



YEARLY STATUS REPORT - 2021-2022

Part A	
Data of the Institution	
1.Name of the Institution	N . S . S COLLEGE , OTTAPALAM
• Name of the Head of the institution	Dr . SAJEEV . K
• Designation	PRINCIPAL
• Does the institution function from its own campus?	Yes
• Phone no./Alternate phone no.	04662244382
• Mobile no	9207885550
• Registered e-mail	nssotp@gmail.com
• Alternate e-mail	nsscollegeottapalam@gmail.com

• Address	PALAPPURAM P O OTTAPALAM
• City/Town	OTTAPALAM
• State/UT	KERALA
• Pin Code	679103
2. Institutional status	
• Affiliated /Constituent	AFFILIATED
• Type of Institution	Co-education
• Location	Rural
• Financial Status	UGC 2f and 12 (B)
• Name of the Affiliating University	UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT
• Name of the IQAC Coordinator	MANJU B L
• Phone No.	04992244382
• Alternate phone No.	04662244206
• Mobile	9446975944
• IQAC e-mail address	manjublphysics@gmail.com

• Alternate Email address	nssiqac@gmail.com				
3.Website address (Web link of the AQAR (Previous Academic Year))	nsscollegeottapalam.org				
4.Whether Academic Calendar prepared during the year?	Yes				
• if yes, whether it is uploaded in the Institutional website Web link:	Yes				
5.Accreditation Details					
Cycle	Grade	CGPA	Year of Accreditation	Validity from	Validity to
Cycle 1	B++	83.25	2007	10/02/2007	09/02/2012
Cycle 2	A	3.02	2017	27/11/2017	26/11/2022
6.Date of Establishment of IQAC	04/08/2008				
7.Provide the list of funds by Central / State Government UGC/CSIR/DBT/ICMR/TEQIP/World Bank/CPE of UGC etc.,					
Institutional/Department /Faculty	Scheme	Funding Agency	Year of award with duration	Amount	
Institutional	RUSA 2.0	RUSA	2019 ,	2 Crores	
8.Whether composition of IQAC as per latest NAAC guidelines	Yes				
• Upload latest notification of formation of IQAC	View File				
9.No. of IQAC meetings held during the year	5				
• Were the minutes of IQAC meeting(s) and compliance to the decisions have been uploaded on the institutional website?	Yes				
10.Whether IQAC received funding from any of the funding	No				

agency to support its activities during the year?

11. Significant contributions made by IQAC during the current year (maximum five bullets)

1. AQAR's of the institution have been submitted on a timely manner from 2011 onwards. 2. AISHE/NIRF Certifications 3. Promotion of Research and Publications 4. Faculty and Student Quality Enrichment Initiatives 5. Preparation of Academic Calendar

12. Plan of action chalked out by the IQAC in the beginning of the Academic year towards Quality Enhancement and the outcome achieved by the end of the Academic year

Plan of Action	Achievements/Outcomes
To conduct International Seminars / Webinars	International Webinar in Physics and Chemistry conducted
To conduct Online Internal Examination in Centralised manner	Conducted Online examinations in Odd and Even Semesters
To Constitute Promotion Committee PBAS/APAR	Constituted PBAS/APAR Committee for screening of 7 faculty
To conduct online Students Satisfaction Survey	Students Satisfaction Survey is effectively conducted and there port
Submission of AISHE , NIRF and AQAR	Submitted NIRF ,AISHE and AQAR
To conduct Cultural Fest	Offline Cultural Fest conducted
To conduct Add on / Certificate Course	Conducted Certificate courses by Zoology, Commerce, Physics and Malayalam
impart additional skillset and knowledge to the non-teaching faculty aimed at achieving the organization's productive	Training in KSR and SPARK was given to the non-teaching faculty
To Encourage students in Participation of sports events in University and National level	Effective participation of sportsevents in University and Nationallevel
To motivate students to participate in Off Campus /On Campus placements	Off Campus Placements of nearly 35 students

13. Whether the AQAR was placed before statutory body?	Yes																						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name of the statutory body 																							
Name	Date of meeting(s)																						
College Council	30/03/2023																						
14. Whether institutional data submitted to AISHE																							
Year	Date of Submission																						
2021-22	29/05/2023																						
15. Multidisciplinary / interdisciplinary																							
<p>As per the University of Calicut Regulations Audit Courses are introduced in the Syllabus Revision on 2019 admissions onwards, The Audit Courses introduced in the first four semesters are Environmental Studies, Disaster Management, Human Rights, Gender Studies.</p> <p>In addition papers relating to Professional Ethics, Gender, Human Values, Environment and Sustainability chosen for different Programmes are</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>BCom</td> <td>Business Management</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Economics</td> <td>Managerial Economics</td> </tr> <tr> <td>English</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Malayalam</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hindi</td> <td>Hindi Sahithya Aur Asmithamoolak Vimarsh/</td> </tr> <tr> <td>History</td> <td>Gender Studies</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General Chemistry</td> <td>Environmental Chemistry</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Industrial Chemistry</td> <td>Entrepreneurship and Environmental Science</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physics</td> <td>Non Conventional Energy Sources</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zoology</td> <td>Environmental and Conservation Biology</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Botany</td> <td>Environmental Science</td> </tr> </table>		BCom	Business Management	Economics	Managerial Economics	English		Malayalam		Hindi	Hindi Sahithya Aur Asmithamoolak Vimarsh/	History	Gender Studies	General Chemistry	Environmental Chemistry	Industrial Chemistry	Entrepreneurship and Environmental Science	Physics	Non Conventional Energy Sources	Zoology	Environmental and Conservation Biology	Botany	Environmental Science
BCom	Business Management																						
Economics	Managerial Economics																						
English																							
Malayalam																							
Hindi	Hindi Sahithya Aur Asmithamoolak Vimarsh/																						
History	Gender Studies																						
General Chemistry	Environmental Chemistry																						
Industrial Chemistry	Entrepreneurship and Environmental Science																						
Physics	Non Conventional Energy Sources																						
Zoology	Environmental and Conservation Biology																						
Botany	Environmental Science																						

16.Academic bank of credits (ABC):

As per Univeristy Syllabus , each Programme has its own Courses with specific credits. Students enrolled in each programme has choice in Elective papers and Open Courses with equal credits. Since our University already provides the Academic Bank , student benifits from thesame.

17.Skill development:

A curriculum and syllabus based on the concept of outcome-based education, which promotes skill development and learning outcomes, have been introduced recently.. The college features a special facility called the Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP) centre, which is funded by the Kerala government and provides skill training to the chosen students. Under the direction of the Placement and Career Counseling Cell and NET/SET/PSC coaching Cell the institution also offers capacity development programmes and skill inculcation training programmes to all final year undergraduate and postgraduate students. Many value-added courses based on skills are available to all first year undergraduate students to help them strengthen their talents. Communication Skills, English Languages , Bank Coaching, CMA, ACCA, Diploma in Computer Application, Accounting and Tax Practice, Graphic Designing, , Internet of Things and Robotics, App Development Course, Python and R Programming, just a few of the value-added courses. Value-added courses that focus on skills are available both online and offline. The institution's community college offers a variety of short term programmes for skill development at different levels. About 50 percent enrolled in various skill delevopment programmes are benefitted.

18.Appropriate integration of Indian Knowledge system (teaching in Indian Language, culture, using online course)

The institute honours Indian languages and cultures by celebrating National festivals and important events. Two week Hindi Celebrations are conducted every year by Hindi Depaartment. Mother Tongue Day, Kerala Piravi Celebrations by Malayalam Department , Tourism Day, by Tourism Club and Yoga Day by Yoga club. Teachers are encouraged to conduct lessons in Malayalam and English in the classroom because research shows that pupils learn more well when instructed in their mother tongue. During the first two years of the bachelor's degree, graduate students are permitted to study either Hindi, Sanskrit, or Malayalam according to their preference. The promotion of Indian arts, traditions, and languages is also facilitated through competitions organized during the annual fine arts festival. Competitions such as essay writing, poetry, speech competition, folk song, folk dance and skit encourage students to stay connected with their rich Indian culture and heritage. Ek Bharath Sreshta Bharath Club conducts Student exchange Cultural programmes.

19.Focus on Outcome based education (OBE):Focus on Outcome based education (OBE):

Continuous evaluation is followed to analyze the attainment levels of POs, PSOs and COs both for PG and UG programmes. This includes external assessments like University end semester examinations, Project, Viva Voce, Internships Trainings etc. and Internal assessments like Class tests, Assignments, Seminars, Internal viva, Classroom participation etc. The outcomes are displayed on department notice board. Discussions on outcomes are done periodically by class tutors in the tutorial hours. Result analysis is done at the end of the programme and a review meeting is convened under the chairmanship of the Head of the department and areas for rectification and improvements are identified and implemented.

