

REPORT OF THE PEER TEAM
Institutional Accreditation of
G. S. College of Commerce and Economics
Giripeth, Nagpur, Maharashtra
Visit Dates : 12th-13th September 2003

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

Inspired by the constructive ideals of the country's Freedom struggle, the G. S. College of Commerce and Economics was established just before Independence in 1945. It is run by the Shiksha Mandal, Wardha, whose founding fathers included Seth Jamanalaji Bajaj and Sri Shrikrishnadas Jajoo, both devout Gandhians and great patriots. The present management of the Mandal under the presidentship of Sri Rahul Bajaj also includes leading industrialists, educationists and other socio-political leaders. It is not only the first commerce college in the city of Nagpur but is also a major citadel of learning in central India. Affiliated to the Nagpur University, G. S. College

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has grown considerably during the last nearly six decades of its existence. True to its motto, "*industrious and lion-hearted men generate wealth*", the institution has set before itself some well-defined goals and objectives which include (a) imparting theoretical as well as professional instructions in different fields of commerce education, (b) providing all possible facilities to build up personality and character of the students, (c) inculcating among students love for country and a sense of national unity and (d) developing among students the capability to be efficient managers, responsible businessmen and able administrators.

Situated in a sprawling nearly 7-acre plot, the college has striven to achieve its goals and objectives by introducing suitable academic programmes and putting together necessary infrastructure towards executing the same competently. At first it was purely an aided institution. Gradually, responding to the needs of the times, it introduced several self-financing courses at degree, diploma and certificate levels. Today the programmes include B. Com., M. Com. M. B.A., D. B. M, Diplomas in computer learning and some unconventional programmes like C. A. Foundation course (now called Professional Education), one-year research orientation course, preparing PG degree holders towards undertaking independent research etc. Thus, though basically an aided college, it now offers a much wider choice of courses and option of subjects to students in their pursuit of higher education. While the number of students in the aided programmes comes to 1476 that in the various unaided courses now stands at about 1259. Some of the unaided courses are taken also by students coming from outside Maharashtra.

There are 27 permanent and 19 part time faculty members. There is an equal number (47) of what is described as contributory lecturers appointed to teach



the self-financing courses. Together the campus has a vibrant and competent faculty group to cater to the academic needs of about 2800 students. Thirteen of the faculty members hold Ph. D. and one has submitted thesis for the same. A couple of others are reportedly working towards that end. Six senior teachers are recognized as research guides by the University.

In addition, the College has extended facilities to the YCMOU, Nashik, to conduct their contact classes for their various distance education programmes. It is to the credit of the College that the above center is the third largest maintained by the University outside its headquarters.

It is in the background of this past pride and current dynamism that the G. S. College of Commerce and Economics volunteered to be assessed and accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The College submitted a detailed self-study report to the apex agency in March 2003. The NAAC then constituted a Peer Team for the purpose. The Team consisted of the following:

Dr. A. N. P. Ummerkutty,
Former Vice Chancellor of Calicut University,
Temple Gate P. O., Thalassery, Kerala **(Chairman)**

Prof N. G. Sabhahit, Former Principal,
Bangur Nagar Arts, Science and Commerce College,
Dandeli, Karnataka, **(Member)** and

Dr. J. V. Dave
Professor and Head, Dept of English,
North Gujarat University, Patan, Gujarat **(Member)**



Shri Ganesh Hedge, Assistant Advisor, NAAC

Co-ordinated the work of the Team very smoothly and efficiently.

- The Peer Team visited the College on 12th and 13th September 2003. Before reaching the campus, the Team members studied the self-study report and the accompanying documents in detail. During their stay in the campus, they visited all the facilities available, including the classrooms, central library, sports amenities, gymnasium etc. They also held detailed discussions with the Principal, the Management, the faculty members, and non-teaching staff, students, alumni, parents and others concerned. The team also perused documents displayed. Based upon all the above, the Peer Team has prepared the following report.

SECTION 2: CRITERION-WISE ANALYSIS

Criterion I: Curricular Analysis

The college offers a broad spectrum of academic programmes, a total of 14 courses at UG and PG levels, mainly under Commerce, Management, and Computer streams. The academic package of the college comprises a variety of programmes, conventional such as B.Com, M.Com, MBA & DBM, Short-term diplomas in Computers, Bridge courses for C.A & Ph.D & Preparatory courses for BA/B.Com. It is appreciated that the college is also the centre for some courses of YCMOU for the benefit of those who cannot get admission to regular day college courses. The Peer Team commends that the college offers a wide choice of Commerce & Business Courses.

Responding positively to the needs of the student-aspirants, the college has started several no-grant basis courses and value added short-term courses



that run concurrently with the main degree courses, which is a step in the right direction. The courses offered are in tune with the motto, mission and goals of the college management and go a long way in providing career opportunities and potentials for Personality Development with a balanced knowledge-skill-character enhancement.

There is enough internal flexibility in the available choice of core and non-core subjects and the simultaneously run add-on courses ensure horizontal mobility of the students. The college has also attempted multi disciplinary and inter disciplinary approach in its wide variety of courses and subjects. It is notable that ts are initiated to establish linkages with industry and commercial organisations.

Though a large number of faculty members is involved in designing, evolving and updating the University syllabi in various subjects, curricular updating does not appear to be based on feedback from the peers, experts and employers. This is because there is no formal, statutory mechanism to obtain and use such feedback. However, CA foundation courses and computer courses have been introduced after taking feedback from alumni and prospective employers.

Industry-Academy linkage need not be limited to student training & placement. To achieve a two-way traffic, the experts from the firms and industry may be invited to involve themselves in teaching programmes and the college faculty members may offer their academic expertise and experience to the industries by way of Research and Consultancy.

The college being a premier centre of learning with an impressive and long-



