



Accredited 'A' Grade by NAAC

# MARATHA MANDAL'S NATHAJIRAO G. HALGEKAR INSTITUTE OF DENTAL SCIENCES AND RESEARCH CENTRE

( Recognised by Dental Council of India & Govt. of India, New Delhi )  
( Affiliated to Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bengaluru, Karnataka )



**MMDC STRIDE** *An Official News Letter* 2025 : Vol. 12(3)

Phone : 0831-2477682 | E-mail : mmnghids@gmail.com | www : mmdc.edu.in

R. S. No. 47A/2, Bauxite Road, Near KSRP Ground, Belagavi - 590 010. Karnataka INDIA

## FREE DENTAL CAMP - RAIBAG

A. Department of Prosthodontics, Crown and Bridge & Department of Public Health Dentistry actively participated in the free dental camp organized by the Department of Health and Family Welfare and Zilla Panchayat, Government of Karnataka under National Oral Health Programme (NOHP) and Danta Bhagya Yojana scheme at Raibag Taluk, Belagavi, on 23rd July 2025. The event was inaugurated by Honourable Member of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, Sri D. M. Aihole. The initiative aimed to provide essential dental services to the underserved local community providing comprehensive dental care that included free consultations, oral hygiene education, restorations, extractions and free denture fabrication. Staff Dr. Preethi Kusugal, Dr. Anand Hiremath, Dr. Zarir Ruttonji, Dr. Abhijit Patil, Dr. Somesh Pattanshetti, and a team of dedicated postgraduate students & interns of our institute carried out on-site assessment and all the dental procedures. A total of 178 patients received services from our institution in this camp. 31 complete denture procedures till the end stage were carried out at this camp for the benefit of the patients. The camp served as a platform for the departments to demonstrate its clinical expertise and commitment to community service. The event was met with appreciation from organizers and beneficiaries alike, underscoring the importance of accessible oral healthcare and the positive impact of outreach programs.



## FREE DENTURE TREATMENT CAMP

B. A total of 30 complete dentures were fabricated and delivered free of cost by the postgraduate students, under expert guidance of faculty members. The event was graced by esteemed dignitaries including Dr. Chandra Naik, Chief Dental Health officer and District Programme Officer NOHP, Belagavi, Govt of Karnataka, Dr. Ramakant Nayak, Principal, Dr. Preethi Kusugal, Vice Principal and Head of the Department and Dr. R. B. Hallikerimath, Professor, Dept of Prosthodontics Crown, and Bridge. The event began with a welcome address by Dr Preethi Kusugal and lamp lighting ceremony followed by the distribution of complete dentures to the beneficiaries by the dignitaries. Dr Chithra Melavanki compered the event. This initiative marks a significant step in extending quality oral healthcare to rural communities and reinforces the institute's commitment to community service and patient-centered care.



## HOW TO EXCEL IN EXAMINATIONS

A focussed academic session on "How to Excel in Examinations" for BDS Students was conducted by Dr. Sachin Shivanaikar for our undergraduate students. Lecture was conducted on 29th July, 2025 for 1st and final BDS and on 4th August 2025 for 2nd and 3rd BDS students. The lecture covered essential strategies to perform well in both theoretical and practical examinations. Key areas discussed included understanding the syllabus and exam format, effective time management, study planning, revision techniques, practical skill development, and stress management. Students were encouraged to adopt active learning methods, solve previous years' question papers, and maintain consistent clinical practice. Dr. Shivanaikar emphasized the importance of daily discipline, clarity in basic concepts, and a balanced approach to health and study.

Key areas discussed included understanding the syllabus and exam format, effective time management, study planning, revision techniques, practical skill development, and stress management. Students were encouraged to adopt active learning methods, solve previous years' question papers, and maintain consistent clinical practice. Dr. Shivanaikar emphasized the importance of daily discipline, clarity in basic concepts, and a balanced approach to health and study.



## CDE ON BASICS OF IMPLANTOLOGY & ALL-ON-4 CONCEPT OVERVIEW

A CDE programme titled "Basics of Implantology & All-on-4 Concept Overview" was successfully organized by the Department of Prosthodontics and Crown and Bridge at our institute on July 26th, 2025. The session was conducted by Dr. Anuradha Navaneetham, a well-known Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon and Implantologist from Bengaluru. As a respected authority in her field, Dr. Anuradha delivered a thorough and engaging presentation that delved into the essential

principles of Implantology, with a strong focus on the All-on-4 technique. Her lecture offered a balanced mix of theoretical knowledge and practical insights. The programme drew participation from over 80 dental students and professionals. The event was supported by Alpha Bio Tec Implants.

The event received invaluable support from Principal, Dr. Ramakant Nayak, Head of the Department, Dr. Preethi Kusugal, and In charge of the Implant Department, Dr. Ajay Kumar Nayak all of whom played key roles in ensuring its success. Dr. Aishwarya an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Bengaluru and Mr. Anjaneesh Mishra, Regional Head Alpha Bio Tec Implants, co-ordinated the programme.