20.Distance education/online education:

Students have a lot of flexibility with online education to learn and explore knowledge. During the Covid epidemic, delivery of online classes, attendance monitoring, assignment submission, International Webinars, training programmes, Cultural festivals, and even the commemoration of significant days and events. Most classes were held online throughout the epidemic, and instructors and students acquired experience using digital technologies including Moodle, OBS (Open Broadcaster Software), Google Tools, online whiteboards, and YouTube to create and distribute e-content, brief movies, interactive Power Point presentations and other online content. The teachers and students at the institute are anticipating blended learning. Online Certification Courses are done by students and faculties on Swayam Portal. Online certificate courses are done by PG Department of CS and Physics. The advantages of online learning can therefore be combined with in-person interaction with the instructor and other students to the benefit of the students. In order to broaden their knowledge base, deepen their understanding, and hone their skills, students are also urged to enrol in courses provided by online portals like Swayam, Coursera, and others.

Extended Profile

1.Programme

1.1

Number of courses offered by the institution across all programs during the year

19

File Description

Documents

Data Template

[View File](#)

2.Student	
2.1 Number of students during the year	1564
File Description	Documents
Institutional Data in Prescribed Format	View File
2.2 Number of seats earmarked for reserved category as per GOI/ State Govt. rule during the year	108
File Description	Documents
Data Template	View File
2.3 Number of outgoing/ final year students during the year	553
File Description	Documents
Data Template	View File
3.Academic	
3.1 Number of full time teachers during the year	71
File Description	Documents
Data Template	View File
3.2 Number of sanctioned posts during the year	0

File Description	Documents	
Data Template	View File	
4. Institution		
4.1 Total number of Classrooms and Seminar halls	45	
4.2 Total expenditure excluding salary during the year (INR in lakhs)	51	
4.3 Total number of computers on campus for academic purposes	100	

Part B

CURRICULAR ASPECTS

1.1 - Curricular Planning and Implementation

1.1.1 - The Institution ensures effective curriculum delivery through a well planned and documented process

NSS College, Ottapalam affiliated to University of Calicut follows the Curriculum framed by the University. The College Staff Council, IQAC chalk out an academic action plan. Outcome-based education in CBCSS pattern is implemented in all programmes. Departments prepare an action plan for each academic year. Periodic Internal assessments, seminars, assignments are conducted for each Programme. The teachers use ICT enabled teaching methods -- Inclusion of MOOC, MOODLE and Swayam courses into the Curriculum has widened scope in stimulating the research acumen of students. The Audit Courses offers an opportunity to expose to Disaster Management, Environmental Studies, Intellectual Property Rights. Paper Presentation Competitions, Students Seminars, Workshops, Exhibitions, Inter-Collegiate Competitions, and National /International Seminars organized by the various departments.. The Institution encourages its Postgraduate students to pursue research and publish Scholarly papers in Peer-reviewed, Indexed Journals, present papers in Seminars and apply for various grants and scholarships. The various Clubs and Committees in the College help the students participate in competitive examinations. The Slow Learners have State Government funded programmes like SSP and Adv...

learners have WWS, ASAP and Young Innovators Programme. Departments collect feedback on College, Department and Faculty from the outgoing students. The Institution analyzes the feedback and follow-up measures are taken.

File Description	Documents
Upload relevant supporting document	View File
Link for Additional information	Nil

1.1.2 - The institution adheres to the academic calendar including for the conduct of Continuous Internal Evaluation (CIE)

The College adheres to the Academic Calendar notified by Calicut University. The College Council and its members prepare and announce the Academic Calendar. The teachers prepare their individual Academic and Teaching plan. The periodic tutorial test are conducted in order to assess the understanding of the students. Practical, theoretical and oral examinations are conducted to judge the understanding of the students. The University pattern of examination has objective as well as subjective and this pattern is strictly followed by the college. The department calendar comprises guest lectures, workshops, industrial visits. The academic activities, all activities are conducted in adherence to the calendar of events. The academic calendars help faculty members to plan the irrespective course delivery research work academic and co-curricular activities. Internal Assessment tests (IA), assignments, quizzes, and seminars are part of the Continuous Internal Evaluation (CIE) of students. The course instructors prepare IA question papers along with the mode of evaluation, reviewed by the stream coordinator and approved by the department Head. Post IA tests, evaluation of answer scripts, and calculation of CO-PO/PSO attainment are carried out by respective Co-ordinators. Continuous evaluation and assessments are also done for laboratory course, project work, seminars, and internships.

File Description	Documents
Upload relevant supporting document	No File Uploaded
Link for Additional information	Nil

**1.1.3 - Teachers of the Institution participate in following activities related to curriculum development and assessment of the affiliating University and/are represented on the following academic bodies during the year. Academic council/BoS of Affiliating University
Setting of question papers for UG/PG programs Design and Development of Curriculum for Add on/ certificate/ Diploma Courses
Assessment /evaluation process of the affiliating University**

A. All of the above

File Description	Docur
Details of participation of teachers in various bodies/activities provided as a response to the metric	Vi
Any additional information	Vi

1.2 - Academic Flexibility

1.2.1 - Number of Programmes in which Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)/ elective course system has been implemented

1.2.1.1 - Number of Programmes in which CBCS/ Elective course system implemented

19

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	No File Uploade
Minutes of relevant Academic Council/ BOS meetings	View File
Institutional data in prescribed format (Data Template)	No File Uploade

1.2.2 - Number of Add on /Certificate programs offered during the year

1.2.2.1 - How many Add on /Certificate programs are added during the year. Data requirement for year: (As per Data Template)

5

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	View
Brochure or any other document relating to Add on /Certificate programs	View
List of Add on /Certificate programs (Data Template)	View

1.2.3 - Number of students enrolled in Certificate/ Add-on programs as against the total number of students during the year

166

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	No File Up]

Details of the students enrolled in Subjects related to certificate/Add-on programs

[View Fi](#)

1.3 - Curriculum Enrichment

1.3.1 - Institution integrates crosscutting issues relevant to Professional Ethics, Gender, Human Values, Environment and Sustainability Curriculum

As per the University of Calicut Regulations Audit Courses are introduced in the Syllabus Revision of admissions onwards.

The Audit Courses introduced in the first four semesters are Environmental Studies, Disaster Management, Rights, Gender Studies. In addition papers relating to Professional Ethics, Gender, Human Values, Environment and Sustainability chosen for different Programmes are

Botany Environmental Science

Commerce

Mcom Business Environment and Policy Corporate Governance and Business Ethics

BCom Business Management Managerial Economics

Economics Research Methodology

Hindi Hindi Sahithya Aur Asmithamoolak Vimarsh/ Hindi Literature and Identity Discourse

History Gender Studies

General Chemistry Environmental Chemistry

Industrial Chemistry Entrepreneurship and Environmental Science

Physics Non Conventional Energy Sources

Zoology Environmental and Conservation Biology

File Description

Documen

Any additional information	No File Upload
Upload the list and description of courses which address the Professional Ethics, Gender, Human Values, Environment and Sustainability into the Curriculum.	View File

1.3.2 - Number of courses that include experiential learning through project work/field work/internship during the year

14

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	No File Upload
Programme / Curriculum/ Syllabus of the courses	No File Upload
Minutes of the Boards of Studies/ Academic Council meetings with approvals for these courses	No File Upload
MoU's with relevant organizations for these courses, if any	No File Upload
Institutional Data in Prescribed Format	View File

1.3.3 - Number of students undertaking project work/field work/ internships

18

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	No File Upload
List of programmes and number of students undertaking project work/field work/ /internships (Data Template)	View File

1.4 - Feedback System

1.4.1 - Institution obtains feedback on the syllabus and its transaction at the institution from the following stakeholders Students Teachers Employers Alumni

A. All of the above

File Description	Documents
URL for stakeholder feedback report	View File

Action taken report of the Institution on feedback report as stated in the minutes of the Governing Council, Syndicate, Board of Management
Any additional information

1.4.2 - Feedback process of the Institution may be classified as follows	A. Feedback collected, analyzed and action taken on feedback available on website
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File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	View File
URL for feedback report	Nil

TEACHING-LEARNING AND EVALUATION

2.1 - Student Enrollment and Profile

2.1.1 - Enrolment Number Number of students admitted during the year

2.1.1.1 - Number of students admitted during the year

533

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	View File
Institutional data in prescribed format	View File

2.1.2 - Number of seats filled against seats reserved for various categories (SC, ST, OBC, Divyangjan, etc. as per applicable reservation policy during the year (exclusive of supernumerary seats)

2.1.2.1 - Number of actual students admitted from the reserved categories during the year

89

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	View

Number of seats filled against seats reserved (Data Template)

[View](#)

2.2 - Catering to Student Diversity

2.2.1 - The institution assesses the learning levels of the students and organizes special Programmes for advanced learners and slow le

The college is committed to maintain an academically rich and competent environment The students adm: the institution are mostly from economically backward background. An orientation programme is organi: opportunity to familiarise the college atmosphere and the activities. Department level Bridge courses conducted to bridge the gap between higher secondary level and the requirement at the college level. coaching isprovided for the slow learners. All teaching departments have question bank, simplified s: materials and effective tutorial system as support to slow learners. Peer teaching has taken up by ac: learners. College strictly follows the CBCSS system insisted by the University. Internal examinations: conducted which is monitored by the internal examination committee at the college level. Students are: to NPTEL certificate courses. Research cell organises invited lectures of eminent persons and present: faculties to inspire students and inculcate research aptitude in them. Expert lectures and interacti: sessions are organised regularly by various departments with resource persons from prestigious insti: Career guidance cell, Women's cell and Counselling cell, ED club & cultural club serve as a platform: student's extra- curricular activities and skills.

