

Peer Team Report Date- 18/12/2003

DRAFT REPORT ON THE INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION OF
SHRI DNYANESHWAR MAHAVIDYALAYA, NEWASA,
AHMEDNAGAR, MAHARASHTRA

Office

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

Shri Dnyaneshwar Mahavidyalaya, Newasa, Ahmednagar District, Maharashtra volunteered to be assessed by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore and submitted the self-study report. NAAC constituted a Peer Team to visit the College and to validate the self-study report. The team members comprised Prof. V Venkaiah, Executive Director of GRADE at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad, as the Chairman and Dr. B. A. Prajapati, Professor and Head, S. K. School of Business Management, Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan and Prof. P. S. N. Reddy, Department of Chemistry, Osmania University, Hyderabad, as the members. The Peer Team visited the College on 17-18 of December 2003. Dr. K. N. Madhusudanan Pillai, Academic Consultant from NAAC co-ordinated the Peer Team visit.

The College, affiliated to University of Pune was established in 1968 on a campus covering 18 acres of land. The College has been recognised by the University Grants Commission under Section 2(i) and 12(B) in 1976. The College offers under-graduate courses in Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology and Mathematics in Science Faculty with specialisation in Chemistry and Botany; English, Marathi, Hindi, Economics, History, Politics and Geography in Arts faculty. M. A. courses in Marathi and Hindi, and B. Com and M. Com. in Commerce faculty. The College offers postgraduate courses in Hindi, Marathi and Commerce. It also runs a self-financing certificate course in computer awareness. The total student enrolment is 762 (473 in B.A., 119 in B.Sc., 90 in B.Com. and 80 in post graduate courses).

The College has faculty strength of 33 members - 19 are permanent teachers and 14 are temporary. There are 25 members in the non-teaching staff. The College has a central

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library, computer centre, first-aid centre, gymnasium for boys, men's hostel, auditorium hall, drinking water tank and vehicle parking shed.

The Peer Team carefully studied and analysed the self-study report submitted by the College. During the visit to the College, the team went through all the relevant documents, visited the departments and the facilities; and interacted with the various constituents of the institution. The team also examined the academic, co-curricular, extra-curricular, sports and extension facilities of the College. The Peer Team also interacted with members of the Local Management Committee, Principal, faculty, non-teaching staff, students, parents and alumni of the College. Based on the above exercise, and keeping in mind the seven criteria identified by NAAC, the Peer Team has assessed the College for the quality of education offered therein. The assessment of the institution under various criteria; the salient features of the institution as well as the issues of concern are presented in the following pages.

SECTION 2: CRITERION-WISE ANALYSIS

CRITERION I: CURRICULAR ASPECTS

The College is offering the undergraduate courses under the elective and subsidiary system. It follows the syllabi prescribed by the University of Pune for the Arts, Science and Commerce courses both at the under-graduate and post-graduate level. All these programmes are conventional in nature. The College may initiate a review of these programs and introduce some vocational and job oriented courses such as Pest Control, Poultry and Dairy Science, Interior Design, Advertising, Environmental Science, Drought Resistance and Water Harvesting Techniques, Fermentation Chemistry, Bio-Fertilisers, Solar Energy and Seed Science Technology. These are relevant to the region, which is predominantly agrarian. The students have flexibility to pursue programme within the elective options decided by the respective faculty of the University, but the options are limited. A certificate course in Computer Literacy is offered to first year students of

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Arts, Commerce and Science under self-finance scheme. A part-time teacher runs this course and 15 computer systems are available for nearly 250 students.

The Principal of College was awarded the title of "Honorary Forest Taxonomist" by the Government of Maharashtra, and a Gold Medal by Dalit Sahitya Academy. One of the faculty members of the Hindi Department is the Chairman of Board of Studies of University of Pune, and another teacher of Marathi Department is a member of the Board of Studies.

The College takes one year to introduce a new programme with in the present university system. The objective of the management is to impart education in agriculture technology, military training and creative writing to the students of the region. This is partly reflected in their academic and in NSS, NCC activities.

The College invites guest lecturers from other institutes for supplementing the work of the regular faculty. The students of Economics Department carry out surveys on the socio-economic problems of the surrounding villages. The College organises literary meets and cultural programmes.

CRITERION II: TEACHING-LEARNING AND EVALUATION

The students are selected for admission to various courses on the basis of their academic records in H. S. C Board examination. All the students who are eligible as per university criteria are admitted. Hence there is no scope for testing their aptitude before admission. The College may however assess student's knowledge and skills after admission and conduct bridge courses particularly in subjects like Mathematics. The College has made provision for conducting remedial courses financed by the UGC for disadvantaged students in English and Economics. The same may be extended to other subjects as well. There is no scheme for advanced learners to work ahead of the rest. The students may be encouraged to prepare for the competitive examinations by providing extra library facilities, seminars, field visits, etc. The College encourages the teachers to make

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teaching plans in the beginning of the academic year. The teachers write diary everyday, which is monitored by the Head of the Department and the Principal. The number of teaching days is more than 180 in an academic year.

