

National Assessment and Accreditation Council,
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Report of the Peer Team on the
INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION OF
SSB COLLEGE OF EDUCATION,
Shrirampur, Dist. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra

9-10 January 2004

Report of the Peer Team on the
INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION OF
SWAMI SAHAJANAND BHARATI COLLEGE OF EDUCATION,
Shrirampur, Ahmednagar District, Maharashtra

Section I : Introduction

Swami Sahajanand Bharati College of Education, Shrirampur, Ahmednagar was established in the year 1970 by Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, at Satara in Maharashtra. This Society was founded by a renowned educationist, Dr. Padmabhushan Karamvir Bhaurao Patil, who had devoted his entire life for spreading education to economically and socially backward, down trodden and peasants through. It is located in a semi-urban area, where a good majority of the students hail from rural areas. It is a grant-in-aid College and affiliated to the University of Pune. Presently, the College is offering only the one-year B.Ed. degree programme. The College is also recognised by the UGC and the NCTE.

National Council for Teacher Education has also accorded recognition to this college vide their letter No. WRC/5-6/19/99/1576 dated March 3, 2000. The aim and objective of this college is 'Education Through Self-Help'. The College aims at producing quality teachers at secondary level by giving them all-round training during the one-year stay at the College.

Swami Sahajanand Bharati College of Education volunteered to be assessed by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council by submitting their self-study report, which in turn, constituted an expert committee to visit the college and validate its self-study report. The Peer Team comprises Prof. H.S. Soch former Vice-Chancellor, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar as Chairman and Dr. Louis Vernal, Principal of GVM's College of Education,

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Ponda, Goa as member and Prof. Ramesh Ghanta, Dean Faculty of Education, Kakatiya University, Warangal Andhra Pradesh, as member-cum-convenor. The team visited the institution for two days, on 9th and 10th January 2004.

The Peer Team carefully perused and analyzed the self-study report submitted by the institute. During institution visit, the Peer Team went through the relevant documents, visited the various sections and interacted with the various stakeholders of the institution. The academic, co-curricular, extra-curricular, sports and other facilities of the institution were carefully examined. The Peer Team also interacted at length with the Principal, the teaching faculty, the students, the non-teaching staff, the parents and alumni of the institution. Based on the above exercise and keeping in mind the criteria identified by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, the Peer Team makes the following assessment of the College.

Section II: Criterionwise Analysis

Criterion I: Curricular Design and Planning

The admission to B.Ed. programme is done strictly on the basis of the merit as determined by the University of Pune to which it is affiliated. It must be said to the credit of the management that it surrendered the management quota to the general pool of meritorious students. The College follows the syllabi meant for the examination of B.Ed. degree. The Principal of the college is member of the Board of Studies in Education of the university. It is the Board of Studies which effects changes in the syllabus and which initiates new courses. However, the College could initiate the process of suggesting to the University the inclusion of innovative practices in the syllabus.

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The final examination is conducted by the University which is the statutory body to declare the results. The degree of B.Ed. is also awarded by it. This degree makes the candidates eligible to seek employment as teachers in secondary schools. The College has a good academic climate for teacher education and is attempting to instill the relevant values pertaining to the profession of teaching. The College provides teaching of four compulsory papers, viz., 'Education in Emerging Indian Society', 'Psychology of Development and Learning', 'Secondary and Higher Secondary Education', 'History, Problem and Management' and 'Information and Communication Technology and Educational Evaluation'. In addition, the College is further allowing students to opt for two subjects for pedagogy from the two groups. The first group comprises of English, Marathi and Science while the second group comprises of History, Geography and Mathematics. The syllabus is unitized in terms of the academic calendar designed in the beginning of the year.

The College has not applied for any kind of autonomy. However, the application for it to be a College of Teacher Education (CTE) under the Central Government Scheme is in process. It is creditable for the college that it has been able to complete 219 teaching days as against 241 working days. The teaching practice in totality is spread over 76 days.

There is no well-defined programme for remedial teaching nor any enrichment programme for the talented. However, the College provides some remedial measures for the weak and the talented students are given extra guidance. The College is running short-term courses for the benefit of the community in the areas of speaking English and personality development, tailoring, beauty parlour and cookery-cum-catering.

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Criterion II: Curriculum Transaction and Evaluation

In the beginning of the session, the college provides general orientation programme to the students with a view to enlighten them about the teaching programme activity in the college round the year. This, being an altogether new course for the students, there is a need for the proper orientation of students. There are eight lecturers besides the Principal and the Librarian. The staffing pattern satisfies the norms of the National Council for Teacher Education for 80 students.

