

VES College of Pharmacy, the only emerging Pharmacy Institution in Maharashtra to bag Platinum ranking in CII-AICTE industry linked institution Survey

Vivekanand Education Society's College of Pharmacy (VESCOP), Mumbai is the 24th jewel in the crown of the Vivekanand Education Society. VESCOP was founded in 2007 with a goal to impart quality education in Pharmacy. The institute is currently mentoring its eighth batch of B. Pharm. It has also successfully tapped into higher educational avenues of Masters of Pharmacy (Quality Assurance, Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry) and, that of the Ph. D. in the branch of Pharmaceutics.

In line its vision to create competent pharmacy professional that will positively impact healthcare of the society, VESCOP has been striving hard in all spheres of education so as to give maximum exposure to the students. Over a short span of 9 years, the institute has actively participated in the research and received grants from AICTE, BIRAC and some multinational pharmaceutical industries for the research and development activities.

As part of regular quality check, VESCOP had participated in prestigious AICTE (All India Council of Technical Education) –CII (Confederation of Indian Industries) best Industry-linked pharmacy institute (Degree) survey which was recently conducted at UK-India Tech Summit held at New Delhi. This summit was jointly inaugurated by Hon. Prime Minister *Shri. Narendra Modi* and UK' PM Theresa May on 7th November 2016.

AICTE–CII, with the aim of fostering industry academia linkages, as well as promoting innovation and entrepreneurship among students, has since 2012 introduced the AICTE-CII annual awards. High levels of parameters are set for judging technical institutes. The yardstick comprised certain critical areas like faculty, placement, Curriculum, Research/ Consultation, Infrastructure and Governance. Based on the objective scores achieved by each institute, they were shortlisted for second stage of assessment and scrutiny by the Jury members from CII & AICTE.

Out of total 890 participating institutes in the category of Architecture, Pharmacy, Management and Engineering, 48 institutions were shortlisted for the second level of evaluation. Amongst them, in the category of Emerging Pharmacy degree institutions, there were 26 participating institutions and 5 of them were shortlisted for second level of evaluation, VESCOP being one of the five institutes. On scrutiny, the institute was placed in the platinum category. VESCOP was the only institution to receive platinum ranking in emerging pharmacy institutes category in the entire western zone (Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa & Rajasthan). At national level, only 18% of the total participating technical institutions qualified to the platinum category. The national average score for all disciplines was 19.24, the average score of pharmacy discipline was 24.57 whereas VESCOP scored an impressive 51.57. The efforts made by VESCOP in establishing industry-connect was appreciated. This prestigious certificate was handed over by the Chairman of AICTE *Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe* to the Principal of the college during UK-India Tech Summit.

Shri. B.L. Boolani, who is the trustee-in-charge of the institution, has been the driving force for motivating to establish the industry linkages and promoting research. His guidance and proactive support by the VES Management has created very conducive environment in the institution leading to establishing high goals.

The college is headed by Principal *Dr. Supriya Shidhaye*, who is an eminent academician and a competent administrator having more than 2 decades of experience in Pharmacy academics. She has been very proactive in increasing industrial collaborative Research and increasing industrial exposure of the students. This ranking has been the fruit of her leadership and efforts.



(AICTE -CII Platinum ranking certificate being received by the Principal *Dr. Supriya Shidhaye* at the hands of Prof Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, AICTE.)