File Description

Documents

Paste link for additional information

Nil

Upload any additional information

[View File](#)

2.2.2 - Student- Full time teacher ratio (Data for the latest completed academic year)

Number of Students

Number of Teachers

1645

78

File Description

Documents

Any additional information

No File Uploaded

2.3 - Teaching- Learning Process

2.3.1 - Student centric methods, such as experiential learning, participative learning and problem solving methodologies are used for c

learning experiences

In order to make learning effective and dynamic both teacher centric and student centric methods and pedagogies are used. Project work was introduced in all programmes and this help the students to learn experiential learning. Besides that open course is introduced in all departments and students can choose course of their choice. Our college encourages student collaboration and group projects. Teachers adopt various methods to promote student centered learning environment. It will help them to become independent learners. Every year each special days like Republic day, Independence Day, poverty day etc are commended with student organized programmes. I Experiential Learning: Project work for UG & PG students Survey Peer Teaching Student organized Programmes like quizzes, debates, discussions Compulsory social service programmes Film Fest Well-equipped laboratories in science departments Computer labs Participative Learning Project work for UG & PG students ICT enabled teaching helps students in participative learning Peer Teaching Student organized Programmes like quizzes, debates, discussions Student participation in seminars Bulletin discussion Skill Based Learning: WWS ASAP Student organized programmes Student participation in curricular extra-curricular activities Problem Solving Methodologies: Project work for UG & PG students

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded
Link for additional information	http://docs.uoc.ac.in/website/syllabus/2021-12-02%2012:07:47_sy1125

2.3.2 - Teachers use ICT enabled tools for effective teaching-learning process. Write description in maximum of 200 words

The use of ICT has opened up vistas of E learning and blended learning practices.

Hardware Components and Software:

Fully furnished computer lab

Wi-Fi connected campus

N list

Networked communication platforms/Access to online resources:

Online classroom practices through Google meet, Zoom and You Tube videos Use of Google class room for examination and assignment submission Use of apps like Socrative, Kahoot etc Students are exposed to areas of Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) by SWAYAM Online magazines by various departments Online v

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	No File U
Provide link for webpage describing the ICT enabled tools for effective teaching-learning process	View I

2.3.3 - Ratio of mentor to students for academic and other related issues (Data for the latest completed academic year)

2.3.3.1 - Number of mentors

78

File Description	Documents
Upload, number of students enrolled and full time teachers on roll	View
Circulars pertaining to assigning mentors to mentees	View
Mentor/mentee ratio	View

2.4 - Teacher Profile and Quality

2.4.1 - Number of full time teachers against sanctioned posts during the year

78

File Description	Documents
Full time teachers and sanctioned posts for year (Data Template)	View File
Any additional information	No File Uploa
List of the faculty members authenticated by the Head of HEI	View File

2.4.2 - Number of full time teachers with Ph. D. / D.M. / M.Ch. /D.N.B Superspeciality / D.Sc. / D.Litt. during the year (consider degree for count)

2.4.2.1 - Number of full time teachers with Ph. D. / D.M. / M.Ch. /D.N.C Superspeciality / D.Sc. / D.Litt. during the year

20

File Description

Any additional information
List of number of full time teachers with Ph. D. / D.M. / M.Ch./ D.N.B Super specialty / D.Sc. / D.Litt. and number of full time teachers for year (Data Template)

2.4.3 - Number of years of teaching experience of full time teachers in the same institution (Data for the latest completed acade

2.4.3.1 - Total experience of full-time teachers

File Description	Docum
Any additional information	Vi
List of Teachers including their PAN, designation, dept. and experience details(Data Template)	Vi

2.5 - Evaluation Process and Reforms

2.5.1 - Mechanism of internal assessment is transparent and robust in terms of frequency and mode. Write description within 200 worc

As an affiliated College, NSS College Ottapalam has to adhere strictly to the continuous internal Ev system of the Calicut University. Student's attendance is recorded and monitored daily. By the end o semester, Department would publish an Attendance progress certificate. As per the university guidelin internal exams for each course are conducted and best onewould be taken. One of the internal exams is in the college level by internal examination committee and the other one is conducted in the departm Each department maintains the records of the internal exams and publishes the score of internal exam Assignment on varied topics from each course is given to students to enhance their subject knowledge university norms, assignments are evaluated and is returned to students. Seminar presentation, an inte of continuous internal evaluation is aimed at to boost student's critical thinking and assessment sk: evaluated in terms of content knowledge, clarity in presentation and use of creative ideas. As Part o: evaluation, Students, either individually or in Group, have to undertake a Project Work. Project eval and viva voce is conducted, internally and externally, at the endof the programme.

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	View File
Link for additional information	Nil

2.5.2 - Mechanism to deal with internal examination related grievances is transparent, time- bound and efficient

The Grievance Redressal Committee of the college is structured so as to comply with the university rules. All students of the institution have a five-level system to get their internal / external examination grievances redressed. Grievance Redressal Levels:

1. Teacher Level: The students can approach the concerned course teachers to get their grievances redressed relating to the valuation of answer script.

2. Tutor Level: The students can raise the grievances related to internal assessment with their tutors in person or during the conduct of tutorial meeting.

3. Department Level: The institution has constituted department level Grievance Redressal Mechanism consisting of the subject teacher, one senior teacher, one elected representative from the students as members and Head of the Department as Chairman.

4. College Level: The college level grievance redressal committee comprises of student adviser, two teachers, two staff council members and elected representative of the students as members and Principal as Chairman.

5. University Level: Student grievances relating to external examination such as issue of hall tickets, withheld results, request for scribe in the case of differently abled students etc are brought to the University level Grievance Redressal Committee through proper channel.

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	View File
Link for additional information	Nil

2.6 - Student Performance and Learning Outcomes

2.6.1 - Programme and course outcomes for all Programmes offered by the institution are stated and displayed on website and communicated to teachers and students.

Outcome based teaching learning is designed for maximizing the knowledge and skills of students. The programme and course outcomes are framed by the University of Calicut for majority of courses and the rest is framed at the department level under the monitoring and guidance of IQAC. The college has a proper mechanism of communication of the learning outcomes of the programs and courses which includes the following. Har...

syllabi and programme / course outcomes are available in the respective departments for ready reference to teachers and students. POs, PSOs and COs are displayed in the college website. These details are accessible to the students, faculty members and the public. Induction programmes are conducted by the institution at the beginning of UG and PG courses as a whole and individually by each department in each academic year. The syllabus, POS, PSOs, COs, and scope of the programme/course is communicated to the students during the induction programme. The outcomes are displayed on department notice board. Discussions on outcomes are held periodically by class tutors in the tutorial hours.

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded
Paste link for Additional information	http://nsscollegeottapalam.org/?page_id=6
Upload COs for all Programmes (exemplars from Glossary)	View File

2.6.2 - Attainment of Programme outcomes and course outcomes are evaluated by the institution.

Continuous evaluation is followed to analyze the attainment levels of POs, PSOs and COs both for PG and UG programmes. This includes external assessments like University end semester examinations, project viva, internships etc. and internal assessments like class tests, assignments, seminars, internal viva, class participation etc. Also result analysis is done at the end of the programme and a review meeting is held under the chairmanship of the Head of the department and areas for rectification and improvements are identified and implemented.

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	View File
Paste link for Additional information	Nil

2.6.3 - Pass percentage of Students during the year

2.6.3.1 - Total number of final year students who passed the university examination during the year

475

File Description	Documents
Upload list of Programmes and number of students passed and appeared in the final year examination (Data Template)	View File

Upload any additional information	View File
Paste link for the annual report	http://nsscollegeottapalam.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Annual-Report-2021-22

2.7 - Student Satisfaction Survey

2.7.1 - Student Satisfaction Survey (SSS) on overall institutional performance (Institution may design its own questionnaire) (results details need to be provided as a weblink)

<http://nsscollegeottapalam.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Institution-feedback-2021-22.pdf>

RESEARCH, INNOVATIONS AND EXTENSION

3.1 - Resource Mobilization for Research

3.1.1 - Grants received from Government and non-governmental agencies for research projects / endowments in the institution (year (INR in Lakhs)

3.1.1.1 - Total Grants from Government and non-governmental agencies for research projects / endowments in the institution during year (INR in Lakhs)

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	No File Uploaded
e-copies of the grant award letters for sponsored research projects /endowments	No File Uploaded
List of endowments / projects with details of grants(Data Template)	No File Uploaded

3.1.2 - Number of teachers recognized as research guides (latest completed academic year)

3.1.2.1 - Number of teachers recognized as research guides

4

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	No File Uploaded
Institutional data in prescribed format	View File

3.1.3 - Number of departments having Research projects funded by government and non government agencies during the year

3.1.3.1 - Number of departments having Research projects funded by government and non-government agencies during the year

File Description	Documents
List of research projects and funding details (Data Template)	No File Upload
Any additional information	No File Upload
Supporting document from Funding Agency	No File Upload
Paste link to funding agency website	Nil