The technical and administrative section consists of ten members.

In order to promote wider scope for personality development, the College arranges extension lectures which are delivered by various eminent persons. During the current session, good number of extension lectures were delivered.

The College prepares the academic calendar of the year in the light of the University guidelines. Timetable and classes are allocated right in the beginning of the session. The faculty under the chairmanship of the Principal holds the meetings of their departments where the details of the curriculum completion are finalized. The Principal ensures the implementation of the academic calendar. The teachers prepare the year plan accordingly. Four periods for every theory paper are allotted in the time-table.

The transaction of theory courses includes the teaching methodology course. The pupil-teachers bring units of the subject from the school teachers. The College teacher guides them on the analysis of its content. The lesson planning is designed by the students with the guidance of their teachers. Accordingly, the students decide the method of teaching, previous knowledge, the learning experiences, the presentation of the lessons and their follow up. The blackboard work is also well planned and they are also

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prepared to write properly on the blackboard. The students also deliver 12 microteaching lessons in their peer group in eight groups wherein they teach and re-teach for 5 minutes. Prior to this, one demonstration-cum-model lesson in a subject is delivered by each subject teacher.

The practice teaching programme conducted by the college in 15 local schools to which the pupil-teachers are allotted. The students have to deliver 40 practice lessons in both the subjects. The college has involved 15 schools for this purpose. They teach in the schools under the control of the heads of schools. The college teachers also visit them to guide them in the execution of teaching practice. The students also observe a number of lessons of other pupil-teachers. The college teachers as well as the other pupil-teachers write their observations and provide the concerned students with feed back immediately after the lesson is over. These lessons are given a score by the teachers. All this is done with a view that the pupil-teachers follow these recommendations and suggestions in their next lessons.

The system of evaluation is communicated to the students well in time. The College conducts tests for different terms, allots assignments, tutorials, homework etc. The University result has a segment of internal assessment, which is communicated by the College about every student of the University. It is based on the college tests of the theory papers, practice teaching, curricular activities, work experience, tutorials and seminars, community work, etc. The marks awarded in the internal assessment are converted into grades by the university. The University appoints a moderation committee which visits the college to review the internal assessment given by the College and tenders advice, if any. This has been done with a view to rationalize the internal marks. An up-to-date record of the internal assessment is maintained by the University.

The College follows the self-appraisal method for evaluating the performance of the faculty members in teaching and research. A prescribed proforma is

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filled by the teachers and recommended by the Principal with a view to make them eligible for the senior scale and the selection grade. The U.G.C. requirement of attending orientation courses and refresher courses for the award of senior scale and selection grade is there as recommended by the University of Pune. The teachers are encouraged to attend the seminars, conferences, and workshops. Virtually, all lecturers in this college are involved in attending conferences, workshops, seminars, etc. In addition, they also take interest in carrying out action research at the College level.

The college conducts in-service training programme for secondary school teachers. In year 2001, such workshop was organized where approximately 175 schoolteachers took the benefit of this.

Criterion III: Research Development and Extension

The College being an undergraduate College is not sensitizing the teachers enough towards research activity and professional growth. The College has a Research Committee and a Programme Advisory Committee comprising of six members. A minor research project was conducted from the funds released by the University Grants Commission. Some teachers also conduct short action research projects.

The Principal is member of the Board of Studies in Education of the University of Pune. Another lecturer is member of the Senate of the university. Some more teachers are members of different educational and social organizations. Two of its teachers have received Ph.D. degree in the last five years. One lecturer has submitted his thesis to the university and another lecturer is currently pursuing his Ph.D. degree. All lecturers are well qualified and experienced. They are all permanent.

The students of the College conduct psychological tests in some schools of the area. The College has given additional charge of extension activities to

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four of its lecturers who work in an honorary capacity. The broad areas of the extension activities are community development, adult education, Aids awareness, environment awareness, organization of medical camps, health & hygiene awareness, social work, population education, etc. For the community development, demonstrations are given to the down-trodden peasants in the villages. Students are also donating blood during blood donation camps. The students presented a street play on anti-child marriage which was quite popular. The college works for its extension activities with NGOs like Manav Sewa Charitable Trust, Shrirampur. Basically, extension activities are highly limited in nature.