**EVOLUTION OF DENTAL IMPLANTS**

- ↳ Materials used: lead, gold, silver and platinum in dogs and found platinum the least irritating.
- ↳ Although gold and silver were inert they were too soft and weak.
- ↳ Copper and lead were toxic and poorly tolerated.



**CONGRATULATIONS - Dr. SHEETAL SANIKOP**

Dr. Sheetal Sanikop, Professor, Department of Periodontology, successfully conducted a vibrant yoga session on International Yoga Day for members of the Indian Dental Association on 20th July, 2025. Her dedication to promoting holistic health and wellness through yoga exemplifies true leadership and commitment to the dental fraternity. Well done on inspiring colleagues to embrace a healthier lifestyle!

The President, IDA, Belagavi branch, welcomed the audience. The Yoga Session consisted of a yoga talk emphasizing the history, importance, and rules of Asthanga yoga. The session then continued with demonstration and practice of warm up stretches, surya namaskars, various supine, prone, sitting and standing position asanas and pranayama. Around 30 participants attended the session.



**ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2ND NATIONAL UG PROSTHODONTIC CONVENTION**

Undergraduate students from our institution enthusiastically participated in 2nd National Undergraduate Prosthodontic Convention held at Vokkaligara Sangha Dental College & Hospital, Bengaluru on 25 & 26 July, 2025. Mr. Deeman Deepak and Ms. Isra Khan from 1st BDS secured 2nd place in e-poster presentation on the topic "Conventional vs Digital workflow in Prosthodontics". 2nd BDS Students Mr. Nikil Badiger, Ms. Krupa Kottabagi and Mr. Digvijay presented e-poster on the topic "Digital Smile Designing". Dr Preethi Kusugal, Head of The Department and Dr. Chithra Melavanki, Senior Lecturer guided the students. Principal of our institute Dr Ramakant Nayak, staff of Department of Prosthodontics and Crown & Bridge including Implantology and all the faculty members of our institute congratulated students for their achievements.



## CONGRATULATIONS - Dr. SUJATA

1. Dr Sujata Byahatti, Professor, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology presented a paper at 1st International and 23rd National Indian Academy of Oral Medicine & Radiology Post Graduate Convention at The Berkeley Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand on July 9th 2025. She was the Master of ceremony for the formal Inaugural function. She won Best Paper under Faculty Category for "Carbon Monoxide (CO) and Carboxy Haemoglobin levels in Smokers and Non-smokers through Breath Analyzer-A clinical short Study."



2. She gave a radio talk at KLE Venudhwani 90.4 FM KLE KANASU on Oral Hygiene and its Importance on 21st Aug 2025.
3. Dr Sujata was selected for MAHE-FILIFE Fellowship for the year 2025. Her Project for FAIMER was titled, Role-Play as an Educational Strategy for Tobacco Cessation Counselling among Healthcare sector, An Interprofessional Approach. She attended Contact Session at Manipal from 8th to 16th Sep 2025. In the Contact Session she underwent training on leadership, communication skills and bringing up new research projects with International Standards. She also presented a poster titled "Uniting Professions, Defeating Tobacco: An Interprofessional Approach for a Tobacco-Free Future"



## CONGRATULATIONS - Dr. SACHITA AND Dr. SAI CHANDINI

Heartiest congratulations to Dr. Sachita S. Naik and Dr. Sai Chandini, Faculty of the Department of Periodontology, on winning the Best Online Paper Presentation Awards at World Dental Conference held recently at King George's Medical University, Lucknow. Your dedication, expertise, and commitment to excellence have brought pride to our department and institution. Wishing you continued success and many more laurels in the future. Their research papers were titled as "Herbal Shield: Exploring the Anti-bacterial potential of *Pectranthus amboinicus* against periodontal pathogens." (RGUHS grant) and "Exploring the signature molecules" (Diagnostic biomarkers in periodontal diseases.)

## ORAL HYGIENE DAY

The Department of Periodontology celebrated Oral Hygiene Day on 01/08/2025. This day is celebrated every year on 1st August in India to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. G.B. Shankwalkar, a pioneer in periodontology and the founder of the Indian Society of Periodontology. The inauguration of the program commenced with lighting the lamp by Principal - Dr. Ramakant S. Nayak, Vice-Principal- Dr. Preethi Kusugal, Administrative In charge and Head of Department of Periodontology - Dr. Pushpa S. Pudakalkatti, Academic In charge - Dr. Veerendra Uppin, and all the staff members of Department of Periodontology. All the heads of the department graced the occasion. The Department had organised an E-poster competition for all undergraduate students. They had received 23 entries. First prize was given to Mr. Amey Rajendra Naik and Mr. Mohammed Zeeshan, Second prize was shared by Mr. Vedant Verekar and Ms. Akeefa Makandar while third prize was shared by Ms. Vrushti Shah and Ms. Nivedita Babugavane. A consolation prize was given to Mr. Aditya Patil. Free hand scaling was provided to the patients as a part of the oral hygiene day celebration. Welcome speech was given by Dr. V. Sai Chandini Srinivas and vote of thanks was given by Dr. Shiphalika.