3.2 - Innovation Ecosystem

3.2.1 - Institution has created an ecosystem for innovations and has initiatives for creation and transfer of knowledge

[Young Innovators Programme \(YIP\) 2021-22](#)

[A virtual road show campaign is conducted by considering the Covid-19 pandemic situation, on 27th Jan at 4 pm on Zoom platform. A total of 55 students participated. Dr. Nayana K, Assistant professor, Dept. of Physics was also added as co-facilitator.](#)

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded
Paste link for additional information	Nil

3.2.2 - Number of workshops/seminars conducted on Research Methodology, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and entrepreneurs the year

3.2.2.1 - Total number of workshops/seminars conducted on Research Methodology, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and entrepreneurship year wise during the year

38

File Description	Documents
Report of the event	View File

Any additional information	No File Upload
List of workshops/seminars during last 5 years (Data Template)	View File

3.3 - Research Publications and Awards

3.3.1 - Number of Ph.Ds registered per eligible teacher during the year

3.3.1.1 - How many Ph.Ds registered per eligible teacher within the year

0

File Description	Doc
URL to the research page on HEI website	
List of PhD scholars and their details like name of the guide , title of thesis, year of award etc (Data Template)	V
Any additional information	V

3.3.2 - Number of research papers per teachers in the Journals notified on UGC website during the year

3.3.2.1 - Number of research papers in the Journals notified on UGC website during the year

20

File Description	Docur
Any additional information	Vi
List of research papers by title, author, department, name and year of publication (Data Template)	Vi

3.3.3 - Number of books and chapters in edited volumes/books published and papers published in national/ international conference proceedings per teacher during the year

3.3.3.1 - Total number of books and chapters in edited volumes/books published and papers in national/ international conference proceedings year wise during year

5

File Description	Documents
------------------	-----------

Any additional information	View
List books and chapters edited volumes/ books published (Data Template)	View

3.4 - Extension Activities

3.4.1 - Extension activities are carried out in the neighborhood community, sensitizing students to social issues, for their holistic development thereof during the year

1.
 N S S DAY CELEBRATION 24/09/2021
 Activity :1 Disribution of Meals packets to Ottapalam Thaluk Hospital

During this pandemic time offline activities have certain limitations. Still with all due proper precautions the NSS Volunteers of NSS college, Ottapalam celebrated National Service Day day by Distributing 130 packets to the needy patients in ottapalam taluk hospital . The programme was conducted under the strict supervision of NSS PO Dr Hima K and Mr Anand.andInaugurated by the principal Dr R. Rajesh by handing food packet to the NSSvolunteers.The volunteers interacted with the patients and was deeply moved by their stories and difficulties. It was an inspiring experience to the NSS Volunteers.

ACTIVITY : INTRODUCTION TO WASTE DUMPING AND CLEANING MACHINERIES ON 1/10/2021

Under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Programme, promotion and follow-up of achievements in the field of sanitation under the auspices of the central and state governments at Panamanna trenching ground the NSS Volunteers and NCC Cadets got an opportunity to get familiar with the waste dumping and Cleaning machinery. A clean environment is essential for healthy living. The more we don't care about our environment, the more it will become polluted with contaminants and toxins that have a harmful impact on our health. Through this programme the NSS Volunteers got inspired and understand the importance of cleanliness especially during this pandemic time. We also plan to give importance and promote care for the environment.

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	Nil
Upload any additional information	View File

3.4.2 - Number of awards and recognitions received for extension activities from government / government recognized bodies during the year

3.4.2.1 - Total number of awards and recognition received for extension activities from Government/ Government recognized bodies wise during the year

5

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	No File Uploaded
Number of awards for extension activities in last 5 year (Data Template)	View File
e-copy of the award letters	View File

3.4.3 - Number of extension and outreach programs conducted by the institution through NSS/NCC/Red cross/YRC etc., (including programmes such as Swachh Bharat, AIDS awareness, Gender issues etc. and/or those organized in collaboration with industry, community and NGOs) during the year

3.4.3.1 - Number of extension and outreach Programs conducted in collaboration with industry, community and Non- Government Organizations through NSS/ NCC/ Red Cross/ YRC etc., during the year

9

File Description	Documents
Reports of the event organized	View File
Any additional information	No File Uploaded
Number of extension and outreach Programmes conducted with industry, community etc for the during the year (Data Template)	View File

3.4.4 - Number of students participating in extension activities at 3.4.3. above during year

3.4.4.1 - Total number of Students participating in extension activities conducted in collaboration with industry, community and Government Organizations such as Swachh Bharat, AIDs awareness, Gender issue etc. year wise during year

File Description	Documents
Report of the event	View File

Any additional information	No File Up
Number of students participating in extension activities with Govt. or NGO etc (Data Template)	View F

3.5 - Collaboration

3.5.1 - Number of Collaborative activities for research, Faculty exchange, Student exchange/ internship during the year

3.5.1.1 - Number of Collaborative activities for research, Faculty exchange, Student exchange/ internship year wise during the y

60

File Description	Documents
e-copies of related Document	View Fi
Any additional information	No File Up
Details of Collaborative activities with institutions/industries for research, Faculty	View Fi

3.5.2 - Number of functional MoUs with institutions, other universities, industries, corporate houses etc. during the year

3.5.2.1 - Number of functional MoUs with Institutions of national, international importance, other universities, industries, corpora etc. year wise during the year

0

File Description	Documents
e-Copies of the MoUs with institution./ industry/corporate houses	No File
Any additional information	No File
Details of functional MoUs with institutions of national, international importance, other universities etc during the year	No File

INFRASTRUCTURE AND LEARNING RESOURCES

4.1 - Physical Facilities

4.1.1 - The Institution has adequate infrastructure and physical facilities for teaching- learning. viz., classrooms, laboratories, computer equipment etc.

The institution has adequate facilities for teaching- learning viz. ICT enabled classrooms, laboratories, seminar halls, faculty rooms, playground, parking area, open air auditorium and hostel to support the activities in campus.

The college, surrounded by the green mango trees provides a bucolic academic ambience. It offers undergraduate and post graduate programs for which state of the art infrastructural facilities are provided across campus. The college has 43 classrooms out of which 15 are ICT enabled classrooms. The 5 Science departments have 14 well equipped laboratories. All the classrooms in the college have either green boards or whiteboards. Besides the Computer Lab meant for Computer Science students, the institution has a common computer lab with internet to cater to the needs of other students. The seminar hall with uninterrupted WIFI facilitates curricular, co-curricular activities and events. A new academic block is under construction in the college with the financial aid of RUSA. The existing History block is under renovation with the aid from RUSA.

College women's hostel situated adjacent to the campus with 29 rooms accommodate 73 students at present.

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	View File
Paste link for additional information	Nil

4.1.2 - The Institution has adequate facilities for cultural activities, sports, games (indoor, outdoor), gymnasium, yoga centre etc.

NSS College Ottapalam conducts inter departmental cultural competitions every year. College has an art gallery (KELI) to discover and support the artistic talents in students. The college has adequate infrastructure for conducting the cocurricular and extra curricular activities of students and teachers. College has an auditorium, stage, Amrakunjam, surrounded by lush green mango trees where the cultural events are organized.

The institution offers adequate facilities that cater to the physical development of students. Physical Education Department of the college mentors and promotes students in indoor and outdoor games. The college gymnasium serves as an integral part of student life in the campus. The college has well maintained sports facilities for Shuttle Badminton, Volleyball, and Ball Badminton. The college has a tie up with the CSN indoor stadium for the shuttle badminton team practices. The Yoga Centre offers holistic development of students and teachers.

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded
Paste link for additional information	Nil

4.1.3 - Number of classrooms and seminar halls with ICT- enabled facilities such as smart class, LMS, etc.

16

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View
Paste link for additional information	
Upload Number of classrooms and seminar halls with ICT enabled facilities (Data Template)	View

4.1.4 - Expenditure, excluding salary for infrastructure augmentation during the year (INR in Lakhs)

4.1.4.1 - Expenditure for infrastructure augmentation, excluding salary during the year (INR in lakhs)

67.75086

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	View
Upload audited utilization statements	View
Upload Details of budget allocation, excluding salary during the year (Data Template)	View

4.2 - Library as a Learning Resource

4.2.1 - Library is automated using Integrated Library Management System (ILMS)

The college library situated adjacent to the academic block offers a peaceful reading experience to all. The library uses Integrated Library Management System (ILMS) for its effective functioning. The computerized automated library uses KOHA, the world's best open source library automation software is used for managing the library. It offers a user friendly interface for searching resources in the library along with its availability status. Library offers access to INFLIBNET-NLIST to the users. It has a well-organized and wide collection of books along with general reference section, periodical section and a reading room. Circuit Cameras are installed in the library for the safety and security of the assets.

