PRATIBHA NIKETAN MAHAVIDYALAYA, NANDED

7.3.1:

The parent Educational Trust which runs the *Pratibha Niketan Mahavidyalaya*, *Nanded* has the rarest distinction of being formed by a group of nationalists and active freedom fighters of Marathwada freedom struggle, the erstwhile region which was under the tyrannical rule of the Seventh Nizam of Hyderabad.

The Society was formed way back in the year 1939 which established a *National School (Rashtriya Shala)* with a towering national fervour. It was the time when the freedom fighters were engaged both in freedom struggle as well as imparting the much needed knowledge to the people of Marathwada, who were grappling with poverty and illiteracy.

In the year 1972, after nearly 30 years after the establishment of the School, senior educationists and teachers decided to extend the academic zone of the Society for graduate studies and thus formed - "Pratibha Niketan Mahavidyalaya, Nanded", a degree College imparting education in Arts, Commerce and Science faculties.

This is the only College in the Nanded region, the foundation of which was laid by teachers for the upliftment of poor and needy students from Nanded as well as the mofussil areas. In its voyage for the last four decades the College has sailed comfortably and emerged as an educational hub for the 'minority students'. The College serves religious as well as linguistic minority students.

Right from its inception the College runs the subject "**Urdu**" as main elective for Arts faculty, as well as as Second Language for Science and Commerce faculty. If the members of religious minority groups are considered then students belonging to Muslims, Sikhs, Parsi and Khoja as well as linguistic minorities such as Gujrathi, Marwadi and Sindhi can be found in copious numbers. These all students make a beeline to get admission in this College. In the

academic year 2018-2019 nearly 516 students accounting for 33% of total students belong to these religious and linguistic minority groups. The College has 02 full time teachers, 03 administrative staff employees and 06 clock-hourly basis teachers from amongst these minority and linguistic minority groups.

It is remarkable to note that a College student also secured a place in merit list in the subject "**Urdu**". The College also heeds the requirement of the minority students by facilitating them to earn minority scholarship from Government and also scholarship- **Wazeefa** from the **Takhat Sachkhand Hazur Sahib Gurudwara Board, Nanded**.

It is conspicuous to note that the College has been in the forefront of all these activities despite being under a "general educational Institution" and not having a special status catering to the 'religious and linguistic minority'.