## BANKING AWARENESS LECTURE BY BOI

The Bank of India conducted a comprehensive lecture focusing on the benefits of salary accounts and the varieties of deposit schemes available. The session aimed to educate employees, investors on the competitive offerings of the bank and the potential advantages of using its services for personal and investment needs. The lecture also placed significant emphasis on the recently launched New Fund Offer (NFO) under the BOI Mutual Fund umbrella. Mr. Akash Patil, Senior Manager, Marketing, Bank of India delivered an insightful lecture focusing on the benefits of salary accounts and investment. Mr. Ramesh Netake, Chief Manager, Zonal Resource Department also highlighted the Benefits. Principal Dr. Ramakant Nayak thanked the officials of Bank of India. The session concluded with a Q&A session, where attendees had the chance to clarify doubts and gain personalized financial advice from Mr. Patil and other bank representatives.



## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SESSION AND ADDICTION FREE DAY

Miss Apurva Gudi Psychologist conducted 1st contact session for the academic year 2025 on Aug 1st for all BDS students. It was organised by Dr Sujata Byahatti for the wellbeing of students. Miss Apurva Gudi conducted a focused counseling session for students regarding the intersection of technology use and mental health, addressing growing concerns about the psychological impact of digital devices, social media, and telehealth platforms in contemporary times. In today's fast-paced, digitally connected, and high-pressure environment, several key issues stand out triggered by stress, lifestyle changes, uncertainty, and digital overload and constant performance expectations. Fear of failure and competition intensify emotional strain. Technology and Mental Health are deeply woven into our daily lives - from smartphones and social media to mental health apps and online therapy. The psychologist's session provided vital insights into the dual role of technology in mental health. While technological advances bring new support platforms, they also pose challenges related to privacy, ethics, and user well-being. Ongoing education and careful adoption are recommended for clients and professionals engaging in digital mental health. A support system includes people, professionals, and resources that offer emotional, psychological, and practical help when you are struggling. Having someone to talk to can be the first step toward healing. No one is meant to carry their mental health battles alone. Whether it's a friend, a therapist, a helpline, or an app - reaching out is strength, not weakness. To mark Vyasnamukta Dina (Addiction Free Day) of Karnataka state policy, which is celebrated on 1st Aug 2025, all students took oath against consumption of tobacco and any tobacco containing products. The oath was taken in presence of Psychologist Miss Apurva Gudi.



## ANNUAL HEALTH CHECKUP

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), in collaboration with the Department of Oral Pathology, organized a six-day Annual Health Check-Up Camp for all employees of our institute from 4th August 2025 to 9th August 2025. This initiative was undertaken as a staff welfare measure, aimed at promoting preventive health care, enabling early diagnosis, and enhancing the overall well-being of the Staff of our Institute. The camp covered a total of 165 employees from various sections including administrative, clinical, support staff, housekeeping, and other departments. It included general health check-ups such as recording blood pressure, medical history assessment and laboratory investigations like CBC, HBsAg, HIV, and RBSL tests. The staff were provided with fitness certificates. The event witnessed active participation by all the staff.



## ANTIRAGGING DAY

Anti-Ragging Day was observed on 12th August 2025 in our institute campus. All the BDS, MDS students and the Interns were present for the Programme. On this day the students were made aware of zero tolerance shown by the Institute against ragging. A few short film videos downloaded from the UGC web site on consequences of ragging were shown to the students in the auditorium. Dr. Aasim was the host for the day. Dr. Tushar Bandiwadekar, Incharge of Anti Ragging committee highlighted the importance of Anti Ragging Day. A Slogan writing competition was conducted for all the students, where in 26 entries were received, Mr. Prasanna Hugar, IV BDS student won the 1st prize, Mr. Aditya Patil, Intern won the 2nd prize and Ms. Aditi N., IV BDS student won the 3rd prize. Certificates were awarded to all the winners. Dr. Suprit Pawar delivered the vote of thanks. Selfie corner stand was installed for the students as per the guidelines of UGC. The Principal, Academic In charge, Administrative In charge and all the Anti Ragging Committee members along with squad members were present.



## INSTITUTIONAL PRIDE : DOCTORAL RESEARCH PRESENTATION OF Dr. MADHURA

Our Principal Dr. Ramakant Nayak's, Ph.D. student, Dr Madhura M. G., did her Ph.D. synopsis pre-submission presentation on 12th of August 2025 at our institute's auditorium. The session commenced with an introductory note by the Head of the Department of Oral Pathology Dr. Vijayalakshmi Kotrashetti, highlighting the importance and scope of the candidate's research. Dr. Madhura M G presented a detailed account of the objectives, methodology etc., supported by relevant data and analysis. Title of Ph.D thesis was "Assessment of miR222 expression with MMP, and miR203 with P63 in normal oral mucosa, oral leukoplakia and oral squamous cell carcinoma- A cross sectional study". Dr Sangeeta Palaskar, Professor and Head, Department of Oral Pathology and Microbiology, Sinhgad Dental College, Pune was the Examiner and Dr Gayathri GV, Professor, Department of Periodontology from Bapuji Dental College, Davangere was appointed as observer by Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences. Dr Prakash Diwan, Director of Central Research Laboratory, faculty and PG students were present for the presentation.



