

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE AUDIT REPORT

OF

**BHARATI VIDYPEETH
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
PUNE, INDIA**

(2017 - 2020)

The Committee

Prof. M. G. Takwale,	Chairman
Prof. R. S. Mali,	Member
Prin. V. R. Shirgurkar,	Member
Prin. Nalini Patil,	Member

Dates of visit : 9th – 14th February, 2021

Dr. S. F. Patil
Coordinator
Internal Quality Assurance Cell
Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University), Pune

REFERENCE :

Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University vide their letter no. BVDU: A5: 2020-21/3079 dated 1ST February, 2021 constituted a Committee consisting of Prof M. G. Takawale former Vice Chancellor, Shivaji University, Kolhapur and member of the Board of Management, Prof R. S. Mali former Vice Chancellor, Kavayatri Bahinabai Chaudhari North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon, Prin V. R. Shirgurkar, former Principal, Parvatibai Chowgule College, Margao, Goa and Prin. Nalini Patil, Principal, SNDT College of Education, Pune, to conduct Academic and Administrative Audit of the University comprising of 27 constituent institutions/colleges of the University functioning at different locations in the country.

INTRODUCTION :

This report is an outcome of the Committee's reflections on the key observations of the state and functioning of the academic programmes of the university, its constituent institutions, administrative and infrastructure systems, gleaned from the interactions with the heads the constituent units and administrative personnel, including the Registrar, Finance Officer, Director, IT Cell of the University etc. Comprising of academicians from diverse disciplines and institutions, the Committee undertook this exercise of conducting an 'Academic and Administrative Audit' of Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University) with an orientation that seeks to be systemic, comprehensive and facilitative of changes in the university system. It has not considered an 'audit' to be an exercise in assessing or identifying individual limitations and problems or assessing academic performance in terms of fixed and external criteria. Instead, an effort has been made to seek and understand the orientation, functioning and impact of the work done by the constituent units and their contributions to the dynamic domain of knowledge. The idea of a university as a place where a diverse body of knowledge is created, nurtured, and disseminated was kept at its focus.

THE UNIVERSITY :

- Bharati Vidyapeeth trust was established in 1964 by Dr Patangrao Kadam to provide educational opportunities to rural masses in Maharashtra state. The mission of the Trust is to bring about intellectual awakening among the people through the spread of education and to prepare globally competent human resource needed to overall development of our country. Bharati Vidyapeeth has established 73 schools and 80 institutes of higher education to cater the educational needs of the people. Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed to be University was established in 1996 u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956 to provide world class higher education to the people specially to rural masses. The University presently occupies a coveted place in the national list of 'A' Grade Category-1 and included in the MHRD list of A1 Deemed Universities. The University has been accredited for third cycle by NAAC in 2017 and awarded A+ Grade with CGPA 3.53 in the year 2017 and has considerable potential to further develop into an institution of national and international repute. The NIRF rank of this university is within the top 100 universities (63rd Rank). The inputs provided by the members of this committee must therefore, be interpreted as constructive arguments enabling the university realize this potential.
- Over the years, the University has grown into multi-faculty educational hub. 29 constituent institutions/colleges are located at various places such as main campus in Pune and satellite campuses at Sangli, Navi Mumbai, New Delhi, Karad, Kolhapur and Solapur. The University offers Undergraduate, Postgraduate, Doctoral and Research level programmes under different faculties which include disciplines like Modern Medicine, Dentistry, Ayurved, Homoeopathy, Nursing, Engineering, Pharmacy, Business Management, Architecture, Arts, Sciences, Commerce, Social Sciences, Hotel Management and Physical Education.

- It has total enrolment of 24042 Students out of which more than 50% students are from outside Maharashtra State and 530 International students from 43 countries. The University has very strong research and development programmes and 823 Ph.D. and 15 M.Phil. students are registered under various faculties in the academic year 2019-20. The University is unique in a sense that it has three research institutes having research and development programmes which offer only Ph.D. degree.
- The University has 1755 teachers appointed under different categories and 4057 non-teaching and technical staff.
- The campuses of the university are spread over 187.91 acres, out of which main campus is spread over 80 acres at Pune and around 100 acres distributed over different satellite campuses.
- Looking at the unique Vision of the University i.e. 'Social Transformation through Dynamic Education' the Committee undertook this exercise on the premise that assessment of academic performance need not be based only on final results and placements but should encompass the entire spectrum of academic engagement: teaching- learning- evaluation and actual performance in research, publications, outreach, advocacy of democratic principles, and contribution to national development. The ability of each faculty member to be collegial and to contribute to the development and growth of individual institutions and to the University as a whole are also considered as indispensable.