Library Services

- Computerized issue/ renewal and return.
- New arrival display

- Subscription of journals- online and print.
- Reprographic facility- photocopy, print and scan

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded
Paste link for Additional Information	Nil

4.2.2 - The institution has subscription for the following e-resources e-journals e-ShodhSindhu Shodhganga Membership e-books Databases Remote access toe-resources

D. Any 1 of the above

File Description	Docur
Upload any additional information	Vi
Details of subscriptions like e-journals,e-ShodhSindhu, Shodhganga Membership etc (Data Template)	Vi

4.2.3 - Expenditure for purchase of books/e-books and subscription to journals/e- journals during the year (INR in Lakhs)

4.2.3.1 - Annual expenditure of purchase of books/e-books and subscription to journals/e- journals during the year (INR in Lakhs)

0.5851

File Description	Documents
Any additional information	View
Audited statements of accounts	No File
Details of annual expenditure for purchase of books/e-books and journals/e- journals during the year (Data Template)	View

4.2.4 - Number per day usage of library by teachers and students (foot falls and login data for online access) (Data for the latest academic year)

4.2.4.1 - Number of teachers and students using library per day over last one year

75

File Description	Documents
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Any additional information	No File Uploaded
Details of library usage by teachers and students	View File

4.3 - IT Infrastructure

4.3.1 - Institution frequently updates its IT facilities including Wi-Fi

The college has integrated IT and ICT enabled facilities for the academic and administrative process and administrative process became easy, efficient and transparent with the updating of IT enabled services across the campus. IT infrastructure of the college comprises –computers connected with LAN/WAN. In addition to free Kerala WiFi provided by BSNL and Kerala Govt, the college has 5 fiber optic connections and one connection. Kerala WIFI, an open wifi is available to the faculty and students for free. Fiber Net, up to 100Mbps is available in all departments including the computer lab. BSc and MSc computer labs are equipped with uninterrupted wifi. The college library has subscription of E-Journals and E Books via INFLIBNET. College library is automated with KOHA software with cloud server facility. To minimize E-electronic gadgets are repaired and reused. The college website is updated and maintained properly in collaboration with Aprameya Soft Tech.

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	View File
Paste link for additional information	Nil

4.3.2 - Number of Computers

78

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	View File
List of Computers	View File

4.3.3 - Bandwidth of internet connection in the Institution

A. \geq 50MBPS

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional Information	No File Uplo

Details of available bandwidth of internet connection in the Institution

[View File](#)

4.4 - Maintenance of Campus Infrastructure

4.4.1 - Expenditure incurred on maintenance of infrastructure (physical and academic support facilities) excluding salary component during the year (INR in Lakhs)

4.4.1.1 - Expenditure incurred on maintenance of infrastructure (physical facilities and academic support facilities) excluding salary component during the year (INR in lakhs)

57.24923

File Description	Do
Upload any additional information	Y
Audited statements of accounts	Y
Details about assigned budget and expenditure on physical facilities and academic support facilities (Data Templates)	Y

4.4.2 - There are established systems and procedures for maintaining and utilizing physical, academic and support facilities - laboratories, sports complex, computers, classrooms etc.

The college ensures proper functioning of the infrastructure facilities systematically through the coordination of committees like Building Committee, Purchase Committee, Library Committee, Hostel Committee etc.

The maintenance and cleaning of classrooms, laboratories and administrative block is monitored every day. Support staff is in charge of cleaning the campus. The heads of the department report to the administrator periodically for all maintenance works. The college has carpenter, plumber and electrician on call for maintenance of physical assets of the campus. Proper and optimal use of electronic and electrical equipment is ensured.

Routine activities of the library is managed by librarian with the help of library attendant. Library Committee evaluates the functioning of the library.

There are security personnel on duty round the clock in the campus. CCTV cameras are installed in the areas of the college to ensure the safety and security of students. The college has a playground utilized by the staff and students. The playground, gymnasium and sports equipment are monitored and maintained by the Faculty of the Department of Physical Education.

Department of Computer Science monitor and maintain the IT infrastructure of the college. Repair/ up gradation/ purchase of software and hardware are done with proper guidance from the Computer Science Department.

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded
Paste link for additional information	Nil

STUDENT SUPPORT AND PROGRESSION

5.1 - Student Support

5.1.1 - Number of students benefited by scholarships and free ships provided by the Government during the year

5.1.1.1 - Number of students benefited by scholarships and free ships provided by the Government during the year

1088

File Description	Documents
Upload self attested letter with the list of students sanctioned scholarship	No File
Upload any additional information	View
Number of students benefited by scholarships and free ships provided by the Government during the year (Data Template)	View

5.1.2 - Number of students benefitted by scholarships, free ships etc. provided by the institution / non- government agencies du year

5.1.2.1 - Total number of students benefited by scholarships, free ships, etc provided by the institution / non- government agenc the year

File Description	Document
Upload any additional information	No Up1

Number of students benefited by scholarships and free ships institution / non- government agencies in last 5 years (Date Template)	No Upl
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5.1.3 - Capacity building and skills enhancement initiatives taken by the institution include the following: Soft skills Language and communication skills Life skills (Yoga, physical fitness, health and hygiene) ICT/computing skills	A. All of the above
--	---------------------

File Description	Document
Link to Institutional website	
Any additional information	Vie
Details of capability building and skills enhancement initiatives (Data Template)	Vie

5.1.4 - Number of students benefitted by guidance for competitive examinations and career counseling offered by the institution year

62

5.1.4.1 - Number of students benefitted by guidance for competitive examinations and career counseling offered by the institution the year

62

File Description	D
Any additional information	:
Number of students benefited by guidance for competitive examinations and career counseling during the year (Data Template)	:

5.1.5 - The Institution has a transparent mechanism for timely redressal of student grievances including sexual harassment and ragging cases Implementation of guidelines of statutory/regulatory bodies Organization wide awareness and undertakings on policies with zero tolerance Mechanisms for submission of online/offline students' grievances Timely redressal of the grievances through appropriate committees	
--	--

File Description	Document
Minutes of the meetings of student redressal committee, prevention of sexual harassment committee and Anti Ragging committee	No Up1
Upload any additional information	No Up1
Details of student grievances including sexual harassment and ragging cases	No Up1

5.2 - Student Progression

5.2.1 - Number of placement of outgoing students during the year

5.2.1.1 - Number of outgoing students placed during the year

62

File Description	Documents
Self-attested list of students placed	No File Uploac
Upload any additional information	View File
Details of student placement during the year (Data Template)	View File

5.2.2 - Number of students progressing to higher education during the year

5.2.2.1 - Number of outgoing student progression to higher education

238

File Description	Documents
Upload supporting data for student/alumni	View File
Any additional information	No File Uploaded
Details of student progression to higher education	View File

5.2.3 - Number of students qualifying in state/national/ international level examinations during the year (eg: JAM/CLAT/GATE/ GMAT/CAT/GRE/ TOEFL/ Civil Services/State government examinations)

5.2.3.1 - Number of students qualifying in state/ national/ international level examinations (eg: JAM/CLAT/NET/ SLET/ GATE/ GMAT/ TOEFL/ Civil Services/ State government examinations) during the year

29

File Description	Documents
Upload supporting data for the same	View
Any additional information	No File
Number of students qualifying in state/ national/ international level examinations during the year (Data Template)	View

5.3 - Student Participation and Activities

5.3.1 - Number of awards/medals for outstanding performance in sports/cultural activities at university/state/national / international level (award for a team event should be counted as one) during the year

5.3.1.1 - Number of awards/medals for outstanding performance in sports/cultural activities at university/state/ national / international level (award for a team event should be counted as one) during the year.

13

File Description	Documents
e-copies of award letters and certificates	View
Any additional information	No File Upload
Number of awards/medals for outstanding performance in sports/cultural activities at university/state/national/international level (During the year) (Data Template)	View

5.3.2 - Institution facilitates students' representation and engagement in various administrative, co-curricular and extracurricular activities (student council/ students representation on various bodies as per established processes and norms)

The institution corroborates significant student participation in the functioning and management of various academic and non-academic ventures. Through the decentralisation process, the institution ensures democratic

participation of students and faculty on academic, administrative and management plans. The following cells and clubs assure the utmost participation of students.

College Union

College Union serves as a body that functions solely with student involvement. The election of the College Union is conducted on the Parliamentary model by the Lyngdoh Commission Report and order passed by the Supreme Court of India. The College Union consists of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, General Secretary, Joint Secretary, Club Secretary, Magazine Editor, UUC 1 and UUC 2

IQAC

Internal Quality Assurance Cell endorses qualitative and quantitative functions inside the campus. It plans, monitors and evaluates all academic and administrative affairs. It serves as a link between external academic, administrative structures and institutional structures. IQAC navigates the academic voyage of the institution towards excellence. The Chairperson is the student representative to IQAC.

RUSA

Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme which provides funding to eligible higher educational institutions. College has been selected to enjoy the benefits of this scheme. As a representative the Chairperson is included.