## CONGRATULATIONS - Dr. PREETHI

Dr Preethi Kusugal, Vice principal and Professor and Head, Department of Prosthodontics & Crown & Bridge, was invited as a chief guest to Maratha Mandal Polytechnic, Belagavi for the celebration of International Youth Day and Geneva Convention Day on 14th August 2025. On this occasion she spoke on youth empowerment for sustainable future. Prizes for winners of essay competition were distributed by the dignitaries. Principal Sri R S Suryavanshi briefed about various social activities conducted under Youth red cross committees. YRC coordinator Sri G K Shivayogimath, Cultural coordinator Smt Gauri Uppin, Heads of various Departments, College General secretaries, Secretaries of various clubs, Class representatives and other students were present for the function.



## INTRODUCTION TO MASTERSOFT AND DENSMART SOFTWARE

Orientation to Mastersoft and Densmart was conducted for newly admitted post graduate students batch 2025-26 in the council hall on 18th August 2025. Mr.Sagar technical expert from MM Polytechnic college addressed the postgraduates. PG students were familiarized with the two softwares. He provided insights on how these technological tools would streamline the administrative and patient management process. PG students interacted with technical expert and got their queries regarding the usage of the software clarified.



## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Our Institute celebrated Independence Day on 15th August 2025 along with the Cultural Committee with great enthusiasm. The program started with the welcoming of the chief guest Shri Ramachandra Modagekar, Vice Managing Trustee Maratha Mandal Group of Institutions, Belagavi Dr. Ramakanth Nayak, Principal, Dr. Preethi Kusugal Vice Principal, Dr. Veerendra Uppin Academic Incharge, Dr. Pushpa P, Administrative Incharge, Dr. Sanjeevini Hattarki Cultural Committee Incharge were present. This was followed by offering prayers to father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi followed by flag hoisting and national anthem. A special speech segment was organized where students delivered short speeches in various Indian languages. The aim was to showcase the country's rich linguistic diversity and to promote unity in diversity. Students confidently spoke in languages including Hindi, Marathi, and Kannada. Each speech reflected the spirit of patriotism, remembered the sacrifices of freedom fighters, and highlighted the importance of independence. As part of the Independence Day celebrations, a Rangoli Competition was organized in our institute premises. The theme for the competition was "Patriotism / cultural heritage of India" The students, non-teaching staff as well as teaching staff participated with great enthusiasm. Beautiful and creative Rangoli designs were made using vibrant colours, flowers, and natural materials. Many designs depicted the Indian flag, national symbols, and freedom fighters. The participants showcased their artistic talent while expressing their love for the country. The judges appreciated the creativity and effort of the students. Winners were awarded certificates and praised during the celebration. The event added colors and spirit to the Independence Day festivities. The event concluded with a vote of thanks and ended with tasty snacks and sweets distribution to all.



## HONOURING SCHOLARLY EXCELLENCE - Dr. MANOHAR

Dr. Manohar Kugaji, Assistant Director, Central Research Laboratory (CRL), received the Institutional Award for publishing in the highest impact factor journal during the previous academic year. His review article, titled "Biosurfactants : A review of different strategies for economical production, their applications and recent advancements" (Kugaji M, Ray S. K., Parvatikar P, Raghu A. V. *Advances in Colloid and Interface Science*. 2025 Jan 3 :103389; Impact Factor : 19.3), was recognized for its scientific excellence and contribution to the field.

The appreciation award was presented by Dr. Ramakant Nayak, Principal, Dr. Prakash Diwan, Director, CRL and Dr. Vijayalakshmi Kotrashetti, Research Advisor CRL, in acknowledgment of Dr. Manohar Kugaji's outstanding achievement in research and publication.



## POST GRADUATE ORIENTATION

Post Graduate Orientation program was conducted on 18-08-2025 for newly joined I MDS students (Batch 2025-26) in the examination hall of our institute. The program commenced by welcoming the gathering by Dr. Veerendra Uppin, Academic incharge. Dr. Ramakant Nayak, Principal introduced all HODs and office bearers and gave detailed briefing about the institution and activities that are carried out at our institution. Dr. Preethi Kusugal, Vice Principal welcomed the new post graduates and briefed about the institute's facilities. Dr. Veerendra Uppin Academic Incharge briefed regarding academic activities. Dr. Sachin shivanakar briefed about examination pattern for MDS students. Dr. Puspha Pudkalkati, Administrative Incharge briefed regarding code of conduct for students. Followed by this a brief interaction was held between students and faculty.