OBSERVATIONS :

1. Curricular Aspects:

- The University offers PG-114, UG – 417, UG Diploma – 5, PG Diploma – 35, Ph.D. – 79 and Fellowship Programmes – 32. Few skilled based add-on courses have been offered by some institutions.
- The process of curriculum design, development and revision from time to time is conducted on the basis of well structured feedback system wherein feedback from students, teachers, alumni and employers is collected and analyzed.
- Most of the institutions prepare teaching plans and monitor them regularly which are uploaded on their websites and are available on Learning Management System introduced by the University.
- The CBCS System has been introduced in most of the institutions bringing in adequate academic flexibility
- Some of the institutions are successfully conducting value added and skill based courses for the benefit of the students

2. Teaching Learning and Evaluation :

- The student's enrolment in all the institutions is satisfactory and demand ratio is also good. Many constituent units have enrolled students from Maharashtra and other states. The number of International students is also sizeable. This student profile has brought significant diversity of students on the campuses. The constituent colleges/institutes have adopted suitable strategy to address this diversity issue by making the Teaching Learning process as effective as possible. The committee found that the teaching learning process adopted by the faculty still involves lecture methods. However, few institutions have tried new Student Centric Methods such as Flipped Class Room, focus on presentation, case studies, online classes and internships.

- During the COVID 19 Pandemic period of the constituent colleges/institutes could successfully switch to online teaching using in different platforms like Google Team and ZOOM successfully. This initiative is appreciated by this committee. Some of the institutions have used blended learning mode successfully.
- Evaluation process is conducted mainly with IT support. Question banks have been developed and mapping course-outcomes to questions has been done. In most of the constituent colleges student's performance in final examinations is in the range of 75% to 90%.

3. Research Innovations and Extension :

- Promotion of research is done effectively in some leading institutes of the university. Following three institutes are fully devoted to research and development activities;
 - (i) Interactive Research School for Health Affairs (IRSHA), Pune
 - (ii) Yashwantrao Chavan Institute of Social Sciences and Research, Pune
 - (iii) Research and Development Centre for Pharmaceutical Sciences and Applied Chemistry, Pune
- IRSHA and RD Centre for Pharmaceutical Sciences has received substantial financial support from International as well as National Funding Agencies. Hence, they have created excellent facilities for advanced research in the field of Pharmaceutical and Health Sciences. However, YC Institute of Social Sciences lags behind in achieving their Goals.
- Research, Publication by faculty in these institutions is also good.
- Some constituent units have signed MoU's for collaborating with National and International universities.

4. Infrastructure and Learning Resources :

- Physical facilities in the institutions located in Pune, Mumbai and Delhi are good. Similarly, facilities in the Medical College and Hospital, Sangli and Dental College and Hospital, Sangli are also good. In most of the institutions the library resources and IT infrastructure is adequate. Due care is taken for well maintaining the infrastructural facilities.

5. Students Support and Progression:

- As mentioned earlier, the students' passing percentage is in the range of 75 to 90%. Students passing out from different constituent colleges/institutes get good placement in leading industries and reputed institutions in India and abroad. The constituent colleges have undertaken extensive outreach activities involving adequate participation of students and faculty. However, there is scope for improvement in alumni engagement in terms of their contribution to the university.
- University has established International Students Cell to help and guide Foreign students taking admission in the University. All International collaborative activities are monitored by this cell.

6. Governance and Leadership:

- The university has focused in its vision on Social Transformation through Dynamic and Relevant Education. Accordingly, the university has setup constituent units in rural areas such as Karad, Sangli, Solapur and Malkapur, making higher education facilities available to the students coming from nearby villages. This is a challenging task taken up by the university.
- Every constituent unit has established Internal Quality Assurance System through their IQAC Cells. Regular meetings of these Cells are conducted and inputs are given to the IQAC Cell of the University from time to time.

