

REPORT OF ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE (AAAC)
YUVARAJA'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)
JHANSI LAKSHMIBAI ROAD, MYSURU – 570 005

Introduction

Yuvaraja's College (Autonomous) affiliated to University of Mysore, Mysore, is an institution, which was started on 24th June 1948 after independence. It is housed in a heritage building. It began with a two-year intermediate course in Arts and science college in 1954. Post-graduate courses were also conducted in 1971 and later shifted to Manasagangotri. In the year 1971, the full-fledged college was started and is recognized by UGC under 2(f) and 12(B) of UGC act and Government of Karnataka. College was conferred Autonomous status in the year 2005. The college now offers both undergraduate and post graduate courses. The institution is totally funded and managed by the Karnataka State Government and affiliated to University of Mysore. The college has 21 departments including 4 departments of languages. In total it offers 19 combinations. The college also offers 7 PG courses and BCA course along with 2 add-on courses. Most of the students of the college are from rural and socially disadvantaged sections. The College was accredited by NAAC in the third cycle with A grade (CGPA 3.34). **The college is thus going for the fourth cycle of re-accreditation by NAAC.**

The college has an enviable history of being one of the oldest institutions of its kind and has the distinction of being the first undergraduate science college started in the princely state of Mysore by the Karnataka Government. Over the years it has come to enjoy an iconic status of having acquired name and fame with several famous persons having served on its faculty and its rich alumnus of outstanding student achievers and has all the potential to develop into a degree awarding institute. The college is known for value based education and empowering women.

The college presently has been offering many UG programmes under the faculty of Science, and 7 PG programmes under CBCS scheme. The college has been continuously monitoring its academic programmes through internal and external peers with the sole aim of achieving excellence in higher education. In order to get a reassurance about the quality of the academic


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programmes followed, the college decided to get a feedback from the external peers before going for the fourth cycle of NAAC re-Accreditation.

Accordingly, the institute constituted an external Academic Audit Committee with the following:

1) Dr. R Somashekar

Chairperson

Professor (Retd), Department of Studies in Physics

University of Mysore, Mysuru 570 006

2) Dr K A Raveesha

Member

Professor and Head, Department of Water and Health

Faculty of life sciences, JSS Academy Higher Education

and Research, Mysuru 570015

3) Dr. A Balasubramanyam

Member

Professor (Retd), Department of Studies in Geology

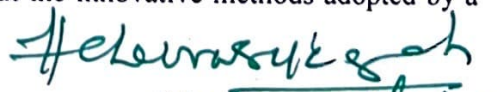
University of Mysore, Mysuru 570 006

Review of the committee:

The committee met on 18th November 2020, under the chairmanship of Prof. R Somashekar to work out the modalities and plan of action for the visit. The criteria/parameters for assessment and the detail schedule of visit were finalized communicated to the College. The committee visited the college during 19th ad 20th November 2020.

The Principal made an eloquent and exhaustive presentation on the academic activities of the college highlighting the history and development of the college and various activities during the assessment period.

There after the members of the committee visited various UG and PG departments and interacted with the faculty members and obtained information about the innovative methods adopted by a


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few departments in the teaching- learning processes besides looking into the infrastructural facilities created for effective teaching- learning.

Based on the information obtained from different stake holders and critically analyzing the same the committee makes the following observations:

The college has adequate number of class rooms and laboratories needed for imparting quality education. The college has a separate new Post Graduate building for all PG departments. Ground floor has accommodated three PG departments, while the recently completed, First floor accommodates some of the PG departments. All the departments have adequate number of ICT enabled class rooms and laboratories. Presently hostel accommodation is being provided for nearly 200 students. UGC has sanctioned Rs 70 lakhs for the construction of indoor stadium. Several funding agencies have sanctioned funds for research and development for infrastructure which has been judiciously utilized within the stipulated time.

Governance and Leadership:

The college is governed by a supportive and visionary governing body catering to the academic needs of the college. The Principal has a clear vision of development for the college in the coming years. Principal has plans to develop the institution laterally and vertically by introducing more number and variety of UG and PG courses to cater to the changing needs of society and strengthening curriculum of existing programmes. Further definite plans are chalked out to increase the intake to provide greater access to boys and girls for higher education and thus empower women. Administrative and academic leadership is provided by the principal.