## SESREC SEED COLLECTION DRIVE

A seed collection drive was conducted by SESREC Greenery unit on 24.9.2025 where the collected seeds were handed over to NSS unit incharge Dr Zarir Ruttonji to make seed balls. Various seeds were collected which were weighing approximately 3 kgs. Students and faculty members contributed in the collection of the same. The NSS unit would make seed balls out of the collected seeds and dispense them where ever needed. This will help to maintain the environmental balance. Dr Shruti Virupaxi, Dr Viplavi Chavan members of greenery unit along with Dr Praveena Tantradi SESREC Incharge carried out the event successfully.



## BLS WORKSHOP FOR NON TEACHING STAFF

There is a significant lack of knowledge regarding the typical signs and risk factors associated with serious medical conditions among medical students and laypersons. Keeping this in mind the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery started with training the staff, students of our institution and the common people in basic life support. The programme was started in 2016 on World Heart Day and has been successful till now. BLS generally refers to the type of care that first-responders, healthcare providers and public safety professionals provide to anyone who is experiencing cardiac arrest, respiratory distress or an obstructed airway. It requires knowledge and skills in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), using automated external defibrillators (AED) and relieving airway obstructions in patients of every age. The one-day BLS training on 11th and 19th August for 45 staff began with a pre-assessment to evaluate basic knowledge of the participants. Participants then engaged in hands-on demonstrations. During the programme various real-life examples were given to make them understand the concept of BLS and to perform BLS. The participants were trained individually. The training concluded with an oral post assessment to confirm and validate their skills. The participants were trained on interactive manikins and AED. All the aspects of BLS were covered. On successful completion of the course, they were awarded with a certificate of BLS training.



## TEACHERS DAY AWARDS



The Best Teacher Award was presented to Dr. Preeti Astagi and Dr. Pallavi Gopeshetti during the Teachers' Day celebration, acknowledging their outstanding teaching methodology and unwavering commitment to student development. Their selection for this honor reflects the high regard in which they are held by both the institution's management and students. They expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the principal and higher management for recognizing their efforts and dedication to the field of education.

## BEYOND SKILLS : THE ETHICAL FOUNDATIONS OF DENTISTRY

Department of Dental Educations (DDE) programme on " Beyond Skills: The Ethical Foundations of Dentistry" was successfully conducted on 24th September 2025 at our institute for the benefit of Interns. The event was held in the presence of the Principal Dr Ramakant Nayak, Vice Principal Dr Preethi Kusugal and a distinguished guest speaker Dr Sachin Shivanaikar, who brought valuable insights into the ethical dimensions of dental practice. The programme aimed to enhance the understanding and importance of ethics in dentistry among budding professionals. The session began with a welcome address by Dr Viplavi followed by the lighting of the lamp. Dr. Chithra, the organizer, introduced the guest speaker for the programme and highlighted the need for strong ethical foundations in clinical practice, especially during the transition from academic to professional life. The guest speaker delivered an engaging and thought-provoking lecture covering key ethical principles, patient communication, consent, confidentiality, and professional responsibilities. The interactive session that followed allowed the interns to raise questions and discuss real-world ethical dilemmas, making it a highly enriching experience. The DDE programme was well-received and marked an important step in shaping the ethical outlook of future dental practitioners. 2 DDE points were credited by Karnataka State Dental Council for the event. Dr Chithra Melavanki, DDE Cell Incharge coordinated the event.



## CONGRATULATIONS DEEMAN AND ISRA FROM 1ST BDS



Mr. Deeman Deepak and Ms. Isra Moh d. Khan, I BDS students of the Institute, brought laurels by winning Second Prize in the Poster Presentation Competition at the Prosthodontics UG Convention held at VS Dental College and Hospital, Bengaluru, on 26th July 2026. They presented a poster titled Conventional versus Digital workflow.

Their achievement was duly acknowledged and appreciated by the Principal, Vice Principal IQAC Incharge and the Management.

## GANESH CHATURTHI CELEBRATION

Our institution celebrated vibrant festival of Ganesh Chaturthi with a series of colourful and engaging activities that highlighted the cultural richness of this auspicious occasion. The celebration included ceremonial pooja initiated by faculty members, followed by devotional prayers and sharing of sweets to symbolize blessings and unity. The sthapana was for 5 days from 27th August. Mr Dinakarrao Oulkar, Governing Council member and his wife attended the Satyanarayan puja on 30th. All students and staff members participated in the festival. The celebrations were a beautiful expression of devotion, culture, and unity. It allowed students and staff to come together, celebrate, and seek the blessings of Lord Ganesh.



## TOOTH PREPARATION AND THE BIOLOGICAL WIDTH - WORKSHOP

The Department of Public Health Dentistry of our institution along with DDE organised a program on 08th September 2025 at our auditorium on the topic "Enchanting Clinical Precision, Tooth Preparation and The Biological Width Concept," featuring distinguished speakers Dr. V. Sai Chandini S. and Dr. Vivek Govekar. Dr. Vivek emphasized, tooth preparation is not just about technique, but about precision, conservation, and respect for biology. Dr. V. Sai Chandini S., in her address, highlighted the importance of biological width stated that Understanding and preserving the biological width is key to ensuring long-term periodontal and restorative success. The program drew enthusiastic participation from faculty, final year students and interns. Engaging discussions, clinical tips, and case-based insights kept the audience actively involved throughout the session.



