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8. Shivaji University, Kolhapur

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Shivaji university attracts a large number of students from non-urban centers wherein the mode of admission is through a common entrance test. The department primarily focuses on research, with a number of students who carry out research in plant biotechnology, identification of bioactive molecules, bioremediation of hazardous compounds and bioinformatics analysis of natural products.

In the academic year 2011-12, faculty members have published 34 research papers in international journals. Since 2012, the department has also applied for two patents, based on their research on processes linked to increased melanin production and extraction of L-dopa from natural sources. Focus areas for research include microbial biotransformation, plant biotechnology, environmental biotechnology, molecular biotechnology and bioinformatics.

The department has undertaken a number of projects under the aegis of Department of Biotechnology, with local industries for food products and enzymatic processes that can minimize pollution. There are 10 labs, with different facilities for bioscience students. Recently, the Department of Biotechnology started two new labs in the area of genomics and proteomics, concurrent to the employment of faculty who are well versed in these subjects. A special emphasis is given to create a synergy between research and its practical application by allowing the participation of farmers and entrepreneurs in the education process.