# M.S.R.S COLLEGE, SHIRVA

## Institutional Distinctiveness 2023- 24

Free Mid-Day Meal Scheme Mulki Sunder Ram Shetty College was founded in 1980 with the vision of making higher education affordable to aspiring students from rural areas. The institution is located in a Grama Panchayat area, a rural setting where 60% of our students are first generation learners and 40% belong to working-class families who cannot afford a modest breakfast every morning. The institution strongly believes that the Mid-Day Meal scheme, which is rare in higher education institutions, is truly a distinctive feature of the college. The institution has initiated the 'Mid-Day Meal Scheme' for deserving students with the help of the M.S.R.S. College Alumni Association, Mumbai. The impact of this initiative is clearly visible. Not only has there been a significant increase in student admissions in subsequent years, but students have also started attending classes regularly, and dropouts have re-joined their courses. 40-50% of admissions in 2016-17 were attributed to this scheme. Thus, the institution realized the importance of meeting students' distinctive needs. The alumni of the institution have been very vibrant and responsible towards their alma mater. The total annual expenditure on the scheme exceeds 5 lakh rupees. A separate bank account is maintained at the Bank of Baroda (formerly Vijaya Bank, whose founder is also the founder of the institution) for the purpose of the Mid-Day Meal. A copy of the policy is available on the college website.

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