## BEYOND THE SYLLABUS - WORKSHOP

The Institutional Placement Cell of our institute, in collaboration with the Karnataka State Dental Council (KSDC) and Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS), Bengaluru, organized a two-day workshop titled "Beyond The Syllabus" on 9th and 10th September 2025. The event commenced with a formal inauguration by dignitary Dr. Ravi M. G. an eminent EC member at KSDC Bengaluru, who addressed the audience and highlighted the need for skill-building initiatives that prepare dental interns for challenges beyond academic study. Principal Dr. Ramakant Nayak, addressed the gathering and extended gratitude towards KSDC and RGUHS personnel. Dr Sachin Shivanaikar, welcomed the gathering and Dr. Chetan R Patil delivered vote of thanks. Hundred and five interns from 3 colleges namely ours, KLE VKIDS Belagavi, and SDM Dental College Dharwad, attended the workshop.

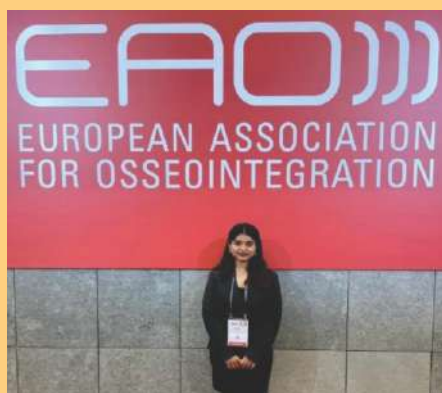
The sessions were designed to expose young professionals to essential aspects of dentistry that are often not included in the academic curriculum. Eminent academicians and resource persons from the JSS Academy Mysore, conducted lectures, interactive panel discussions, and practical demonstrations. Topics covered included advanced clinical practices, professional communication, ethics and legal responsibilities, employability skills, and emerging opportunities in the dental field. Participants engaged proactively in Q&A segments, expressing that the sessions gave them fresh perspectives on career building and patient-centered practice. The program's emphasis on holistic professional readiness was widely appreciated by both students and faculty members. Dignitaries and resource persons applauded the initiative of the Institutional Placement Cell in association with KSDC and RGUHS, noting that "Beyond The Syllabus" served as a bridge connecting theoretical learning with real-world clinical and ethical applications. The success of "Beyond The Syllabus" reinforced the importance of such innovative programs, preparing young dental professionals to step into their careers with competence and confidence.



## CONGRATULATIONS - Dr. ANKITHA BHAGWAT AND TEAM

Dr. Ankitha Bhagwat, postgraduate student of Prosthodontics, Crown & Bridge, and Implantology Department represented our institution at the prestigious European Association for Osseointegration (EAO) Congress, held in Monaco, Italy, from 18th to 20th September, 2025. She presented a e-poster on the research topic titled "An in vitro Assessment of Osteogenic Potential of Flavonoid-rich Ocimum sanctum and Convolvulus prostratus Extracts on MG63 Cells Cultured on Titanium Alloy," which was conducted under the mentorship of Dr. Preethi Kusugal,

Professor and Head of the Department, and guided by Dr. Manohar Kugaji, Assistant Director, Central Research Laboratory. This innovative study advances basic research in implantology and was published as an abstract in the Clinical Oral Implants Research (COIR) supplement. The EAO Congress is internationally recognized for showcasing pioneering technologies and promoting collaboration among global leaders in implant dentistry and allied fields. Both Dr. Ankitha Bhagwat and Dr. Preethi Kusugal were honoured with certificates for their participation and E-poster presentation. Dr. Ankitha Bhagwat's attendance at the congress was partially sponsored by the institution, reflecting recognition of her academic excellence and commitment to research innovation. The institution extended its heartfelt congratulations to the team.



## GRADUATION DAY FOR 2020 BATCH

The Graduation Day for our BDS students, Batch 2020 was held on 13th September 2025 at our Institute, where graduating students, their families, faculty, and distinguished guests gathered to celebrate a milestone in academic achievement. The convocation ceremony began with an impressive academic procession. Dignitaries included Dr. Alka Kale Professor and Principal KLEVK Institute of Dental Sciences as the Chief Guest, Shri. Dinkar Oulkar, Vice President, Maratha Mandal Group of Institutions, was the Guest of Honour. The board of directors and managing committee members, Principal, Dr Ramakant Nayak and senior faculty graced the stage in traditional academic regalia. The ceremonial lamp was lit to the accompaniment of Vedic chants, symbolizing the illumination of knowledge and wisdom. Inspirational speeches marked the event. The Chief Guest delivered a moving address, urging the new graduates to embrace ethics, continuous learning, and social responsibility as they embark on their professional journeys. She urged students to include parents in their journey by sharing both achievements and challenges and never forget their sacrifices. Principal Dr. Ramakant Nayak encouraged the new graduates to embrace newer technologies in practice and he gave the mantra of hard work, empathy, good mentorship, and collaboration for success in life.

