

**MIRANDA HOUSE
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI**

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

INTRODUCTION

Miranda House was established on **March 7, 1948**, at the dawn of independence. The history of the college chronicles the journey of women's education and empowerment. The life and times of the students and teachers of Miranda House mirror that of the nation.

A college that admitted 122 young women at its inception, today has **5829 students** and **200 faculty members** across **18 departments** of **Social Sciences, Humanities, and Basic Sciences**.

With excellence and exuberance as its core elements, the college provides an intellectually stimulating and enabling environment to the students. **Inclusivity, diversity, and a love for learning** are nurtured toward the holistic development of the stakeholders. Miranda House's distinctive goal is to **inculcate leadership qualities, academic excellence, community engagement and civic virtues that contribute to nation-building**.

An overview of some accolades include:

1. Miranda House (MH) has the unique privilege of being awarded “**All India Rank 1 amongst Colleges**” for **six consecutive years (2017-2022)** by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) instituted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
2. The college has an **Institutional Grade of A+ from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)**.
3. The college has been granted the **Star College status** by the **Department of Biotechnology**.
4. **12 alumnae of Miranda House** have received the prestigious **Padma Awards**.

The college combines its **rich cultural heritage and modern ethos** with a dynamism that is responsive and adapts to the demands of the changing world. The constant endeavour at Miranda House is to **integrate and digitalise** our educational pedagogies with **interactive and blended modes of learning**.

The framework of **National Education Policy 2020** strengthens the existing initiatives for **multidisciplinary research, sustainable development, environmental ethics, social entrepreneurship, skill development and employability**.

Miranda House is the **cradle of leadership**. Its alumnae, a phenomenally large number of eminent women, have broken barriers and excelled in all walks of life. The college remains committed to achieving **academic brilliance and nurturing change-makers**.

VISION

The Upanishadic maxim in the college logo *“Swadhyayann pramaditavyam”* enshrines Miranda House’s understanding of what education must accomplish and steers students towards introspection and self-learning.

Miranda House envisions a world where **women have their rightful place** and are given due recognition as leaders to reach top positions in all sectors of human endeavour. To give shape to this vision, Miranda House continually reaffirms and embraces its responsibility to build on **its historic legacy of leadership in the education of women**. It remains strongly committed to addressing issues of gender in all their complexity and preparing young women to:

- lead professionally successful lives enriched by the love of learning
- build personally fulfilling lives radiating integrity and strength of character
- sustain purposeful engagement with the world with an open mind and balanced perspective
- develop an understanding of their duty to nation and nation-building
- meet with confidence the challenges they will encounter in their lives
- flourish in a different cultural milieu in an increasingly interconnected world
- uphold the core institutional values of respect for diversity, inclusiveness, and humanism to emerge as leaders charged with new ideas and the capacity to make a difference.

MISSION

The stated mission of the college is to provide:

- an active and enriching learning environment that attracts young women with aspirations to be harbingers of change
- highest quality liberal arts and basic science education through distinctive academic programmes that instil rigour in the pursuit of knowledge
- culturally sensitive inclusive environment upholding core values of unity, diversity, and integrity
- vibrant co-curricular and extra-curricular activities toward holistic education
- dedicated and responsive faculty assisting students to fulfil their aspirations and reach milestones
- competencies for new domains of knowledge, research and future of work in a globally connected world

- mentoring for leadership that instils the capacity to explore new ideas, be self-reliant, and lead from the front.

The college recognizes the significance of integral and holistic education aligned with national goals that aim to bring transformative changes in the world of women's education and empowerment.

Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Challenges(SWOC)

Institutional Strength

5. MH has a **sustained legacy** of academic excellence, rich cultural activities, and inclusivity. Over seven decades, it has been committed to **pioneering women's education** and **empowerment**. The outstanding achievements of the alumnae stand testimony to this fact.
6. MH offers a **broad range of courses** in social sciences, humanities, and basic sciences. The distinctive feature is a strong emphasis on **academic rigour** and **interdisciplinarity** linked with experiential learning, skill development, and research potential.
7. The **enabling environment** of MH with its stellar reputation continues to attract aspiring bright minds from across the country and beyond. The **inclusive** atmosphere along with the **exceptional faculty and staff** contribute to the growth and development of each student. Faculty observe **non-hierarchical** and **participatory** knowledge dissemination.
8. With strong emphasis on **timely delivery** of curriculum as per the academic calendar, MH ensures an effective student-centric **teaching-learning environment** through meticulous planning and implementation. **It focuses on dialogical learning, continuous assessment, mentoring** and a regular **feedback mechanism**. This is reflected in the consistently good performance of students.
9. MH instils **research aptitude** among its faculty and students through **multidisciplinary research centres, outreach programs, national/ international collaborations**, and **publications** in globally reputed journals. Students and faculty have also jointly published their research.
10. The students excel beyond classrooms, participating in **co-curricular and extra-curricular activities** by joining various societies and developing **democratic planning, organisational skills and spirit of teamwork**.
11. One of the strengths of the college is its **environmentally sustainable practices** of waste management through in-house **composting** and **paper recycling plants**.
12. **Inclusivity** and **equal opportunity** are ensured through various measures such as **the Amba Dalmia Resource centre, and QR codes outside classrooms** in an attempt to create a **disabled-friendly** and **accessible campus**. In addition to this, several initiatives led by **NSS, NCC, MH-Vatavaran, Enactus-MH, UBA Cell, and Equal Opportunity Cell** have contributed towards community outreach goals.
13. **Gender-sensitive education is at the heart of MH**. The **Internal Complaints**

Committee, Women Development Cell, Policy Centre & Gender Lab and a focus on **Mental Health Counselling** provide support to all students and create a safe and enabling space for **women empowerment**.

