



THE NEW COLLEGE (Autonomous)

Sponsored by the Muslim Educational Association of southern India (MEASI)

Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade (3rd cycle)

Affiliated to the University of Madras

CHENNAI - 600 014, TAMIL NADU, INDIA

7.3.1 Portray the performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust within 1000 words

Institutional Distinctiveness

Empowering the Disempowered: Equity Initiatives of The New College

Introduction

The New College has been nurturing a sustained commitment to uplift the socially and economically disadvantaged students right from the time of its inception. The vision and mission of the college stands in testimony to this commitment. Being a minority institution, the college is permitted to offer 50% of its seats to students belonging to minority communities, particularly, Muslims, and reservation rules are followed for the remaining seats. During the past seven decades, the college has empowered thousands of students from the disadvantaged sections, a large number of whom were first generation graduates. These efforts to empower the socially weaker sections is evident in the lives of the passed out students and their families. The steps taken by the institution to carry out its mission of empowering the weaker sections include priority in Admission to the first generation learners among the backward classes, free education scheme for select programmes, Scholarship by the parent body and Alumni association of the college, placement opportunities and Mid-Day Meals scheme.

Admission

The admission policy of the college clearly defines the thrust of the college on empowering the students from the minority community for whom the college was established. As per the provisions allowed for the colleges, being a minority institution, 50% of the total seats in each programme are reserved for the members of the Muslim community. The college follows the regulations of the Government of Tamil Nadu in admitting students for the remaining 50% seats. As the reservations rules of the government necessitates 69% of the seats available under general reservation to be offered to different disadvantaged groups, in effect, the majority of the students



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who get admitted to the college belong to the socially disadvantaged sections. The seats left vacant in general turn are also allocated later to students from disadvantaged sections. Out of the 2084 students admitted in the 2020-21 academic year, 2059 belonged to different reserved categories.

The college has also been giving priority to first generation learners in admission. Despite the urban location of the college, a lot of first generation learners from within and outside the state, including students from rural areas, seek admission in the college owing mainly to the friendliness of the college for first generation learners.

Free Education Schemes

The college provides free education under three different categories. Firstly the college does not collect tuition fee and special fee for the programmes offered by three departments - Arabic, Tamil and Urdu. This scheme is mainly aimed at promoting the languages taught by these departments. Secondly, the college sets aside a few seats in each programme for the meritorious students from the financially weaker sections without collecting tuition fees and special fees. The fees for the students under this category are sponsored by the New College Alumni Association (NCAA). Thirdly, the University of Madras recommends a few students for free education every year. It is mandatory for the college to offer free education to students recommended by the University of Madras. Beyond these schemes, the management bears the entire educational expenses of exceptionally brilliant students who have a proven record of merit. For instance, the entire education expenses of a student who excelled in space science was borne by the management. Further, children of the non-teaching staff working in the college are eligible for free education.

MEASI Scholarships

As part of its vision to contribute towards educational and economic equity, the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India (MEASI), the parent body of The New College, sets aside about one and half crores every year from its revenue and donations received from alumni and philanthropists to provide scholarships to the socially backward students of the college and



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its allied institutions. The management of the college disbursed a sum of Rs. 1,27,90,020.00 (Rupees one crore, twenty seven lakhs, ninety thousand and twenty only) towards scholarships to financially deprived students in the academic year 2020-21. The New College Alumni Association (NCAA) also provides scholarships to meritorious students from backward sections every year.

Mid-Day Meals Schemes

In the academic year 2019-20, the management of the college introduced a Mid-Day meals scheme for poor students, particularly those coming to the college from far away places. The scheme has been a phenomenal success as over 150 students regularly depend on this scheme. Besides, under their social responsibility initiative, the Corporate Secretaryship department of the college has been providing free breakfast to the poor students who come to the college without taking their breakfast.

Placement Assistance

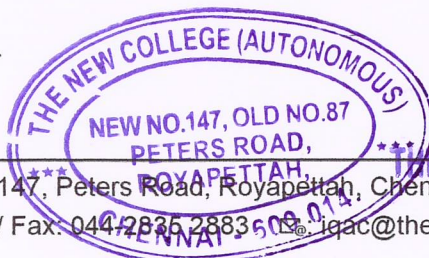
The career guidance and placement cell of the college organises a series of career guidance programmes and placement drives for the benefit of the outgoing students of every batch. These drives are also aimed at providing job opportunities for the socially disadvantaged students. On an average 300 to 500 students are benefited by the activities of the cell every year.

Other Schemes

Departments of Mathematics and Corporate Secretaryship introduced a One-Rupee Scheme to college funds for helping financially backward students to pay their examination fees. "Chemistry Students' Scholarship Fund" established by the faculty members of the Department of Chemistry offers financial assistance to students from backward sections.

Assistance for Divyangjan Students (the Visually Challenged)

All the visually challenged students of the college are exempted from paying their examination fees. Besides, the college bears the fees for the services of Scribes offered to the visually challenged students during examinations. In addition, the New College Hostel offers free lodging to visually challenged students.




PRINCIPAL

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