President Dr. Rajshree Nagaraju conveyed her congratulations to the graduating students in her message. Dr. Preethi, Vice Principal, presented the annual report on the various academic, sports and extracurricular activities of the Institute. Dr. Pushpa P., Administrative In-charge rendered the Hippocratic Oath for the graduating batch. Dr. Vivek, proposed the vote of thanks. Dr. Zarir and Dr. Abhijeet introduced the students and expressed gratitude towards all the dignitaries, teaching, non-teaching staff members, and students who actively contributed towards the success of the event. A total of 37 Graduates received their graduating certificates from Dr. Alka Kale and Shri. Dinkar Oulkar. Dr. Aditya Patil and Dr. Tejaswi Chougala were awarded the "Best Outgoing Student" for their excellent academic performance along with earnest participation in various extracurricular activities of the campus. Miss Maaz Kalimani was felicitated for securing highest marks in I BDS, Dr. Vaishnavi Anvalmath, Dr. Aditya Patil, Dr. Vedika Deshpande were felicitated for securing highest marks in the subject of Prosthodontics Crown and Bridge in IV BDS. The "Academic topper" was awarded to Dr. Tejaswi Chougala for securing the highest aggregate total for all 4 years of BDS. The celebration culminated with the iconic cap toss, symbolizing the graduates' passage into a new chapter of life. Photographs, group selfies, and laughter filled the campus, marking the day as a cherished memory for all involved. The convocation not only highlighted the achievements of students but also reaffirmed the institute's legacy of nurturing future leaders and professionals. Dr. Viplavi and Dr. Deepali hosted the event. Dr. Sadanand Kulkarni coordinated the event.



## CONGRATULATIONS DR SACHIN - OUR "SOUGHT-AFTER" GUEST SPEAKER

1. Dr Sachin Shivanaikar, Professor Department of Periodontology delivered a guest lecture on "Clinical Brilliance with Dental Lasers" at Dentist Convention organized by IDA Bangalore Branch on 30th August 2025 at GDC Bangalore. He received felicitation from Dr Sharan Prakash Patil, Minister of Medical Education and Skill Development, Dr M C Sudhakar, Minister for Higher Education, Government of Karnataka.
2. He delivered a guest lecture on "Shaping Smiles: Clinical Insights into Crown Lengthening" at IDA Ballari Branch on 31st August 2025. He spoke on "Guarding against Negligence: Legal Safety in Dental practice" on 14th September 2025 at IDA Kolhapur.
3. He delivered a lecture on the topic "Professional Ethics : Safeguarding Standards in Dental Care" at KLE VK Institute of Dental Sciences Belagavi on 26th September, 2025. The session aimed to enlighten students on the importance of ethical practice in dentistry and its role in ensuring patient trust, professional accountability, and high standards of oral healthcare. A Text book coauthored by Dr Sachin Shivanaikar was handed over to Principal of KLE, Dr. Alka Kale.



## VAN MAHOTSAV CELEBRATIONS

The NSS wing of our Institution organized Van Mahotsav on 17th September 2025 at the Belgaum Public School, Shindoli from 9.15am onwards. A total of 15 saplings were planted in the school campus. The event was organized to promote environmental awareness and contribute to the green cover of the region. The event, aimed at fostering a sense of responsibility towards nature among students of the Institution. Dr. Zarir Ruttonji, NSS wing Incharge of the institution coordinated the event. Members of the NSS wing Dr. Pallavi G., Dr. Ramya Pai, Dr. Vivek G., and Dr. Shewta G., contributed to the success of the event. Students participated actively in planting the saplings. Dr. Rajshree Nagaraju, President, Maratha Mandal Group of Institutions, Belagavi encourages environmental awareness programs. The event was an IQAC initiative.



## WORKSHOP ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The Central Research Laboratory of our institute successfully organized a one-day hybrid workshop on "Challenges and Impact of Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare" on 27th September 2025. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Rajshree Nagaraju, President, Maratha Mandal Group of Institutions, and Dr. Ramakant Nayak, Principal of the Institute. Dr. Prakash Diwan, Organizing Chairman and Director, CRL, delivered the opening remarks, while Dr. Vijayalakshmi Kotrashetti, Research Advisor, gave a welcome address. Dr. Viplavi Patil conducted the proceedings, and Dr. Manohar Kugaji, Program Coordinator, proposed the vote of thanks. The workshop witnessed an overwhelming response with around 350 participants from across India and abroad, including medical and dental practitioners, pharmacy, students, and faculty from allied health sciences and engineering. Renowned experts such as Dr. Madhav Prabhu (Belagavi), Dr. Ameet Patil (UK), Dr. Ameet Revankar (Dharwad), Prof. M.K. Dutta (New Delhi), Dr. IRN Goudar (Bangalore), Dr. Prakash Diwan (Belagavi), Dr. Harsh Hirani (Hyderabad), Dr. Deepika Mishra (New Delhi), Dr. Pankaj Gupta (Mumbai), and Dr. Shambo Samrat Samajdar (Kolkata) delivered insightful lectures. The speakers highlighted the opportunities, future prospects, and potential risks of AI in healthcare, making the sessions both engaging and enlightening. The program was conducted with precision and professionalism, earning appreciation from all participants.