7. Institutional Values and Best Practices :

- The University has been making continuous efforts to provide facilities to students and scholarships to needy students. The Earn and Learn Scheme provides financial support to poor students.
- Some institutions have adopted unique Best Practices taking advantage of their distinctiveness.
- The Institute of Environment Education and Research, Pune, Interactive Research School for Health Affairs, Pune and RD Centre for Pharmaceutical Sciences have given excellent results in research.
- The IT Department and the Examination department have contributed significantly in their respective fields. The Examination section is capable to declare the results within 15-20 days after completion of examination.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Curriculum revision can be strengthened in some institutions using feedback system or Need Base Analysis of the Curricula.
- Few institutions should be encouraged to increase collaborations with NGOs, industries and other reputed educational institutions.
- Organize more number of programmes for students, in collaboration with the institutions having MoU with.
- Introducing new advanced level value added and skill-oriented courses.
- Strengthening of Alumni Associations for better support and their involvement is required in academic and other activities.
- Develop mechanism for identification of Learning abilities and aptitude of the students at the beginning of the academic session.
- Generation of funds from government agencies such as UGC, ICSSR, RUSA and from non-government agencies at institutional level.
- Encouraging good research atmosphere by taking up research projects through funding agencies like UGC, ICSSR etc.

- Encourage teachers to publish papers in high quality Peer Reviewed and UGC CARE Journals.
- The colleges need to formulate Goals and Objectives in line with Vision and Mission of the University.
- The documentation of students progression and support activities has to be done properly.
- Correct information regarding curriculum revision needs to be collected from each college.
- Improving students' placements with proper information such name of the employer, appointment letter with package, mobile number and e-mail ID of students.
- Mechanism and purpose of mentoring system must be made very clear.
- Inter institutional and interdisciplinary research activities needs to be promoted for better output of research.
- A proper mechanism should be developed to monitor the academic and research activities of constituent units.
- School of Performing Arts, School of Visual Arts and School of Photography have potential to develop into innovative institutions hence, these institutions be promoted by putting proper infrastructure and introducing more short term or long term programmes.
- To promote the research activities in the various constituent units, the university should create its own research fund through which seed money can be provided to the faculty member.
- There is a need for generating funds through consultancy services.



Prof. R. S. Mali
Member



Prof. M. G. Takwale
Chairman



Prin. V. R. Shirgurkar
Member



Prin. Nalini Patil
Member

Action Taken Report:

- Curriculum revision undertaken across all programs at least once in 5 years
- Collaborations increased with industries to support student placements, internships, academic courses etc and more than 170 MoUs developed in last 5 years
- Student orientation programs organized across all units as per UGC quality mandates, Interactions with industry experts, alumni and distinguished persons of respective fields are regularly organized.
- Value added courses introduced across all programs, 197 programs introduced in last 5 years.
- Alumni associations strengthened; more than 12 associations are registered in last 5 years.
- Slow learners and advanced learners are identified. Procedures developed to support and improve slow learners while opportunities and exposure given to advanced learners.
- Funds received for research to the tune of Rs 50 cr in last 5 years from government agencies.
- Research policy revised to include incentives for quality research publications.
- All constituent units plan their annual activities as directed by university IQAC and in line with the vision and mission of university.
- Student progression in terms of placements and admission to higher education or self-employment is documented over the years.
- Student support activities such as mentor-mentee meetings, guidance, and counselling, are well documented and beneficiaries are recorded. New value-added courses are included in curricula to improve the skills and employability of students.
- Minutes of meetings of BoS of all colleges and Academic Council notifications pertaining to curriculum revision are well documented and compiled.
- Student placement record is well maintained at each constituent unit.
- Student mentoring mainly includes one mentor mentee meeting every month to address students' issues related to exams, teaching schedule, hostel facility, healthcare, laboratory facility etc.
- Interinstitutional and interdisciplinary research is promoted, and faculty is encouraged to undertake interdisciplinary projects by way of monitory support through seed money.
- RAC is established at university level and college level to monitor research activities. Dept of Academic Development & Quality Assurance was established at university level to monitor academic activities.
- Facility established for cinematography at Dhanakwadi campus. New programs such as BA photography and cinematography, BA commercial photography, BVA applied Arts introduced in last 5 years.
- Research policy of BVDU revised. Research proposals are invited from all faculty, scrutinized by the respective committee and selected proposals are funded with seed money with more preference to interdisciplinary proposals.
- In last five years' funds raised through consultancy increased from 51 lakhs to 16 cr.