The pedagogy used by the College is the lecture method. Other methods like use of audio-visual aids, group discussions, and industrial visits for learning etc. are not evident. The overhead projector is rarely used for supplementing classroom teaching. The College does not have centralised media facility to prepare audio-visual and other teaching materials. The College conducts periodic examinations, tutorials, seminars etc.

The College has 33 faculty members: 19 permanent and 14 temporary. While 4 teachers have Ph.D., 13 teachers are with M. Phil degree. The recruitment of faculty is as per the University guidelines and the State Government policy. The College encourages teaching to participate in seminars, conferences and to undertake research projects. Two teachers of the College have been awarded regional, state level and national level awards for their academic accomplishments.

The College has been following the practice of students' appraisal on the performance of teachers, by providing a structured questionnaire for the purpose. The College may take cognisance of the students' opinion and initiate corrective action to improve the teaching-learning process in the College. The College has self-appraisal method for teachers and a method of rewarding the meritorious teachers.

CRITERION III: RESEARCH, CONSULTANCY AND EXTENSION

The College promotes research by giving study leave to teachers, and by appointing ad hoc teachers on temporary basis for managing the workload. Two teachers are recognised as supervisors for Ph.D. work by the University and are actively engaged in guiding research. Teachers from the departments of Botany, Marathi and Hindi have authored books. One teacher of Zoology department has been sanctioned financial assistance of Rs.

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30,000/- by UGC to undertake a Minor Research Project. The College may constitute a research Committee and encourage other teachers also to submit research proposals.

The College does not provide any consultancy service. Competent teachers and departments should be encouraged to offer consultancy based on local area needs and available market.

The College has a designated person for extension activities. Various extension activities include social work, health and hygiene awareness, AIDs awareness, blood donation camps, conservation of nature etc. The NCC and NSS units are utilised for performing different extension activities. A project to increase awareness about hygiene and sanitation was implemented in collaboration with the World Bank. The adult education organises anti-superstition drive and anti-dowry drives.

There is a scope for further utilisation of the potential of students for extension activities and outreach programmes especially in the field of women empowerment since the number of girl students in the College is more than 35% (270 out of 762). The College has two NCC battalions one for boys and another for girls.

The teachers of the College have delivered popular lectures and published articles in newspapers on topics like- Dnyaneshwari, natural farming and management of Food and health

CRITERION IV: INFRASTRUCTURE AND LEARNING RESOURCES

During the past 35 years, the College has expanded its infrastructure facilities in the form of a building with 18 class-rooms, a multi purpose hall, boys hostel and library. The building is shared for Post Graduate Courses, Senior College and Junior College for different time slots. All the facilities and infrastructure of the College including Science laboratories are shared with junior College. The Principal is common for both junior and senior College. The Science Departments are located in a separate shed. The laboratory

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facilities need improvement in terms of space and equipment. The College may develop separate laboratories for Degree College and Junior College.

The library facility is also common for all the programmes. The College has a total collection of 31,663 books. The Library Advisory Committee helps in the smooth functioning of various activities related to it. The book bank and photocopy facilities are available in the library. The College has started computerisation of the library services. The Reading Room facility is crowded since it is common for both Junior and senior College students. The College has established central computer facility. There are 15 computers in the computer centre with a dot matrix and an inkjet printer. There is a need to upgrade the computers with the copyright software. The College needs to have Internet connectivity with the cyber-café facility for the benefit of students in order to acquaint them with the information super highway.

The College has an indoor multi-gymnasium of 16 stations for boys. The College has playgrounds for different games and range for shooting practice. The College regularly participates in the different University level meets. The College may create a sports department and focus on professional training of the students, and prepare them for participation at University, State and National level.

CRITERION V: STUDENT SUPPORT AND PROGRESSION

The percentage of students appearing for the university examination after the minimum period of study ranges between 33 to 52 percent. The drop out rate is around 43 per cent. The College may analyse the reasons for the high drop-out rate, and initiate corrective measure by speaking to parents, counselling the students, offering bridge courses and remedial teaching. The pass percentage of the students in the university examination is below that of the university average. The standards of internal examination may be enhanced. The College may adopt "Mentor System" thereby each teacher is entrusted with the responsibility of a group of students. This would help students in developing their personalities and also building confidence in them. The College has no record of its

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students passing examination like- UGC-NET, SET, GATE, GRE and TOFFEL. The learning outcome needs to be improved.