Criterion IV: Infrastructure and Learning Resources

The College is spread over 3.5 acres of land. The College building is sufficient to cater to the various programmes of the B.Ed. course. The building of the College is quite attractive and has four blocks. The main building has Principal's cabin, computer room, ladies room, a lecture hall and two method rooms. On the east of this building, there is a guidance room building having the three separate departments under education and a meeting hall. On the north of it, there is a library building, library stack room, reading room and a big seminar hall. On the western side of the main building, the College has constructed separate science laboratory. There is a residential accommodation for the Principal and Rector, Sewak Niwas comprising of four rooms. There are sufficient classrooms and a guest room. The different laboratories also have independent rooms. The College also has a playground spread-over one hectare.

The College in the past has tried to meet the needs for augmenting the infrastructure. The College also has built a library and a laboratory with the help of UGC grant. The women hostel is constructed with the help of public donations and College funds. The maintenance of the College building is done by the management and by the college funds.

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The College has constituted a campus committee, a building committee and equipment committee. The meetings of these committees are held from time to time as per need. Every care is taken for the beautification of the campus and in the upkeep of the equipment. The entire building is put to maximum use. It is not only used for teaching classes or holding practical classes but also used for short-term courses, holding seminars, conferences, meetings and other short-term courses. The entire campus, including the buildings, provides a atmosphere congenial to academic activity and growth.

The College has a respectable library with over 16900 books. There are also magazines and journals. It remains open for 7 hours. During and before the examination, the working hours of the library are raised to 10. The working days of the library are 240. There is a book bank facility available to the students. The library has its own photocopier, computers with Internet facility, resource material on digital media, audio and video cassettes, etc. The library has been computerised to a great extent.

The students are permitted to prepare their lesson notes on the computer. However, students and teachers do not conduct computer-based activities in the schools. The students are familiar with computers, unit plan template, multi-media presentations, spread speech, use of Internet, etc. The computers are further used for college administration, in accounts, correspondence, notices, official records and maintaining official databases. The computers are maintained through annual maintenance contracts.

The College has psychology, science and educational psychology laboratories according to the National Council for Teacher Education norms. In the method rooms, micro and project lessons are carried out. It is also provided with cupboards, teaching aids, etc. The psychology laboratory contains the apparatus and equipment for psychological tests. The science laboratory has the equipment, apparatus required for practicals in physics, chemistry

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and biology at the school level. The charts and teaching aids are also available. The educational technology laboratory has overhead projectors, VCR, video camera, video cassettes, OHP, 35mm cinema projector, etc. The College has a workshop for preparing teaching aids. The seminar hall is used for organizing seminars and workshops. The lectures of eminent persons are also organized here. In addition, the College functions, cultural activities, blood donation camps, etc. are also organized here.

Health check-up of students is done in the beginning of the academic session. There is a First Aid Box with all necessary equipment is kept for health services to the students, teachers and non-teaching staff of the institution. Treatment of illness, if any, is done at the nearby hospital which is well-equipped.

The College maintains two separate hostels for men and women students. Men hostel has twelve rooms with sanitary blocks and bathrooms. Women hostel has eight rooms with sanitary blocks and bathrooms. The College also has toilet facilities. There is provision for cool drinking water

Criterion V: Students' Support and Progression

The results of the College have been excellent both at the qualitative and quantitative level. The College students have been securing merit positions in the university results. Even some of its students have been toping the University from time to time. Last year, the pass percentage was almost 100% and all of its students were placed in the first division, which is an indicator of the standard of quality teaching. Dropout rate is virtually negligible.

The students of this College go for employment in the private sector and also for further study in higher education. The students are spread over in different educational institutions, viz. school teachers, junior college

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teachers, headmasters, principals, etc. Some students do qualify in State and central government competitions. In the last two years, six of its students qualified the NET and SET examinations.

The Alumni Association of the College has been contributing some donations to the college every year. Most of its Alumni are holding respectable positions in schools and colleges. The College maintains record of the placement/further studies of old students. The College publishes its updated prospectus every year, which contained the details about the courses, rules and regulation of the admission, the details of the fee structure, the college calendar of the year, the availability of scholarship, the various services available on the college Campus and guidelines for admission. The reservation policy as laid down by the university and the State Govt. is also mentioned. It also contains the criteria for admission, which is well elaborated, on the basis of which the academic merit of the candidate is determined.

The details of financial aid and concessions available as per rules of the Central Government and State Government are mentioned. There is no scheme of scholarships and financial assistance given by the college management. However, last year 20 students were given partial fee concessions.

The College has an independent non-formal employment cell. The College teachers give guidance regarding vocational and competitive examinations, employment opportunities. Extension lectures for general guidance are also arranged. The teachers are, however, available to the students for educational and personal guidance. The vacancies in the schools and Colleges are displayed on the notice board for the information of the students so that they can apply against such positions.