## TOWARDS A GREENER FUTURE, GREEN AUDIT

Our institution recently conducted a comprehensive Green Audit as part of its ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability in compliance with NABH accreditation requirements. The Green Audit systematically assessed the campus's environmental impact, focusing on the efficient usage and management of natural resources such as water, energy, and waste. It involved detailed evaluation of water and wastewater management, energy consumption, solid waste disposal, air quality, and biodiversity conservation on campus.

The Green Audit report will serve as a valuable reference for continuous monitoring and improvement of the institute's environmental footprint while contributing positively to the NABH accreditation process. This endeavour reinforces the institute's role as a responsible educational institution dedicated to sustainable development.

Mr. Pradeep Nagamalli (Environmental Engineer) from Nisarga Consultancy visited our Institute on 19th September 2025 for the same. He was accompanied by Dr. Sujata Byahatti (Criteria & In-charge), Mr. Kishore Shinde (Engineer), and Mrs. Ankita Hanamshet (HR Executive). This event is proudly presented in this edition of the institute's magazine as a reflection of the institution's commitment to fostering green and sustainable practices within its academic ecosystem.



## SEEDBALL DISPERSAL EVENT

"Forests are the lungs of Mother Nature; death of forests is the end of our life", The student volunteers of NSS wing of our institute took up an initiative called "Taru Nirmiti Abhiyaan" - A seed ball initiative, which aims to replenish the green belts lost due to deforestation. Our student volunteers enthusiastically participated by making around 700 seed balls in month of September-October 2025. Each ball consists of different varieties of seeds mixed with soil, ash/neem powder and cow dung powder. On 4th of October 2025, these seed balls were thrown in Khanapur stretch, where they will germinate and grow to form trees. 21 student volunteers along with NSS committee members Dr. Zarir Ruttonji (Incharge NSS wing), Dr. Pallavi G., Dr. Ramya Pai, Dr. Shewta took part in the event. This initiative was inspired and guided by Dr. Rajshree Nagaraju (President, Maratha Mandal Group), Dr. Ramakant Nayak (Principal) and Dr. Preethi Kusugal (Vice Principal). Seed collection drive - Sesrec Dr. Shruthi and Dr. Viplavi. This is also one of the Best Practices of our institution.



## ENDOMAG WORKSHOP

ENDOMAG hosted by the Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics, was a 2-day workshop conducted on 12th and 13th September, 2025. Inaugurated by Dr. Ramakant Nayak-Principal, Dr. Paras Kothari, Guest speaker, Dr. Madhu Pujar-HOD, Dept of Cons and Endo, Dr. Chitra, CDE Incharge and Dr. Pallavi Gopashetti, Organizing secretary. The total participants were 17 postgraduates.



**DAY 1** - The topic was on Instrument Retrieval using BTR pen. The lecture covered the basics concepts of instrument retrieval, ultrasonics, details of BTR armamentarium, uses and limitations, other methods of instrument retrieval in different case scenarios. Further, demonstration and hands-on instrument retrieval using ultrasonics and BTR pen on extracted teeth under techno scopes was carried out.

**DAY 2** - The topic was Perforation Repair using MTA . The lecture included clinical guidelines on mastering MTA in different case scenarios. Further, demonstration and hands-on, on MTA application under loupes and DOM was carried out. 12 CDE points were credited from KSDC. It was a great learning experience with detailed insights into the topics covered.

## A JOURNEY BEYOND SMILES - FAREWELL TO Dr. ARADHANA CHHATRE

On 31st September 2025, the IAQC cell of our Institute hosted a formal send off in honour of Dr. Aradhana Chhatre, Reader in the Department of General Pathology, to recognize her more than sixteen years of committed service. The gathering was arranged to celebrate her contributions, and her colleagues offered heartfelt tributes. The programme opened with a welcome address by the Principal, Dr. Ramakant Nayak and was followed by a felicitation ceremony in Dr. Chhatre's honour.



### Editorial Board

#### CHIEF PATRON

Dr. Rajshree Nagaraju

#### Editorial Board

##### Chairman

Dr. Ramakant Nayak  
(Principal)

##### Editor

Dr. Sadanand Kulkarni

##### Editorial Assistance

1. Dr. Praveena Tantradi
2. Dr. Sachin Shivanaikar
3. Dr. Sachita Naik
4. Dr. Yashaswini Angolkar

#### Advisory Board

Dr. Vijayalakshmi Kotrashetti

Dr. Tushar Bandiwadekar

Dr. Pushpa Pudukalkatti

Dr. Madhu Pujar

Dr. Preethi Kusugal

Dr. Anand Hiremath

Dr. Vijay Naik

#### Correspondence

Dr. Sadanand Kulkarni, Editor : MMDC Stride, Maratha Mandal's N. G. Halgekar Institute of Dental Sciences & Research Centre, Belagavi.  
E-mail : mmnghids@gmail.com