

### 7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness of Carmel College for Women

Founded and managed as a college for women, the management is committed to the education of women with commitment to diversity and inclusion. A majority of the college students are first generation learners from remote, rural areas of south Goa. There are some from orthodox and conservative backgrounds who, but for a girls' college like ours would not have been allowed by their patriarchal families to pursue higher education. The fact that they can do so at Carmel College is a sense of pride for us for it meets the National Development Goals of delaying the age of marriage by 3-5 years and ensures that the mothers of the coming generation are all graduates. Students from the neighbourhood are given admission regardless of their performance at the class 12 examination. In the humanities stream, even students with percentages in the 30's and 40's are welcomed, mentored, tutored and given equal, free and fair opportunities to participate in all activities on campus. Needless to say they are our proudest successes when the lessons learnt at college in class and outside it teaches them to stand on their own feet financially, emotionally and spiritually.

Management and Faculty provide tremendous emotional support to students. Woman centered mentoring is in place for all students. At times of personal and family bereavement faculty and management visit homes and provide unstinted support. Faculty interacts with parents whenever required. Timely intervention is carried out when faculty feels students may be in danger or unstable in any way. The management sponsors a midday snack for students from very poor homes. Needy students, or those with unstable homes are provided hostel facility at reduced rates or even free. Sometimes teachers follow bilingual mode of instruction for the benefit of students. Student grievances regarding evaluation and results are addressed promptly. The college conducts various activities to ensure student centric learning environment. Curriculum enrichment is ensured through outreach and extension programmes in which faculty and students participate. Field trips, inter-departmental activities and programs organised with collaborative support from the many organizations of national repute provides invaluable national and even international exposure to our rural students. At seminars, workshops and conferences, students are given key leadership roles. Students are encouraged to participate across departments in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities on and off campus. A recent trend has been the presentation of student papers at seminars and conferences. Sensitivity to the environment and eco consciousness is fostered on our campus in every activity that is pursued.

The college is delighted to report that the learning outcome of students is portrayed by many of our students qualifying/securing high ranks at the Goa University Admission Ranking Test conducted by Goa University for Masters and BEd admission. (GUART)

All of the above is followed and pursued by all stakeholders with faith, hope and trust in God and in keeping with the principles of Truth, service and integrity. Faculty and Management at Carmel College believe that their true role is the transformation of raw human resource into educated, professionally skilled and socially responsible citizens who are the true wealth of the nation.

