambari (lentil and vegetable salad), rotti, obattu (sweet flatbread also called holige), payasa, papad, puri (rolled from wheat flour), pickles, curd and different juices.

Thus both the program indicated as best practice helps the students to gain information of this culture through interdisciplinary knowledge exchange programme leading to learning and enjoyment.