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	Nil
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded

5.3.3 - Number of sports and cultural events/competitions in which students of the Institution participated during the year (organised by institution/other institutions)

5.3.3.1 - Number of sports and cultural events/competitions in which students of the Institution participated during the year

15

File Description
Report of the event

Upload any additional information

Number of sports and cultural events/competitions in which students of the Institution participated during the year (organized by the institution/other institutions (Data Template)

5.4 - Alumni Engagement

5.4.1 - There is a registered Alumni Association that contributes significantly to the development of the institution through financial and support services

The institution is excited to cherish the memories shared and services rendered by various alumni across different academic disciplines. The alumni associations conduct meetings occasionally and cooperate in organising multiple developmental activities that enhance the holistic development of the institution. The annual executive committee meeting selects office bearers of the organisation and makes the action plan for the respective year. Notifications and news regarding the meetings are published in the newspapers and on social media to reach out to all alumni members, nationally and internationally. A faculty member coordinates the associations' activities and bridges the administrative activities between the institution and the Alumni Association. The Alumni association organises lectures, workshops, symposiums, etc., and provides project guidance to the students. They also assist in developing the infrastructural facilities of the institution by offering furniture and fans for classrooms. They meet on the college campus or conduct meetings via online platforms in this new normal pandemic situation. The departments keep a register to record the details of alumni members and meeting decisions. The Alumni of the college play an inevitable role in the overall development of the institution.

File Description

Documents

Paste link for additional information

Nil

Upload any additional information

[View File](#)

5.4.2 - Alumni contribution during the year (INR in Lakhs)

E. <1Lakhs

File Description

Documents

Upload any additional information

No File Uploaded

GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

6.1 - Institutional Vision and Leadership

6.1.1 - The governance of the institution is reflective of and in tune with the vision and mission of the institution

Institutional Vision and Leadership

NSS College Ottapalam envisages the idea propounded in the Pavamana Mantra of Brihadaranyaka Upanishad: "Thamasoma Jyothir Gamaya", - 'Lead me from darkness to light'. True to its vision, the college aspires to remove the darkness of ignorance from the community through students who are provided with light of knowledge. The holistic knowledge that they gain from experiences their classrooms remind the students that they should be beacons of light to the society. They are motivated to rise above narrow mindedness to reach out higher goals of life. Corollary to this larger vision is the mission of the college: Social Emancipation. It is the vision of Bharatha Kesari Shri Mannath Padmanabhan and Nair Service Society got manifested when the college started functioning in rural neighbourhood of Palakkad. Students hail from a community diverse in economic, gender, religious, racial backgrounds. Social emancipation and empowerment achieved by providing education indiscriminately to all of them. The college aims at the betterment of the society. They are trained to emancipate themselves and society from the darkness of selfishness, hatred, discrimination. Instead the light of knowledge instils in them broader perspectives, tolerance, mutual respect, sympathy and understanding

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	http://nsscollegeottapalam.org/?page_id=2114
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded

6.1.2 - The effective leadership is visible in various institutional practices such as decentralization and participative management.

The smooth functioning of the college is assured through participatory management and decentralisation with a clear focus on excellence. The NSS management periodically visits and monitors the progress of the institution. The Principal, the College council and IQAC coordinate all the academic and administrative activities. The departments plan the curricular and co-curricular activities and these decisions are channelled to the students through class tutors. Both faculty members and students are part of various clubs and committees like PTA, Discipline committee, Anti ragging cell and Grievance redressal cell. The excellence in academic administration hails from an environment of participative working where students, teachers and administrative staff often join hands. 1. All the teaching and non-teaching faculty assure their wholehearted participation during the admission of students every year. 2. Harmonious co-operation prevails between faculty and administrative staff in the smooth conduct of examinations as well. 3. Both the administrative and faculty members

college work in unison for the transparent and effective utilisation of funds received from government government aids like RUSA, PD and PTA. File Description

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	Nil
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded

6.2 - Strategy Development and Deployment

6.2.1 - The institutional Strategic/ perspective plan is effectively deployed

Perspective Plan

The institution is successfully deploying its perspective plan since its inception. A continuous quality improvement drive on enhancing the academic excellence and physical infrastructure is the highlight of the perspective plan. Empowering the underprivileged classes of society through education. Knowledge dissemination with special emphasis on syllabi. Formulating outcome-based education system. Extension activities to instill social responsibility, civic sense, environment awareness among students. Strategic Plan The college undertakes a strategic initiative to bring students from ST communities to the forefront of higher education in Attappady Taluk of Palakkad District in Kerala. When the State's literacy rate is 93.4%, the literacy rate in Attappady is only 62%. It is found that most students drop their studies in Secondary Higher Secondary School. Our institution conducted counselling and motivation classes to school students in Attappady, For conducting sessions, institution contact various Adivasi promoters and Asha workers. In the year 13 ST students took admission in our college for UG and 1 for PG. This shows a positive impact of the strategic plan. Teachers pay keen attention to their studies and personal issues. During Online classes teachers of Chemistry Department provide their ST student Mobile phone.

File Description	Documents
Strategic Plan and deployment documents on the website	No File Uploaded
Paste link for additional information	Nil
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded

6.2.2 - The functioning of the institutional bodies is effective and efficient as visible from policies, administrative setup, appointment rules, procedures, etc.

The Educational Central Committee of our Management looks after the functioning of the college. The set followed by the college is as per Kerala Service Rule. All the appointment of permanent as well as part-time teachers are according to the UGC and State Government norms. The decisions of the management are for the Principal for implementation. Director of Collegiate Education monitors the overall development. A Council is constituted as per the University Statute to formulate strategies for executing the decisions by the management and convey the instructions and information from the principal to the teachers. The Principal plays a very important role in coordinating the different activities of the college and monitoring the functions of departments. The academic calendar lists the activities and fixes the time schedule for the college. The Planning and Purchase committee identifies the requirements of resources and their allocation. IQAC of the college chaired by the Principal enjoys considerable autonomy to ensure academic and non-academic excellence. The College Union, Non-teaching staff also form an integral part of the organization. They act as the back bone of the college with the Principal as its President, supports and assists all the activities.

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	Nil
Link to Organogram of the institution webpage	Nil
Upload any additional information	View File

6.2.3 - Implementation of e-governance in areas of operation Administration Finance and Accounts Student Admission and Support Examination

B. Any 3 of the above

File Description	Documents
ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) Document	No File Upload
Screen shots of user interfaces	No File Upload
Any additional information	No File Upload
Details of implementation of e-governance in areas of operation, Administration etc (Data Template)	View File

6.3 - Faculty Empowerment Strategies

6.3.1 - The institution has effective welfare measures for teaching and non-teaching staff

Welfare measures

Yoga and fitness centre

Our institute is also providing facilities for fitness training including exercise equipment and Yoga training. A fitness centre with modern equipment is functioning in the college which is having free access for staff and students.

Cafeteria

College provides canteen facility including breakfast, lunch, snacks and cool drinks for staff and students at an affordable cost. Staff club A Staff club is functioning in the institute which holds meeting in frequent intervals. On behalf of staff club, farewell functions, staff tour, employee appreciation meetings, etc. are conducted. Provident fund. Group insurance scheme, SLI etc. for teaching and non-teaching staff. Internal complaint committee An internal complaint committee is functioning in the college for resolving the grievances or complaints of staffs, if any.

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	Nil
Upload any additional information	View File

6.3.2 - Number of teachers provided with financial support to attend conferences/ workshops and towards membership fee of professional bodies during the year

6.3.2.1 - Number of teachers provided with financial support to attend conferences/workshops and towards membership fee of professional bodies during the year

nil

File Description	Documents
Upload any additional information	No File
Details of teachers provided with financial support to attend conference, workshops etc during the year (Data Template)	No File

6.3.3 - Number of professional development /administrative training programs organized by the institution for teaching and non-teaching staff during the year

6.3.3.1 - Total number of professional development /administrative training Programmes organized by the institution for teaching and non-teaching staff during the year

1

File Description	Documents
Reports of the Human Resource Development Centres (UGCASC or other relevant centres).	No File Upload
Reports of Academic Staff College or similar centers	No File Upload
Upload any additional information	View
Details of professional development / administrative training Programmes organized by the University for teaching and non teaching staff (Data Template)	View

6.3.4 - Number of teachers undergoing online/face-to-face Faculty development Programmes (FDP) during the year (Professional Development Programmes, Orientation / Induction Programmes, Refresher Course, Short Term Course etc.)

6.3.4.1 - Total number of teachers attending professional development Programmes viz., Orientation / Induction Programme, Refresher Course, Short Term Course during the year

12

File Description	Documents
IQAC report summary	No File Upload
Reports of the Human Resource Development Centres (UGCASC or other relevant centers)	No File Upload
Upload any additional information	View
Details of teachers attending professional development programmes during the year (Data Template)	View

6.3.5 - Institutions Performance Appraisal System for teaching and non- teaching staff

Student satisfaction Survey is taken at the end of every academic year. In the survey, the students evaluate the Faculty, Department and College based on a common format provided by the IQAC and the Evaluation Report is submitted before the Staff Council for analysis. Regarding the accuracy in internal assessment and method accuracy of test papers conducted, 40% of the feedback was excellent. Accessibility of teachers and student relationship were also provided with a feedback of 47% excellent, 27% very good and remain good. About teacher guidance in academic activities, 42% of Students participated in the survey gave the

back as excellent and 37 % as very good and remaining 16 % gave good. Regarding the support of administrative staff, 30% students commented excellent and 37% as very good and remaining 22% as good.