The principal is very well informed about the developments in policies and programmes in higher education at national and international level. Principal is also well aware of the challenges, expectations and objectives of an autonomous college like curricular reforms, changes in evaluation process and internal evaluation. The Principal and faculty have a very progressive outlook and a positive approach for addressing the problems of students. There is also committees to support and advise the Principal and they are (i) Governing council, (ii)

Academic Council, (iii) College council, (iv) finance committee and (v) all other committees as per UGC norms..

Student's strength and profile:

The total strength of UG students is 1975 and PG students is 346. Most of the students are from rural side living in and around Mysore city Thus the college presents a picture of an atmosphere of inter cultural harmony is pervasive over the campus. The number of students enrolled is high and has an intake capacity to accommodate even more number of students, when the college acquires new buildings.

Faculty strength:

Fifty five permanent faculty out of sanctioned 96 posts are generally very responsive to college initiatives towards curricular reform and quality up gradation; they are putting in their efforts in that direction. Some of the departments, especially languages have upgraded their courses and brought in fresh innovations. The department has abundance of talent and holds out great promise of developing into an independent school of language and literature. Department of Sanskrit with a single teacher has done wonderful job of encouraging the students to learn sanskrit and also other co-curricular activities centering around sanskrit which is really commendable.

Faculty quality is uniform across departments and they are very promising and dedicated to their work which is a very good sign in a Government college. The department Biotechnology need to be augmented with additional good staff members. More than 80% of the teachers have Ph D and some of them have passed NET/KSET. This is an asset for the college to grow in all spheres of activities. There are number of guest faculty and many of them have Ph D and also have passed NET/KSET. College has very dedicated teaching group. Student feedback Academic programmes and teacher quality is regularly taken from stake holders and analysed by IQAC using the statistical package developed by the Statistics department. The college has an active IQAC which has submitted all the AQARs on time to the NAAC.


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Infrastructure for teaching and learning:

The college has built up impressive infrastructure facilities needed for teaching and learning both UG and PG programmes. The college has state of art laboratories with equipments needed for imparting practical/skill training. The floor area of the building is about 4000 sq.mts and has been further expanded with an additional exclusive PG block. There are a number of spacious lecture halls with multi-media projection facilities and adequate number of laboratories. UGC has accepted a proposal for the construction of an auditorium. Very good museum is maintained at Zoology and Geology departments and a separate Botanical garden maintained by the botany department serves as an important teaching aid. The open playgrounds facility is available at the campus with an indoor games room. The college has the needed hostel facility for girls and boys in addition to the canteen and a spacious garden. The college has a mechanism to identify the slow learners and impart remedial coaching for them. College has a very good health clinic with a dedicated doctor.

Academic Programmes\Curricular offerings:

A wide range of UG and PG programmes spanning languages, science, mathematics, add-on and vocational courses are offered. Apart from the continuation of the diversity of existing courses of study offered over the years, the college has made consistent and constant efforts to add new courses keeping in view the changing needs of the society and the job prospects of the students. Thus, the college has started 7 new programmes including PG courses like MSc in chemistry, Microbiology, Zoology, Biochemistry, Botany, Mathematics and MBA. All programmes are offered under CBCS system of the University of Mysore. The college geared up to take full advantage of the autonomy and has revised prepared the syllabus every year. Some of the new papers like film appreciation, alternative English, creative writing in kannada. There are two accepted patents from the College.

Teachers' engagement with the curriculum is a refreshing feature; teachers are engaged in

reviewing and reforming existing programmes as well as updating and designing new curricula. Their engagement also covers development of learning materials and e-content in different disciplines and making them available to students' on-line through intranet facility. This is a very welcome initiative of the college. All teachers in the college maintain day-to-day diary of theory and practical classes which one of the best practices of the college.

Student support:

The college has provided a variety of support services to the students with regard to food, lodging, guidance and counseling. The college is being a government institution, many students get student concession and scholarships which is actively supported by the institution. Further, there is good scope for raising funds from the large alumni for college activities and for student support.

Student activities and performance:


Many students of the college have participated in intercollegiate, university and inter university level sports and cultural activities. The NCC and NSS activities are very good. Students have been employed in public and private sectors. More than 50 % of UG students have continued their studies by joining PG courses either in the college or in the University.

Examination and evaluation process:

Since the college is affiliated to the University of Mysore, all examinations and appointment of examiners, valuation, and announcement of the results are the part of the University. College has excellent track record of conducting theory and practical examinations since its inception.