Institutional Weakness

1. The **fixed curriculum** followed by the college as prescribed by the University of Delhi offers limited choice of courses. However, with the recent University of Delhi UGCF framework of **NEP 2020**, there will be greater **flexibility** in the choice of courses.
2. Although the college has good ICT-enabled infrastructural facilities, improvement is needed in **location-specific network coverage**.

Institutional Opportunity

1. **The flexible and multidisciplinary** nature of the curriculum offered under **NEP-2020** will provide more opportunities for collaboration across disciplines. One such focus has been the emphasis on **multidisciplinary development of Indian Knowledge System** and revitalisation of **Indian languages** through various programs organised by Department of Sanskrit, Bengali, and Hindi.
2. Miranda House has accelerated the transition to digitalisation and adoption of **innovative and blended modes of learning** ensuring **equal access to resources** amongst students. It has opened ways of optimally utilizing the ICT infrastructure for wider reach and accessibility. Various **immersion programs, workshops, seminars and collaborations with national/international institutions** provide opportunities for academic enrichment. It has also opened avenues for collaboration to setup **business incubators and start-ups, networking, internship and employment opportunities**.
3. MH will continue to focus on skill enhancement and add-on certificate courses for **capacity building**.
4. There is immense scope to strengthen **waste management initiatives and programs, anti-litter drives, recycling and compost units, and water recycling**. This also creates an opportunity to contribute toward **community outreach and consciousness for a sustainable future**.
5. MH is **enhancing the use of renewable solar energy** by installing a **virtual solar metric**.
6. Project-based learning in UG programmes provides opportunities for MH to focus on research, innovation and entrepreneurship. Faculty and students are forging productive collaborations and have better scope to publish their research output. MH will provide **a sustained platform for research publication** to faculty and students by launching peer-reviewed Scopus-indexed research journals.
7. MH will strengthen its **placement cell by enhancing** career counselling programmes and placement strategies for **increased employability**.
8. MH is looking forward to the opportunities provided under **Social Entrepreneurship, Swachhta and Rural Engagement Cell (SESREC)** supported by the Ministry of Education.

9. The college looks forward to **leveraging the full potential of the UGCF course, and curriculum reforms** by augmenting infrastructural facilities, training faculty and ensuring the achievement of learning outcomes. The opportunities provided by NEP 2020 for **internationalization** will also provide a space for global exposure, collaborations, student exchange as well stronger tie-ups for research and innovation.

Institutional Challenge

1. The higher education system in the country is undergoing unprecedented transformation and to keep up with the pace, there has to be adequate infrastructural development. The college, even after developing many resource centres and labs, requires fast-paced development of cutting-edge incubation labs and start-up initiatives.
2. Due to the requirements of the prescribed and time-bound syllabus, in-depth field research outside the curriculum is a challenge that can be addressed with flexibility in courses and availability of resources.
3. The college admits students in various post-graduate courses who are taught in the departments at the university level. Therefore, the college plays a limited role in providing learning and undertaking research with the postgraduate students.
4. The college finds it challenging to accommodate all out-station students due to paucity of space in the residential hostel. Hence, approximately 10-12% of students are admissible in the hostel. This necessitates creation of more hostels for women students. Resource mobilization is needed for this purpose.
5. The college is strengthening its adaptation systems to even out the differences that emerge from the diversity in academic standards of various secondary boards, variable prerequisite academic preparation, and language proficiency. While this is a challenge, it also offers an opportunity to strengthen multilingual language lab and celebrate cultural diversities and pluralities in the country.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

1. Student Support and Development:

- Enhance the scholarship system to ensure financial support for deserving students, particularly those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Strengthen the alumnae network to provide mentorship, internship opportunities, and career guidance to current students.
- Establish industry-academia partnerships to offer skill development programs, workshops, and internships that enhance students' employability.
- Expand national and international collaborations to provide students with exposure to diverse cultures, perspectives, and learning opportunities.
- Implement comprehensive wellness support services, including counseling, health clinics, and recreational activities, to promote holistic student development.

2. Research Ecosystem Enhancement:

- Foster collaborations with industry partners to facilitate technology transfer, commercialization of research, and the development of real-world applications.
- Establish research clusters or centers of excellence in emerging areas aligned with national priorities and industry demands.
- Provide seed funding, grants, and infrastructure support to encourage faculty and student-led research initiatives.
- Facilitate interdisciplinary research projects that address complex societal challenges and contribute to sustainable development goals.

3. Community Engagement and Social Impact:

- Expand outreach initiatives through co-operative education programs, community service projects, and social entrepreneurship ventures.
- Establish makerspaces and incubation labs on campus to nurture innovation, creativity, and problem-solving skills among students.
- Collaborate with local communities, NGOs, and government agencies to address pressing social issues through research-driven interventions.
- Organize workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns to promote civic engagement, environmental sustainability, and ethical leadership.

4. Promoting Adaptability and Innovation:

- Cultivate a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship by providing resources, mentorship, and networking opportunities for aspiring entrepreneurs.
- Establish a dedicated center for innovation and entrepreneurship to support start-ups, incubators, and accelerators.
- Encourage faculty and students to participate in hackathons, design challenges, and innovation competitions to showcase their talents and ideas.
- Integrate innovation and design thinking methodologies into the curriculum to foster creative problem-solving skills and entrepreneurial mindset among students.

5. Leveraging Technology for Academic Excellence:

- Invest in cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, and data analytics to enhance teaching, learning, and administrative processes.
- Develop customized digital platforms and mobile apps to deliver experiential pedagogy, interactive learning modules, and personalized feedback to students.
- Establish a digital repository for academic resources, research publications, and collaborative projects to facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration among faculty and students.
- Provide training and support for faculty to effectively integrate technology into their teaching methodologies and assessment practices.