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	te link for additional information http://nsscollegeottapalam.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/report_on_student_satisfaction_s
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded

6.4 - Financial Management and Resource Mobilization

6.4.1 - Institution conducts internal and external financial audits regularly Enumerate the various internal and external financial audit during the year with the mechanism for settling audit objections within a maximum of 200 words

The main external source of fund for the college is the state Government's fund. Fund received in Pe Deposit (PD) Account, National Service Scheme, Walk with a Scholar, Students Support Program etc. are subjected to external auditing by the account section of deputy directorate of collegiate education.

PTA of college acts as the internal source of fund. It is mainly used for the welfare of students and PTA transactions are internally audited by the Head of the department of Commerce of the college in year.

For all financial transactions, transparency has been ensured. External auditing is completed up to Internal auditing is completed up to 2022.

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	Nil
Upload any additional information	View File

6.4.2 - Funds / Grants received from non-government bodies, individuals, philanthropers during the year (not covered in Criterion

6.4.2.1 - Total Grants received from non-government bodies, individuals, Philanthropers during the year (INR in Lakhs)

.38 lakh

File Description	Document
Annual statements of accounts	No Upd
Any additional information	View
Details of Funds / Grants received from of the non-government bodies, individuals, Philanthropers during the year (Data Template)	View

6.4.3 - Institutional strategies for mobilization of funds and the optimal utilization of resources

The main sources of fund for the college are the fund received from the state Government and PTA. During financial year 2021-22, the funds in Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) and Personal Deposit (PD) are received from the Government and utilised with maximum transparency on timely basis.

PD account received an amount of 13,32,618/- in various heads during the year and utilised an amount of 10,35,970/-. RUSA account received an amount of 1 crore during 2018-22 and utilised an amount of 980400/-.

PTA receives fund from the students. It is mainly used for the welfare of college. During 2021-22, PTA received 29,91,631.52/- and utilised the amount for various purposes like advance refundable salary : Guest Lecturers, electricity bill, water authority bill, maintenance etc. Monthly returns are filed and annual internal audit is conducted by the head of the department of Commerce in every year.

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	Nil
Upload any additional information	View File

6.5 - Internal Quality Assurance System

6.5.1 - Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) has contributed significantly for institutionalizing the quality assurance strategies and procedures.

Functions

- To institutionalize best efforts for a ragging-free campus and develop discipline in students.
- Establishment and analysis of the feedback from various stakeholders and inform the concerned about the outcome for correction.

- Documentation of the various programs /activities in a methodical manner.
- Preparation of the AQAR.

Best practices :

The IQAC conducts periodical meetings with the Principal , departments and the College Council to review academic activities and inform the concerned regarding the changes in the curriculum for continuous development of teaching-learning process.

IQAC devices ways and means to include the use and enrichment of ICT infrastructure . The IQAC has trained teaching and non- teaching staff to use ICT by arranging different workshops.

IQAC has developed an online pro format to gather information from the students about the courses of study, their objectives, relevance, availability of learning resources, teaching methodology and so on. Departments of the College has implemented the online feedback system to assess and improve the current quality of teaching and learning in the College. The students' feedback is provided to all the teachers of courses that they teach, for further reflection and improvement.

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	Nil
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded

6.5.2 - The institution reviews its teaching learning process, structures & methodologies of operations and learning outcomes at periodic intervals through IQAC set up as per norms and recorded the incremental improvement in various activities

IQAC reviews the teaching-learning process, structures, methodologies of operations & learning outcomes

Academic Calendar: Based on the University Academic Calendar the Institute schedules the academic calendar at the start of the year with ample time frame for regular teaching-learning process and for organising seminars/workshops.

Evaluation of teachers by students: Regular evaluation of the teachers by the students, feedback on their teaching methodologies, course delivery, strengths and weaknesses in the subject gives a clear idea about the problems faced by the students.

Student learning outcomes: The institute monitors the performance of the students regularly. The following points are adopted by the institute in this context:

- Semester system of examination .
- Providing Question banks and Lecture notes through an online portal
- Timely Redressal of students' grievances
- Regular class tests and internal examination and evaluation systems.
- Provision of reteststo students' who residein far-off areas .
- Extra classes for weak students to solve their problems.

Students' result analysis:Our Institute analysis students' performance after the announcement of sem results. If the result of the students, in a subject, is not found up to the mark, necessary steps a: to find out the reasons and the concerned faculty members work towards improvement.

File Description	Documents
Paste link for additional information	Nil
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded

6.5.3 - Quality assurance initiatives of the institution include: Regular meeting of Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC); Feedback collected, analyzed and used for improvements Collaborative quality initiatives with other institution(s) Participation in NIRF any other quality audit recognized by state, national or international agencies (ISO Certification, NBA)

B. Any 3 of the above

File Description	Documents
Paste web link of Annual reports of Institution	http://nsscollegeottapalam.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Annual-Report-2021-22.pdf
Upload e-copies of the accreditations and certifications	View File
Upload any additional information	No File Uploaded
Upload details of Quality assurance initiatives of the institution (Data Template)	View File

INSTITUTIONAL VALUES AND BEST PRACTICES

7.1 - Institutional Values and Social Responsibilities

7.1.1 - Measures initiated by the Institution for the promotion of gender equity during the year

The institution is located in a socio-economic backward area like Ottapalam, and thus it allows education for all sections of the society. Students from marginal areas like Attapadi and Agali come to this college to pursue higher education. Majority of students belong to poor background and more than 70 per cent of students of this college are girls. Therefore the institution has a well-running hostel facility that offers accommodation to girls, and priority is given to students from tribal areas. The institution offers a recreational centre to girl students and provides an incinerator in the Ladies Room. More than 80 per cent of the faculty are also women. This helps the institution make it a gender-friendly campus so that the girls find it easy to access the teachers.

According to govt norms and the University, there is a vibrant Women's Cell functioning in the College which conducts numerous programmes to transform the girl students into capable, efficient and empowered individuals. Women Cell is active in the college, and it performs seminars, invited lectures, counselling sessions. Gender studies is taught as a paper by all departments. Awareness programmes like flash mobs, seminars, lectures, counselling sessions are conducted by Women's cell, NSS and counselling Cell to create awareness about equal opportunity rights.

File Description	Documents
Annual gender sensitization action plan	Counselling for Students by Counselling Cell, Add on Course on Gender Studies by the Department of Malayalam, Celebration of International Women's Day by Women's Cell, National service Scheme and Department of English, Flash mobs on equal opportunity and equal rights by NSS
Specific facilities provided for women in terms of: a. Safety and security b. Counseling c. Common Rooms d. Day care center for young children e. Any other relevant information	Counselling for the needy students, Ladies room facility, Health and hygiene awareness class

7.1.2 - The Institution has facilities for alternate sources of energy and energy conservation measures Solar energy Biogas plant Wheeling to the Grid Sensor-based energy conservation Use of LED bulbs/ power efficient equipment

C. Any 2 of the above

File Description	Documents
Geo tagged Photographs	View File

Any other relevant information	No File Uploaded
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7.1.3 - Describe the facilities in the Institution for the management of the following types of degradable and non-degradable waste (w words) Solid waste management Liquid waste management Biomedical waste management E-waste management Waste recycling system Hazardous chemicals and radioactive waste management

As a socially responsible educational institution, NSS College Ottapalam ensures that it strictly follows an efficient method to manage the waste within the campus. For the solid waste management, the degradable wastes including food waste from college canteen, hostel mess and lunch box of the students are collected through a common bin and later converted into manure. There are two types of composting techniques generally used on campus, namely, pipe compost and pot compost. This manure is usually used for gardening. The campus strictly maintains a code of conduct for plastic free campus. Non-recyclable plastics are not allowed to be brought into the campus. Other plastic wastes, which cannot be avoided on the campus, are collected by the NSS Volunteers and handed over to Harithakarma Sena of the Ottapalam municipality. E- waste is the campus waste collected and handed over to Haritha Karma Sena of Ottapalam municipality. The biodegradable wastes like leaves, twigs, waste papers etc., are collected regularly, and it undergoes the process of Mulching.