Financial aid is provided to the needy students. The students get the government scholarship available to the backward class communities and physically challenged students. The information regarding various scholarships and students amenities is to be disseminated quickly to the students concerned. At present, the College does not have an exclusive placement cell, but places the employment information on the notice board.

The College has no formal Alumni Association. The College should make all possible efforts to make the alumni base sound for mobilising the resources for the development of the College. The parents help in periodic assessment of the functioning of the College and suggest measures for improving the office work, sports facilities and co-curricular activities.

CRITERION VI: ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

The Mula-Education Society governs the College. The periodic meeting of the Local Management Committee analyses the working of the College and provides the required financial assistance. The LMC may initiate an academic audit of the College and review the programs offered in order to introduce socially relevant and job-oriented courses. Internal coordination and monitoring is done by Principal, Heads of department, faculty forum and activity committee takes care of the routine and day-to-day activities of the College. The office superintendent takes care of the administrative jobs and monitors the work of non-teaching staff. The College provides training to the non-teaching staff members in computer applications. The College has an internal audit mechanism.

The College operates different welfare programmes- like- Students Welfare Fund, Staff Welfare Fund etc. The College may introduce the group insurance scheme for students. The Management provides different types of loans to teaching and non-teaching staff members. There is a Grievance Redress Cell in the College.

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CRITERION VII: HEALTHY PRACTICES

The Peer Team has identified a few unique features that enhance the academic ambience of the College. These are as follows:

- It offers a self-financed course in computer literacy to first year students helping them to gain computer knowledge. This is helping in raising additional resources for the College.
- The College is engaged in extension activities through its NCC and NSS wings.
- Many teachers of College have submitted Minor Research Proposals to U.G.C. for financial assistance.
- Two teachers of the College are recognised research supervisors and are active in guiding Ph.D. students.
- Teachers of the Departments of Marathi and Hindi are contributing to literature through their publications.
- The PG Courses are offered on self-financing basis.
- The College has initiated vermi-culture in the premises.
- The College has acquired a 16 station multigym for boys.
- The College has started an "Internal Quality Assurance Cell" in accordance with the guidelines of the University of Pune.

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SECTION 3: OVERALL ANALYSIS

Based on the Self Study Report and the visit to the various academic and infrastructure facilities of the College, the Peer Team observed that the process of quality improvement has been initiated. There are some good features of quality assurance and standards in the College. The Peer Team, however would like to bring to the notice of the College certain concerns and make the following recommendations for its consideration:

- The existing programmes may be reviewed and job oriented and vocational courses like Pest Control, Poultry and Dairy Science, Fashion Design and Interior Technology, Environment Science, Fermentation Chemistry etc. may be introduced.
- To provide exclusive accommodation and infrastructure facilities to the senior students so that their academic training will be strengthened.
- To provide separate and permanent accommodation to the different departments
- To establish institutional linkages with nearby industries and institutes for the benefit of the students.
- The existing internal assessment process be strengthened in order to improve the results in the annual examination
- To analyse the reasons for high drop out rate of students by seeking professional advise from social workers and psycho analysts, and to initiate necessary corrective measures.
- The remedial coaching may be strengthened and bridge courses be offered particularly in subjects like mathematics

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- Mentoring System may be introduced.
- Planting trees in the entire campus for greening the premises.
- The students' appraisal of teachers without their name and signature so that frank and fearless opinion be gathered.
- The laboratory facilities in all the science subjects may be improved.
- All the teachers may be encouraged to maintain the teaching diaries.
- An English Language Laboratory be established for improving communication skills of the students.
- To provide more text books and recent reference books in the library.
- To improve the sanitation facilities.
- Group Insurance Scheme for the benefit of students be introduced.
- To encourage girls students in sports by providing professional training
- The first-aid centre may be strengthened.
- A formal Alumni Association may be constituted and their services may be utilized for the developmental activities of the College.
- To seek the help of the Parents and Philanthropists for raising additional resources to the College.

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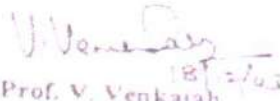
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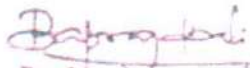
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The Peer Team is of the opinion that this exercise will be useful to enhance the quality process initiated by the institution towards further growth and development

Name and signature of the peer team:


Prof. V. Venkatesh
(Chairman)


Prof. B.A. Prajapati
(Member)


Prof. P.S.N. Reddy
(Member)


I have gone through the report and agree with it:

Date: December




Dr. B.R. Kamble
Principal
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ASSESSMENT Report of Shri Dnyaneshwar Mahavidyalaya, Newasa




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