Career Guidance and placement Cell:

The College is aware of the fact that empowering students through soft skill development paves way for better employability. Accordingly soft skill training programs are organized frequently


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to increase the confidence of students to face interviews. Recently some students were selected in the campus interview conducted by Infosys and other companies. College has established a separate placement cell. Further, the officers from the university employment bureau are invited to educate the students about the job opportunities in private and government sectors.

Library Facility:

College has a huge UG library with a carpet area of 364 Sq mts, and with a seating capacity for 50 students. Separate reading rooms for students and staff are also available. The library is fully computerized with open accession systems followed. Further there is a separate PG students reference section in the library. The library has the INFLIBNET facility provided by UGC. Thus the college has access to e-journals and e-books through INFLIBNET. However the college needs to subscribe for more research journals and e-journals and e-books provided by standard publishers. If there is space in the new PG block, PG library section can be shifted to the main PG block.

IQAC :

IQAC has been constituted as per UGC and NAAC guide lines. This section has collected all the required data from various section for preparing AQAR of different years. Periodic reviews have been conducted to improve the performance of academic and administrative systems of the college. A few innovative practices have been introduced based on suggestions given by previous AAAC and IQAC.

Teacher's evaluation system:

With the aim of improving the quality of teaching and as per the requirement of NAAC the evaluation of teachers by students is done regularly thus indicating that the performance appraisal of teachers is an important component of the functioning of the college. The student feedbacks are analyzed systematically by the IQAC and sincere efforts are made to correct the mistakes and improve the teaching learning process. The college has to take necessary steps to


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take self appraisal reports from the teachers and get them evaluated as per UGC norms. Further it is necessary to introduce peer appraisal of teachers which would provide a yard stick for accessing the performance of the teachers in teaching, research and extension.

Suggestions:

1. All vacant permanent sanctioned posts must be filled with qualified candidates.
2. Teachers should get some more major and minor research projects from national funding agencies.
3. Systematic analysis of the online feedback from the students would help improve the faculty performance and introduction of need based job oriented courses.
4. The college has to take sincere steps to establish industry academia interaction cell and consultancy cell for result oriented partnerships and generating fund.
5. College needs to create avenues for WIFI internet access within the campus and provide all e-learn resources of the library for easy access by all stake holders. The e-governance system should be improved to provide better on line services to the students including payment gate-way , attendance , internal assessment details and library accession of new books. The web site of the college shall have more information about the growth of the institution, the stages of improvement shown including the previous three cycles of assessment, action taken report and alumni details for public appreciation and student satisfaction.
6. College should have its own LMS(Learning Management System). A separate co-ordinator be nominated to look after the SWAYAM and MOOC courses right from registration to certification of the students.
7. All laboratories should be upgraded with modern equipment by removing obsolete Equipment.


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8. All newly recruited teaching and non-teaching staff be given proper training for improving their performances.
9. Teachers are required to be given adequate training on 'online' teaching pedagogy in order to effectively conduct the virtual classes.
10. More computers are needed at the library to match the student's strength. PG library section may be shifted to PG block.
11. IQAC may take initiative for green audit (energy, water and environment) and gender audit and prepare the reports.
12. The college needs to subscribe for e-resources and e-books to provide access to the faculty and the students on the current trends of research.
13. The college may introduce free mid-day meal scheme to the non-local rural under privileged students.
14. Efforts may be taken to introduce reforms in the examination and administrative sections. In addition, curriculum review and updation may consider multidisciplinary approaches and skill development component in order to meet the human resource requirement of the future under the aegis of NEP 2020.

The committee is of the opinion that the college is expected to go for fourth cycle of NAAC assessment by Dec 2020 /Jan 2021, appropriate measures are to be taken with proper budgeting to satisfy the requirement of basic amenities (Sanitation and rest rooms) and upkeep of all the facilities on war footing manner.


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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The academic audit committee wishes to place on record their sincere thanks to the college Principal, Dr Yashoda BN, and Dr Vidya Raju, Co-ordinator of IQAC, Dr H C Devarajegowda, Administrative Officer, Dr Mahesh HD, Controller of Examination, teaching staff, non-teaching staff and supporting staff for the co-operation and courtesy extended to the committee during their visit to the college.

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28/11/23