

Report of the Peer Team on the Institutional
Accreditation of
Kakojan College, Kakojan, Dist. Jorhat, Assam

SECTION 1 : INTRODUCTION

The Kakojan College, Kakojan, Assam is located in a rural area and is affiliated to Dibrugarh University. The College requested the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) to assess the college. Accordingly the NAAC adjoined the following as members of the Peer Team to visit the College.

Dr. P.V. Vaidyanathan, Former Vice Chancellor, Chairman
Annamalai University, Tamilnadu,

Dr. Arabinda Kumar Das, Director, Member Convener
Academic Staff College, Burdwan University, West Bengal,

The Committee visited the college between 9th and 10th February 2004.

The college started in 1967 is a grant in aid institution with the approval of U.G.C. under 12B rule of 1956. UG courses (B.A.) catering to the needs of 480 students under the annual system of study are run by 22 permanent faculty and nine temporary faculty. 3 of the permanent faculty including the Principal hold Ph.D degree, 1 holds M. Phil and all the rest hold P.G. degrees.

The College located in an area of 2 acres houses the academic wings, library and sports facilities. A canteen and a vehicle parking shed are also available for the use of faculty and students. Hostels and housing facilities are yet to be built in an adjacent campus of 7 acres area.

Steps are being initiated to have collaboration with nearby institutes and they are yet to take shape.

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The college has received fund through M.P. and M.L.A. funds to the tune of Rs. 5.5 lakhs and alumni of Rs. 1.75 lakhs. Each student pays Rs. 1610 per annum towards his study apart from examination fees and caution deposit. Almost all the students are of assamese origin and they participate in student union activities. These disciplined set of students study in an educationally friendly environment.

The criterion wise analysis is given in the following pages.

SECTION II : CRITERION WISE ANALYSIS

CRITERION 1 : Curricular Aspects

Kakojan is situated 16 Km away in the east of Jorhat town and 40 Km from the West of Sivasagar town in Assam. Kakojan college which is affiliated to Dibrugrah University was established on 24th July 1967 with the contribution of the public, educationists, social workers and so on. It is situated in a rural area surrounded by M.O.B.C., O.B.C., Tea Garden and ex-tea garden laborers, tribals and economically backward and flood affected people. The mission of the college has been to offer service to the cause of higher education specially to the rural students belonging to poor economic background. It has been imparting higher education in Arts at the under graduate level with Major in English, Assamese, History, Education, Political Science, Sociology and Economics. The Science stream of degree course has been started in 2001 and is imparting teaching in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Botany and Zoology. Major has been started recently in Mathematics, Botany and Physics. The college has come under deficit system of grant in aid w.e.f. 01/09/1981 and registered under UGC 2 (f) act on 12/12/1998. They have also recently got permission from Dibrugrah University to open M.A. courses in Political Science, Sociology, Economics and Assamese through distance mode. In the past two decades the college has shown some good result in the faculty of Arts obtaining 1st class in various subjects.

The College has about 480 students, 29 teachers (including temporary teacher) and 13 employees. Introduction of some vocationally centered courses like Computer Science managed by privately own party situated in the college

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building seems to be attractive. The college also is trying to offer career oriented programme options in the greater interest of the students. It has adopted some mechanism to get feed back from the students in respect of its organization. Alumni Association, Guardian Association, faculty members and students provide constructive suggestions regarding academic matters of college.

The college dose not have any significant role in restructuring the curriculum and it can not introduce any kind of new programme of its under the present affiliating system of the University. Thus the curriculum does not include any value based education, college- industry neighborhood network.

CRITERION II : Teaching learning Evaluation

The undergraduate students are admitted into various courses on the basis of interview, and academic records. In addition special screening test is conducted in the case of major students. But there is some relaxation for the SC, ST, Tea-garden labourers who are admitted against some reserved seats. There are provisions for unit test, home task terminal examination and tutorial classes. The faculty members help the advanced learners to work ahead with special care and individual guidance. The slow learners are also helped with additional classes. Extra classes are arranged at *Puja* vacation and summer vacation. The heads of the departments allot course materials to the faculty members at the beginning of the session. Apart from the classroom teaching, departmental seminars, group discussions are held at short time intervals in which the students also participate. The faculty members participate in PCS, workshop, seminars and conference. The teachers follow conventional lecture method but there are provision for audio visual aids for teaching . There is also teacher performance appraisal method. Unfortunately there is no monitoring and rewarding for successful teaching. There is large difference between the working days (207) and teaching days (107) of the college. It is explained that large number of days are lost in the conduct of examination to higher secondary students who are attached to this college. The unit cost of education for undergraduate students is Rs. 6267/-

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The teachers are recruited as per UGC guidelines and the state government regulations. The principal and the management have appointed a number of part-time teachers particularly in science stream on adhoc basis with a very low salary (Rs. 500/- -950/-). Out of 22 permanent teachers only two have Ph.D. Degree and one has M.Phil. Degree. There is no formal evaluation of teachers by the students.

CRITERION III : Research Consultancy and Extension.

The faculty members are encouraged to continue research work by granting special study leave. Two faculty members have already completed Ph.D. and two completed M.Phil courses. Some other faculty members are also continuing research work. An 'Extension Services Cell' has been formed in the college for the benefit of students, faculty members, staff and surrounding people to create the good motivation. The college initiated seminars involving not only teachers but also students. The institution is responsive to community needs and conducts some extension awareness programs. Popular talks on different topics including spiritual aspects are also arranged in the neighborhood place. Some other programs of social reference like 'Economic Study Centre' 'Mass Literacy Camp' have been launched for the benefit of the common people.