File Description	Documents
Relevant documents like agreements / MoUs with Government and other approved agencies	View File
Geo tagged photographs of the facilities	View File

7.1.4 - Water conservation facilities available in the Institution: Rain water harvesting Bore well /Open well recharge Construction of tanks and bunds Waste water recycling Maintenance of water bodies and distribution system in the campus

B. Any 3 of the above

File Description	Documents
Geo tagged photographs / videos of the facilities	View File
Any other relevant information	No File Uploaded

7.1.5 - Green campus initiatives include

7.1.5.1 - The institutional initiatives for greening the campus are as follows:

A. Any 4 or All of the above

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Restricted entry of automobiles 2. Use of bicycles/ Battery-powered vehicles 3. Pedestrian-friendly pathways 4. Ban on use of plastic 5. Landscaping 	
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File Description	Documents
Geo tagged photos / videos of the facilities	View File
Various policy documents / decisions circulated for implementation	No File Upload
Any other relevant documents	No File Upload

7.1.6 - Quality audits on environment and energy are regularly undertaken by the institution

<p>7.1.6.1 - The institutional environment and energy initiatives are confirmed through the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Green audit 2. Energy audit 3.Environment audit 4.Clean and green campus recognitions/awards 5. Beyond the campus environmental promotional activities 	A. Any 4 or all of the above
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File Description	Documents
Reports on environment and energy audits submitted by the auditing agency	No File Upload
Certification by the auditing agency	No File Upload
Certificates of the awards received	No File Upload
Any other relevant information	View File

<p>7.1.7 - The Institution has disabled-friendly, barrier free environment</p> <p>Built environment with ramps/lifts for easy access to classrooms. Disabled-friendly washrooms Signage including tactile path, lights, display boards and signposts Assistive technology and facilities for persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) accessible website, screen-reading software, mechanized equipment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Provision for enquiry and information : Human assistance, reader, scribe, soft copies of reading material, screen reading 	B. Any 3 of the above
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File Description	Documents
Geo tagged photographs / videos of the facilities	View File
Policy documents and information brochures on the support to be provided	No File Upload
Details of the Software procured for providing the assistance	No File Upload
Any other relevant information	No File Upload

7.1.8 - Describe the Institutional efforts/initiatives in providing an inclusive environment i.e., tolerance and harmony towards cultural, linguistic, communal socioeconomic and other diversities (within 200 words).

Education is not only a process of creation and transmission of knowledge but a process of continuing and maintaining cultural harmony. Unity in Diversity cannot be protected and promoted by law, it should be inculcated in the minds of students. Our College takes efforts and initiatives to provide tolerance and harmony among students. The EBSB club functions very well and train the students to be tolerant towards and be harmonious with other diversities. The Cultural club, Keli coordinates various cultural activities. Students have an opportunity to learn all cultural programmes in a professional manner. Campus ensures religious harmony and celebrates festivals like Onam and Christmas. The students of this institution have an opportunity to study other languages like English, Malayalam, Hindi and Sanskrit. Many students of the college come from tribal rural areas like Attapadi and Agali with low financial background. The needy students of the institution are supported by various scholarships like Jeevakarunya Scholarship, K R Rammohan Endowment, PTA Scholarship. Differently-abled students also enrich the social inclusiveness of the campus. The institution continuously monitors the social inclusiveness and harmony in the campus and no social discrimination cases have been reported on campus..

File Description	Documents
Supporting documents on the information provided (as reflected in the administrative and academic activities of the Institution)	View File
Any other relevant information	No File Upload

7.1.9 - Sensitization of students and employees of the Institution to the constitutional obligations: values, rights, duties and responsibilities of citizens

The institution celebrates every day of National importance, such as Independence Day, Republic Day, Voters Day, Constitution Day etc. The Electoral Literacy Club of NSS College Ottapalam functions very effectively and efficiently. It organises many competitive programmes among students like Quiz, Poster competitions and to create awareness about the Constitution, elections and Democracy. As the students

institution are new to voting, the Electoral Literacy Club organised campaigns to make the voters aware of the importance of casting votes and ensuring ethical voting. The institution hosted as a venue for applying linking Voters id with Adhar card.

File Description	Documents
Details of activities that inculcate values; necessary to render students in to responsible citizens	Letter of Appreciation from centre of Electoral Studies Thiruvananthapuram, Campaign by Electoral Literacy Club
Any other relevant information	Nil

7.1.10 - The Institution has a prescribed code of conduct for students, teachers, administrators and other staff and conducts periodic programmes in this regard. The Code of Conduct is displayed on the website There is a committee to monitor adherence to the Code of Conduct Institution organizes professional ethics programmes for students, teachers, administrators and other staff
4. Annual awareness programmes on Code of Conduct are organized

A. All of the above

File Description	Documents
Code of ethics policy document	NU Ug
Details of the monitoring committee composition and minutes of the committee meeting, number of programmes organized, reports on the various programs etc., in support of the claims	NU Ug
Any other relevant information	NU Ug

7.1.11 - Institution celebrates / organizes national and international commemorative days, events and festivals

National and International Commemorative Days celebrated in the Institution National and International Commemorative Days

Sl No. Programme Department/Club Date

1 Environment Day Dept of Botany and Zoology NSS June 5,2021

2 Reading Day Library Committee, dept of Malayalam June 19, 2021

- 3 Basheer- DevCommemoration Department of Malayalam June 19, 2021
- 4 MSME Day Dept of Commerce June 27, 2021
- 5 Yoga Day Dept of Physical Education June 21, 2021
6. World Population Day Dept of Economics July 11, 2021
7. ONV Navathi Celebration Dept of Malayalam July 28, 2021
8. Premchand Jayanthi Dept of Hindi July 31, 2021
- 8 Independence Day Institution August 15, 2021
9. Hindi FortnightCelebration Dept of Hindi September 14, 2020
10. Ozone Day Dept of Chemistry September 23, 2021
11. World Tourism Day Tourism Cub and Dept of Commerce September 27, 2021
12. International Day of Older Persons Dept of Economics October 1, 2021
13. National Wildlife Week Dept of Zoology October 2, 2021 - October 8, 2021
14. World Poverty Eradication Day Dept of Economics October 17, 2021
15. Kerala Piravi Department of Malayalam November 1, 2021
16. Constitution Day Institution November 26, 2021
- 17 Human Rights Day Dept of Political Science December 10, 2021
18. ONV Commemoration Dept of English December 10, 2021
19. Intellectual Property Rights Dept of Zoology December 10, 2021
20. Founder's Day- Mannam Jayanthi Institution January 2, 2022
21. Rajalakshmi Anusmaranam Dept of Malayalam January 18, 2022

21. Republic Day Institution January 26, 2022
22. National Voters Day January 25, 2022
23. World Wetlands Day Dept of Botany and Bhoomithrasena February 2, 2022
24. International Mother Tongue Day EBSB Club and Dept of Malayalam February 20, 2022
25. National Science Day celebrations dept of Physics March 1-4, 2022
26. National Science Day Dept of Chemistry March 5, 2022
27. International Women's Day Women's Cell, NSS March 8, 2022
28. World Forestry Day Dept of Botany March 30, 2022

File Description	Documents
Annual report of the celebrations and commemorative events for the last (During the year)	No File Upload
Geo tagged photographs of some of the events	View File
Any other relevant information	No File Upload

7.2 - Best Practices

7.2.1 - Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per NAAC format provided in the Manual.

1. Title: Disaster Management

Vision: To create awareness among students about the havoc caused by calamities.

Mission: To reduce potential loss from hazards and assuring victims' assistance through systematic crisis management.

Goal: The institution combines traditional and innovative ideas to train the students to face disaster: formulating strategies to prepare the campus community to face any emergency.

Context:

Continuous disasters faced by Kerala indicate the need to prepare students to face future catastrophes.

Practice:

Arranged various programmes to make students deal any disaster.

2. Title : Women Empowerment

Vision: To Develop a Gender Neutral Society

Mission: To eliminate gender disparity by developing a gender free consciousness among students.

Goals

1. To identify the mental pressure of students in a gender biased society.
2. To challenge and explore the gender issues by enhancing students to apply their theoretical knowledge.
3. To uplift girls and to ensure their participation in different bodies, committees, union within the institution.

Structure: The institution practices this through various clubs and committees of students and faculty.

Practices:

Arranged Counseling for girl students to identify their problems and other programmes focussing their health and mind.

Evidence of success: Girl dropouts due to marriage, and pregnancy reduced considerably.

File Description	Documents
Best practices in the Institutional website	Nil
Any other relevant information	Nil

7.3 - Institutional Distinctiveness

7.3.1 - Portray the performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust within 200 words

Title : Women Empowerment

Vision: To Develop a Gender Neutral Society

Mission: To eliminate gender disparity in society by developing a gender free consciousness.

Goal: The institution has a multi level approach to transform to a gender neutral society.

- To identify, challenge and explore the problems of female students while living in a gender biased society and communicate the same through proper channels.
- To enhance the students to apply their theoretical knowledge and practical abilities to create gender equality.
- To uplift girls and to ensure their participation in different bodies, committees, union etc with in campus.

Structure: The institution practices this through various clubs and committees of students and faculty.

Context: More than eighty percent of the students are girls and they come from rural areas. Many of them are first generation higher education aspirants from their family through whom gender disparities can be eliminated from society.

Practices:

Arranged Counseling sessions for girl students to identify their problems.

Women's Cell arranges programmes focussing their health and mind. Various departments conduct programmes like Open forum, seminars, symposia etc. to create consciousness among students to challenge and explore social evils.

Evidence of success: Girl dropouts due to marriage, and pregnancy reduced considerably.

File Description	Documents
Appropriate web in the Institutional website	View File
Any other relevant information	No File Uploaded

7.3.2 - Plan of action for the next academic year

ACTION PLAN 2022-2023

1. To visit the tribal areas of Attapadi and Agali, to find out the reasons behind the dropout of ST students.
2. To conduct an interface with the family members of dropout ST students , to understand their social and economic background.
3. To improve the facilities of differently abled students in the campus, by providing adequate aids and facilities for their assistance.
4. To create an awareness among the college community to use electric vehicles and non conventional energy sources.
5. To conduct various programmes and demonstrations related with disaster management to enable the students to face the challenges of the 21st century.