

Vidya Prasarak Mandal, Thane

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> About Vidya Prasarak Mandal, Thane:

Vidya Prasarak Mandal, Thane (VPM Thane) is an educational Trust catering to the needs of over 15000 students through its Marathi and English Medium Schools, Arts, Commerce, Science and Law Colleges, Polytechnic, Institute of Management Studies and Advanced Study Centre at Thane.

> Selection of site for the educational project in Konkan – an overview:

The western coastal area of the State of Maharashtra is known as "Konkan". The sandwiched hilly region between Sahyadri in the East and Arabian sea in the West and its people have been striving their best to exist and to be "themselves" since the last 400 years. Tourist industry is giving some helping hand to this region. But that is not sufficient to this region to be on par with other regions of Maharashtra.

The Population of two districts, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg, is nearly 30 lakhs. As against 65.40% average literacy ratio of India, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg has 75% & 80% literacy ratio respectively. Though literacy in primary and secondary education is impressive, the enrolment for tertiary education is very low. University Grants Commission has set up a Committee to study and to prepare a Detailed Project Report in 2007 for setting up Model Colleges in Low Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) district. It was found that in a developing country there is low enrolment rate and high drop out rate at the higher education level. Educationally Backward District has been identified as those with GER below national average of 12.4. Based on the year 2001 census the committee found that out of 593 districts, 374 districts in India are Low GER. Average GER of Maharashtra is 17.33 and out of 5 EBD's in Maharashtra, Ratnagiri district has lowest 8.0 GER which is even lower than Sindhudurga (10.2) Gadchiroli (10.8) and Hingoli (11.7) districts.

One of the real causes of concern for obvious reasons is that - at least 70% of higher educational institutions are established either in cities or urban areas. This is mainly due to the easy availability of infrastructure facilities and students who could afford the expensive education and due to availability of staff etc. As such, the rural children have to go to cities where they get higher education. The only way to minimize this is to develop such world-class institutions in *Konkan*. To develop infrastructure to accommodate students, faculty etc. in rural sector huge project amount is required

> About the new Project of VPM Thane:

VPM Thane has ambitious plan to start engineering college in deeply rural area with state of art infrastructure, sprawling over 65 acres of land. It will be one of the best colleges in India, which can be compared with any Indian Institute of Technologies. VPM, Thane has identified a rural location for new Educational Project at Velneshwar in Guhagar Taluka in the Konkan region. More than 65 acres of land has been acquired in the village and also propose to acquire more land to construct a spacious 'Educational Township' as per requirements of AICTE, New Delhi, Village Velneshwar with a population of about 3500 is an ancient village well known for its beach. The village is located on the shores of Arabian Sea and is a quiet village, 50 km away from Chiplun city on Mumbai Goa Highway. The Village is also on the Coastal Highway which is going to be completed within short time.

The educational campus will have around 6 education faculty buildings, twin bungalows for Principals & Head of the Departments, residential houses for other teaching and administrative staff and hostels for students, spacious playground, canteen, auditoriums, gym club, shop centre, health centre having around 10,00,000 sq, ft constructed area. Entire Project cost will be around Rs.150 Crores based on

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840-intake capacity. It will house approximately 3000 students of different faculties. It will create jobs for at least 1000 persons. It will also help this rural area to create indirect job employment, self employment opportunities such as - providing hostel facility / hotel industry, small scale industries, labour employment for various construction work, etc. All this activity will also support to the Tourism Development of Maharashtra State Government. The Master Plan is ready and sanctioned by the Town Planning and Asst. Collector, Chiplun. Initially from 2012-13, it is going to start 240 intakes capacity Engineering 4-year Degree course and subsequently it will start another new Engineering, Management, Architecture and Hotel Management courses in the campus. The educational project is a non-pollution activity, which will not affect in any way to the tourists in a region like Konkan, which is going to be heaven for them. In fact it will help the tourism and other ancillary industry in the area.

An Appeal for Donations:

VPM has no other major source of income other than donations from generous people, philanthropists, and the fees from students, which are fixed conservatively, and inadequate to make any development(s). We hereby appeal you to donate sumptuously towards our educational cause. *Donations to Vidya Prasarak Mandal, Thane, are entitled to the benefit of deduction U/s 80G of the Income Tax Act 1961, subject to the limits and conditions prescribed therein.*

> An Appeal for Personal Deposits:

We also have been permitted by the Charity Commissioner to accept public deposits with the condition of interest to be paid annually @ 5% p.a. We can accept the **deposits from public** on the **following terms & conditions**.

- Minimum deposit amount will be Rs. 5000/-
- > Tenure for the deposit will be 5/7/10 years and pre withdrawal will not be allowed before 3 years.
- > Nomination is compulsory for all deposits.
- In case of death of depositor, deposit amount will be returned to the nominee within 15 days from the date of application for withdrawal.
- In unavoidable circumstances, depositor can withdraw his deposit amount before Maturity Period by giving 3 months prior notice to VPM, Thane. However, if the deposit is withdrawn before 6 months from the date of deposit, no interest will be payable to the depositor.
- Interest rate will be simple @ 5 % per annum, and will be paid to the depositors at the end of March, every year.

We also hereby appeal to you to deposit sumptuously towards our educational cause. For this timely help, needless to say, the Mandal will ever remain grateful to you.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Vijay Vasudeo Bedekar Chairman Vidya Prasarak Mandal, Thane

Cheque Should be drawn in favour of 'Vidya Prasarak Mandal, Thane'

Visit us at www.vpmthane.org