

GOVERNMENT ARTS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), Karur

A Report of the Academic and Administrative Audit Committee

Dates of Visit : 18th ~~2013~~ February 2014

The Academic and Administrative Audit Committee (AAAC) comprising the following members,

1. **Prof.M. Daniel** : Chairman
Professor and Chair,
School of Physics,
Bharathidasan University,
Tiruchirapalli 620 024.
2. **Prof.N. Rajendran** : Member
Dean, Faculty of Arts,
Professor and Head,
Department of History,
Bharathidasan University,
Tiruchirapalli 620 024.
3. **Prof.M. Ravichandran** : Member
Professor and Head,
Department of Environmental Management,
Bharathidasan University,
Tiruchirapalli 620 024.

visited the various departments and facilities of the College during 18th ~~2013~~ February 2014 listened to the presentation made by the Principal and Heads of the Departments, interacted with the faculty members and then had interaction with the students, administrative staff, alumni and parents. Even though the mandate of this committee was to do the academic and administrative audit, it was also requested to consider itself as a Pre-NAAC visit so that it can identify the strengths and weaknesses of the Institution and suggest measures for overcoming them.

The College was started by the Government of Tamilnadu in 1966 and has been functioning with autonomy since 2007-08. The College is located in the outskirts of the well known Textile Town, Karur in an area of 27 acres with a built up of 1,03,450 Sq.mtrs. The College is functioning with 117 Regular faculty members, 31 Guest Lecturers and among them 57 are Ph.D. holders. The administrative and technical jobs are supported by 43 staffs. The college is catering to the educational needs of the neighbouring rural society. The number of students seeking admission to the under-graduate and post-graduate programmes of the College are high. The College conducts 17 programmes at the under-graduate level, 12 programmes at the post-graduate level, 09 M.Phil. programmes and Ph.D. in 10 different areas. The College has been re-accredited with 'B+' grade in 2006 by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), and now they are expecting the visit by the Peer Team for the third cycle of NAAC Re-accreditation.


The Committee is happy to note the good functioning of the Departments of Botany, Zoology, Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics, Geography, Economics, History, Commerce, English, Tamil, Statistics and Business Management in terms of teaching, research and extension. The College has sufficient infrastructure facilities in terms of Class rooms, Laboratories, Central and Departmental Libraries, Computer Centre, Canteen, facilities for Sports and Games etc. The College offers provisions for co-curricular and extra-curricular activities to students in terms of NSS, NCC, YRC and few Clubs. The governance of the college is well structured and decentralized with various committees.

Based on the interaction and discussion held with various stakeholders of the College, the committee wishes to place on record the following observations.

1. Special Bridge Courses are offered to freshers.
2. Some soft skill and placement training have been offered to final year UG students to enhance employability.
3. Wi-Fi connected campus.
4. Value based courses are being offered for UG and PG students.
5. Cognitive skills have been included in curriculum to some extent.
6. Wide representation in the Boards of Studies.
7. College Research Council and Departmental Research Committee monitor research activities in the Institution.
8. The Computer Literacy Programme caters to the needs of the students with rural background.
9. Students have option to choose electives from a pool of inter-disciplinary and job-oriented courses.
10. Curriculum is periodically reviewed and updated.
11. The examination wing of the College carries out a commendable role in sustaining quality and confidentiality.
12. Academic Audits are conducted once in 6 months.
13. Faculty members are periodically deputed for getting exposure to new and emerging technologies in teaching.
14. Feedback from Stakeholders are obtained to enhance quality in teaching.
15. Academic Development Programmes for Faculty members have been conducted.
16. Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) needs to be implemented properly.

17. Research Culture is absent in many of the Departments.
18. Extension and Consultancy services are missing.
19. Societal contribution needs to be strengthened.
20. Being a textile town, textile oriented courses need to be offered to enhance employability and service to the local society.
21. Curriculum should be strengthened with creativity and scientific temper.
22. Curriculum needs more flexibility.
23. Autonomy status of the college needs to reflect in curriculum and research.
24. Course structure of the departments has to be modified in a manner to enhance employability and ability to face competitive examinations.
25. The teaching-learning process should be still more of learner-centric.
26. ICT based teaching needs to be enhanced.
27. The methods of continuous internal evaluation, needs to be revised to test the conceptual understanding and academic skills of the students.
28. At least research in some departments should be based on the societal activities of this textile town.
29. Research in humanities and languages needs to be improved. Also, some Science Departments require attention to improve quality of research.
30. Interdisciplinary research activities may be promoted among the departments.
31. Faculty members should be encouraged to apply for more research grants.
32. Library requires immediate attention in all aspects.
33. Computer-student ratio is very low.
34. Students progression towards higher education is only moderate.
35. Placement of students needs to be improved.
36. The Following facilities need to be initiated and activated.
 - (i) Hostel (ii) Health Centre (iii) Bank/ ATM (iv) Post Office
 - (v) Indoor Stadium

37. Measures should be taken to address the deficiencies pointed out by the earlier NAAC peer team. IQAC may be activated towards this direction.
38. The Career Guidance cell needs to be institutionalized.
39. The functioning of the Alumni Association is to be made visible.
40. Definite perspective planning for the College as a whole and for individual departments with a focus and time limit, for the next 5 years must be highlighted.


(M. DANIEL)


(N. RAJENDRAN)


(M. RAVICHANDRAN)

Karur
18.02.2014