Research culture of the college is poor ; only less than 10% faculty members have some research experience. There is as such no faculty participation in consultancy work. Only few teachers have some publications in Journals or written books. Very few teachers have participated in national or international conference held in India.

In order to promote cultural activities of the college, students are encouraged to participate in drama, music, etc. Once a year the college conducts competitions in cultural events for recognizing the talents of the students. The college encourages the students to participate in extension activities through NCC and NSS units. Blood donation camps are organized by the students.

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CRITERION IV : Infrastructure and Learning Resources

The college has a master plan for the development of a second campus of the Institution. A building committee looks after the construction of additional building augmenting the facilities and the maintenance thereof after due approval from the governing body. The master plan envisages the construction of a girl's hostel and a community hall in a 7 acre area plot. A fishery, sericulture unit, a poultry and planting of cash crops are part of the developments through the master plan proposals.

The college itself is located in a beautiful surroundings. A nice garden is being developed to enhance the beauty of college.

A Library containing 7921 text books, 2330 books on other related topics and 16 journals is functioning between 9.15 am and 4.00 pm. A few computers and video cassette have been kept in the library. However introduction of reprographic facilities, internet and digital library will be highly useful. The library is yet to be modernized.

There is no common computer center available for the use of students. However, an outside agency has opened a computer center in the campus.

On request doctors from a primary health center visit the college but systematic health check up facilities are needed. A limited amount of sports facilities such as badminton, cricket and football are available. A few students have won medals in inter-districts and interstate competition. Yoga training is being provided to students by a near by Vivekananda Kendra and Praja Pita Brahma Kumari Viswavidalya.

Hostel facilities for girls and boys is absent. The college may well take steps to build hostels, as many of them commute from outside the campus.

Separate room for girls and boys are provided for their recreation during leisure hours.

CRITERION V : Students Support and Progression

The college has good support services to ensure the physical and intellectual health of its different constituencies. The college has been promoting different facilities to students like sports, cultural, co-curricular, extra-curricular and social activities. The prospectus of the College gives guidance to students about admission, the fee structure, provision for financial aid and other support services. The college requires offering placement services to its students. Effective mechanism to use student feedback for quality enhancement is still to be formalized. Alumni Association of the college has been formed to have co-operation and support in various aspects. The employment cell is not active. The students' financial aid is not enough. Student drop out rate is alarmingly high (in 2001: 19.67 % while in 2002 : 55.54%) Students passing rate in examination is also poor (in 2002 it is 55.54%). The fall in drop out rate is attributed to the possibility of students migrating to other colleges in search of subjects of their choice.

CRITERION VI : Organization and Management

A Governing Body (GB) consisting of President, Secretary, representatives of Faculty and nonteaching staff and responsible citizens looks after the administration of the college. It is assisted by other committees of the college.

An academic council consisting of principal and heads of the department prepares the policies and rules as per directions of the university.

A library committee supervises and approves the basic requirements of the

library, such as books and journals. With a single computer data connected with the library are entered in the main disc for future use. The library is yet to utilize computers extensively for search and issue of books. The addition of digital library will enhance the value of the system.

A students union is managed by elected departmental secretaries, under the control of advisor nominated by the principal from among the faculty.

A calendar committee comprising a few faculty process the calendar for the functioning of the college for the whole year. An examination committee, a board of justice and admission committee help the principal in the smooth conduct of the college.

The annual budget of the college is being audited by the authorized auditor each year.

A grievance redressal cell looks into the grievances of students, faculty and staff as and when reported.

While the permanent employees are paid salary pension and gratuity they are yet to get other benefits such as medical reimbursement and LTC . Loan from contributory provident fund is available as per eligibility.

CRITERION VII : Healthy Practices

The peer team noted that the following healthy practices are adopted by the college :

- Handwritten magazine
- Proper utilization of available fund
- Science club.

A number of departments encourage the students is bringing out Handwritten Magazine . This encourages the students in exhibiting their inherent talents in literature, drawing and painting.

M.P. and M.L.A.s have donated substantial amount for the development of the college. It is heartening to note that the management has judiciously allotted the amount for the improvement of infrastructure.

A science club to create awareness among rural students has been started. One magazine is published regularly. A mini medicinal garden has been established. A mushroom cultivation unit and bee keeping project are functioning to create interest in rural boys in such useful activities .

SECTION III : OVERALL ANALYSIS.

The peer team visited all the departments, library and other supporting services such as canteen, student rest rooms and sports facilities, interacted with Management, Principal, Faculty, Students, Staff, Alumni and Parents, perused through the documents provided to validate the facts mentioned in the SSR.

The team observes that the following are the strong points in favour of the college:

- Well disciplined enthusiastic students
- Conducive educational environment
- Dedicated faculty
- Sufficient built up area
- Encouragement to students in their literacy activities

However the team would like that the management pay attention to the following points of concern :

- Library automation
- Establishment of a gymnasium
- Improvement in communication facilities
- Encouragement to non teaching staff
- Performance appraisal of faculty by students

- Less number of teaching days
- Better emoluments to temporary faculty

The team wishes to thank the management, Principal and others for the nice arrangements made for the smooth conduct of the visits and wishes the college success in their future endeavours.

Date: 10th February, 2004

Signature of the Peer Team

1. Dr. P.V. Vaidyanathan

(Chairman)

2. Dr. Arbinda Kumar Das

(Member Convener)

I have read the conducts of the report and I accept the facts mentioned

Dr. A.C. Saikia

(Principal)