

TITLE: Satej Math's Scholar - Empowering Rural Students through Mathematics Examinations for HSC Students.

OBJECTIVES:

- To inculcate interest about Mathematics among HSC students.
- To promote engineering courses and its career opportunities to rural students.
- To help 12th Science students of rural areas, prepare for the CET/JEE and related entrance exams.

CONTEXT:

The institute inculcates interest about Mathematics as a subject among HSC students. These students have least access to high quality technical education and preparations for entrance exams like CET/JEE. Such students miss on better prospectives even though they are deserving. Identifying this plight of deserving students, we as an engineering college, understanding the responsibility of promoting education, initiated a Mathematics MOCK examination. Hence, "Satej Math's Scholar" practice examination was specifically designed and implemented by the institute to address the educational disparities and empower rural students through awareness creation of technical education. This initiative would help bring these students into mainstream technical education field.

THE PRACTICE:

The "Satej Math's Scholar" practice comprises of vital steps:

Identification and Outreach: College reaches out to the student fraternity, offering personalized mentorship to potential students, bridging the urban-rural gap, and identifying those with higher education aspirations.

Coaching and Study Materials: The College collaborated with an IIT coaching academy, to provide CET/JEE exam preparations through online and offline methods. Study materials are also provided to students.

Mock Examinations: Mock CET exams are designed to simulate actual entrance examinations which familiarizes students with the exam pattern and optimize time management. Students approach from adjoining 4 to 5 districts attending in large numbers, hence meals are provided for over 2000 students turnout.

Result Declaration and Appreciation: After the mock examinations assessments are done and the results are declared, the toppers are recognized and appreciated for their achievements with cash prizes.

Familiarization with technical education: Institute takes students on visits to prominent technical institutions in Kolhapur, thereby helping students to gain insights into the facilities and overall learning environment in these institutions.

EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS:

The initiative's success is evident in rising registrations for MOCK CET exams - from 991 in 2021 to 2,002 in 2023, a noteworthy aspect is the high percentage of registered students. Approximately 90% of the registered students come from rural backgrounds. This statistics highlights the success of the institute's efforts in reaching out to and engaging rural students, ensuring that they have equal access to opportunities for technical education.

Sr No	Year	Students Registered -SATEJ MATHS SCHOLAR
1	2021	991
2	2022	1413
3	2023	2002

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED:

The implementation of the "Satej Math's Scholar" practice faced challenges related to Basic science faculty, study materials logistics and hospitality being a huge response. To successfully implement the practice, the institute required experienced faculty members, adequate study materials- practice tests, previous years' question papers, and instructional videos. Examination department conducting paper setting, exam conduction and assessment of papers is a task being handled efficiently. Addressing these challenges involves careful planning and coordination. Overcoming these challenges demonstrated the institute's commitment to empowering ruralstudents and bridging the educational gap.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

- Experienced faculty for quality coaching and mentoring.
- Comprehensive study materials.
- Logistics and Hospitality.

