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Pune â€“ the Favorite Higher Education Destination of East A...

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Pune, â€œThe Cultural Capital of Maharashtra stateâ€• of India, has been a preferred Education Destination in India for more than 100 years. Many prestigious institutes have come up in Pune in last 150 years like, College of Engineering (established in the year 1854), Fergusson College (Est. Year 1885), S.P. College (Est. Year 1916), ILS Law College (Est. Year 1924), Nowrosjee Wadia College (Est. Year 1932), etc. India got Independent from the British Rule in the year 1947, and then prime minister of India Mr. Javaharlal Nehru took personal interest in setting up University of Pune (Est. Year 1949) and also termed Pune as an â€œOxford of Eastâ€• due to the presence of many well-known academic and research institutions in the city and its popularity amongst students.

In the year 1949, University of Pune had 12 districts of western Maharashtra in its jurisdiction. In the year 1964, government established Shivaji University in Kolhapur and transferred 7 districts of Pune University to Shivaji University and Pune Universityâ€™s Jurisdiction remained restricted to Pune, Ahmednagar, Nashik, Dhule and Jalgaon districts. Out of these, two districts Dhule and Jalgaon were separated from it to attach them to newly created North Maharashtra University which was established in August 1990.

Initially, University of Pune had 18 colleges as affiliated institutes, some of them were world renowned at that time like, FTII, S P college, Wadia College, Garware College, Fergusson College, College of Engineering, Pune with a total enrollment of over 8000 students. Thereafter, the number of colleges increased multifold and in 2010, the university had 41 graduate departments, 433 affiliated colleges and 232 recognized research institutions, with an enrollment of 496,531 students for both the undergraduate and graduate courses in different faculties. Sinhgad College Of Engineering, Vadgaon, Pune (SCOE Pune) is affiliated to University of Pune and having largest intake (more than 900) amongst all the affiliated colleges of the University.

University of Pune has more than 60 recognized Research Institutes under its umbrella. These include institutions of national importance like the National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Documentation Research and Training Centre(DRTC) of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), National Institute of Virology (NIV), National Centre For Cell Science (NCCS), Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics (GIPE), etc. among others.

State Government of Maharashtra allowed the private Educationist and organization to run professional courses in colleges like Engineering colleges, Management Colleges, Medical and Dental colleges, Architecture Colleges, in the state in the year 1983. Since then numbers of institution have been increasing at much a higher rate, and there was a sudden increase in Educational Activities of Pune. Maharashtra Institute of Technology and Pune Institute of Computer Technology were amongst first Private Engineering colleges of Maharashtra, ASMâ€™s Institute of Business Management & Research and Symbiosis Institute of Business Management were amongst first Private Management Colleges, all started in 1983, which today also Ranks first amongst many surveys conducted for quality of Educational Institutes.

Since 1983, Numbers of Engineering colleges in Pune have crossed 40 and same is for MBA colleges in Pune which is almost 100 and MCA colleges in Pune are around 50. Let us see what future holds for Pune as far as education is concerned.

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