7.3.1: Portray the performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust within 1000 words.

Dadasaheb Devidas Namdeo Bhole College stands out among educational institutions for its distinctiveness, with a predominant representation of students from reserved categories, including Scheduled Tribes (ST), Scheduled Castes (SC), Nomadic Tribes (NT), Other Backward Classes (OBC), etc. It shows the distinctive features of the college and its implications for fostering inclusivity and equity in higher education. Statistics from the student records reveal that a significant majority of the student body belongs to reserved categories, comprising approximately 70% of the total enrolment. This demographic trend underscores the college's commitment to providing educational opportunities to marginalized communities and addressing disparities in access to higher education. These students who are generally first-generation learners have become a part and parcel of the institution. The college has implemented a range of inclusive initiatives tailored to the needs of these students from reserved categories. These include targeted provision of scholarships and financial aid, mentoring, and academic support services to remote and underserved communities. The SC-ST Cell looks into these matters and promotes equity in its approach. Anniversaries of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Birsa Munda, etc are celebrated every year to keep up the spirit of unity in diversity. These approaches aim to mitigate barriers to educational attainment and promote social mobility among disadvantaged groups. The inclusive ethos has yielded tangible outcomes in terms of student success and empowerment. Graduates from reserved categories have demonstrated notable academic achievements, with many securing competitive employment opportunities or pursuing higher studies. Moreover, the college's emphasis on diversity and inclusion fosters a supportive learning environment where students from diverse backgrounds thrive academically and socially. The college thus endeavors to uplift students from underprivileged backgrounds. Empowering students from the underprivileged section of society for overall development and producing responsible youths has been the main objective of the institution since its inception to overcome obstacles and achieve their full potential. The institution in its endeavours provides a stage for students from the backward community to participate in various curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities in and out of the college. These students excel in extension and sports activities and through rigorous exercises are selected in civil services like Indian Police services. One of our students, Madhuri Rokade is a PSI in Mumbai followed, by her husband, Mahendra Patil, an Alumni, in the same branch. Another student Tekchand Sonawane is a leading Journalist of International repute. He is now among top 5 Journalist

nationwide. National Journalist settled in China. These students not only brought glory and pride to our institution but also set an example for other students. These students in their annual meeting of the Alumni express their gratitude towards the college in providing them the platform of their choice for being successful in their endeavour. In essence, Dadasaheb Devidas Namdeo Bhole College's distinctive feature lies in its unwavering dedication to fostering an inclusive educational environment where students from reserved categories are not only welcomed but also supported in their journey towards academic excellence and social empowerment. By prioritizing diversity and equity, the college exemplifies a model of higher education that champions diversity as a cornerstone of academic excellence and societal progress. Moving forward, continued efforts to promote diversity and inclusion will be essential in advancing the college's mission of providing accessible and quality education for all.