

Introduction:

The four-day Ganpati Utsav in the hostel brought unity, joy, and a shared sense of purpose to students. The hostel committee, having planned for weeks, created stunning decorations to bring the theme to life.

Day 1: Installation of Ganesha Idol and Decoration

The festival opened with the installation of the Ganesh idol, accompanied by an atmosphere of devotion and excitement in hostel 5. The space was beautifully decorated with a theme - "Ancient echoes, modern scars: Draupadi's struggle against injustice resurfaces today, as countless women continue to face violence and assault. The battle for dignity endures through the ages, a reminder of resilience and the unyielding call for respect and justice."The students' dedication and creativity shone through in every detail.

Day 2: Puja Ceremony and Cultural Programs

On the second day, a special puja ceremony took place, where students gathered to offer prayers, perform Aarti, and sing devotional songs. The event was led by the **Vice Chancellor**, **Prof. A. B. Pandit** adding a sense of reverence and tradition along with **Prof. D. D. Sarode, and all the wardens**. Following the puja, in the evening students showcased their talents through cultural

performances, including traditional dances, music, and bhajan, all centered around themes of devotion and empowerment.

Day 3: Mahaprasad

A Mahaprasad was organized as a communal feast for all residents, featuring festive dishes like modaks and puris including a complete meal. This meal was a key part of the celebrations, symbolizing shared blessings and reinforcing the bonds among hostel mates.

Day 4: Procession and Visarjan

The final day arati was performed **by Dr. P. R. Gogate** along with his wife. Followed by a heartfelt visarjan procession, with students gathering in a spirit of celebration, chanting and dancing as they carried the idol to a **self-made water tank** for immersion. This tank, crafted by the students themselves,

added a personal and environmentally considerate touch to the festival's conclusion. The idol immersion was marked by a moment of silence and reflection, symbolizing gratitude and a temporary farewell to Lord Ganesha.

The Ganpati Utsav in the hostel ended on a **positive note**, leaving students with cherished memories and a strengthened sense of unity. A big thanks to the Hostel Committee including, **Shubham, Harish, Akash, Aakanksha, Anagha, Harsha, Pawan and Sejal**. This celebration not only **honoured tradition but also embodied community values**, reminding everyone of the power of collaboration and respect for shared customs.