The College has a Students' Association which helps the college authorities

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in organization of various activities and also in solving the problems of students. Generally, there is no problem of indiscipline in the college. Many recreational and leisure time facilities like indoor games, outdoor games, music, dance, etc. are available for the students. The College also publishes its annual magazine which gives a good opportunity to the pupil-teachers and college teachers to express themselves for creative writing.

Criterion VI: Organization and Management

The Governing Body of the College is enlightened and benevolent. It runs over 500 educational institutions in Maharashtra and guides the College on policy matters. The Local Managing Committee is constituted under Section 85 of Maharashtra University Act 1994, comprising of ten members, viz. President, the Secretary, three local members nominated by the Management, three teachers elected by the college teachers, one non-teaching employee elected by the non-teaching employees and Principal as member secretary. This committee prepares budget and financial statement, advises the Principal regarding the working of the College and also recommends to the Management the creation of new posts and improvement of the standards of education, etc. The Local Managing Committee meets twice a year which takes policy matter decisions regarding the organization and management of the institution.

The College has various committees to assist the Principal in the day-to-day work. The college has internal coordinating and monitoring mechanism. The Principal of the college works as chairperson of 12 committees with one teacher each as coordinator.

The teachers are recruited through a constituted committee according to the rules of the university and state government. The selection committee comprises of the Chairman of the Management, Principal of the college, Head of the concerned department, two Nominees of the Vice-Chancellor;

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one of whom is a subject expert and two experts to be nominated by the Chairperson from a panel of experts, not connected with the college and approved by the Vice-Chancellor. The proper approval of the teachers has to be obtained from the Govt. of Maharashtra and the University of Pune on the recommendation of the above said selection committee.

The income and expenditure of the institution is audited annually. There are no major objections while the minor objections raised by the audit are met. The accounts and the other office records are well maintained. The office work and correspondence are computerised.

There are many welfare programmes for the teaching and non-teaching staff, viz. Sewak Welfare Fund, Shubh Mangal Yojna, Accident Relief Fund, Students' Welfare Fund. Regular loans, emergency loans, hire-purchase loans, vehicle loans, housing loans, provident fund loans are available by the Rayat Sewak Cooperative Bank, Satara, which is run by this Managing Committee.

Criterion VII: Overall Analysis

Swami Sahajanand Bharati College of Education, Shrirampur is basically meant for teacher education and it has made sincere efforts in preparing competent secondary school teachers. The University results of the College have been exceedingly satisfactory, which speaks of the quality of education provided by this college to its students.

It is also doing useful work for conducting in-service training programmes for the secondary school teachers, guiding teachers on the latest teaching tools and technology of teaching. It has also introduced courses like speaking English and personality development. The norms of National Council for Teacher Education are followed in letter and spirit. On the

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whole, it can be safely concluded that the College is striving hard to meet the objectives for which this College was established.

Recommendations

Although the College is to be appreciated for making an honest effort to provide quality teacher education, the Peer Team, however, makes the following recommendations:-

- The University Grants Commission is giving good grant for the colleges to become autonomous. This College should consider if it can go for autonomy as it will enable them to design their own curriculum and also mode of evaluation.
- The College should go in for re-starting the M.Ed. programme.
- The teachers need to keep abreast with the latest developments in the area of pedagogy and evaluation. This is possible if good educational journals are subscribed to.
- A placement cell is required to be established on the campus which should actively coordinate with the educational institutions with a view to provide them effective counselling regarding the vacant positions available. It should also work for some campus interviews of different educational institutions.
- Information and Communication technology needs to be increasingly employed for the transaction of the syllabus. This would contribute towards interactive teaching.
- There could be more close rapport with the educational institutions where students go for practice teaching. The College should devise a mechanism through which the teachers, students and the school authorities can successfully interact.
- A record of the employment of the alumni could be maintained by the College. The Alumni Association could be strengthened to mobilise

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more resources to benefit the student community by way of augmenting equipment and infrastructure in the College and the library, etc.

- The College should organise national level workshops and conferences for the professional development of teachers and students.

Names and Signatures of the Peer Team members

1. Prof. H.S. Soch
Chairman

H.S. Soch
10.1.2004

2. Dr. Louis Vernal
Member

L. Vernal
10/1/2004

3. Prof. Ramesh Ghanta
Member-cum-convenor

R. Ghanta
10.1.2004

I agree with the observations and recommendations made by the Peer Team in this report.

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Principal

SSR, College of Education
Shimla, Dist. Arunachal

10/1/2004

