

# **Report of the Peer Team on the Institutional Accreditation for the Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Miraj, Maharashtra.**

## **Section 1: Introduction**

Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Miraj is an affiliated college of Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra, established in 1983. It is a college established by Sri G.B.Deshmukh, for the upliftment of girl students of the disadvantaged sections. The college is run by the Abhinav Shikshan Mandal, under the management of the Governing Council led by Shri Arvindrao G Marathe.

Today the college is housed in a land admeasuring 1.38 acres in the Town of Miraj. The college offers aided courses at the undergraduate level. There are only 2 undergraduate programmes.

The student strength of the college is 895. Majority of the students hail from villages around Miraj-Sangli Urban area. There are altogether 21 teaching staff. 4 of the staff are Ph.D. holders, 10 are M.Phil. holders and the rest with postgraduate qualifications. The number of administrative staff including technical staff is 17.

The unit cost of education for the aided courses is Rs.1585/-. The temporal plan of academic work is the annual system, as per the regulations of Shivaji University.

The college volunteered for the assessment and accreditation process and submitted its self study report to the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) during December, 2003. On the request of the institution, NAAC constituted a peer team with Prof. K. Ramamurthy Naidu as the Chairman, Dr. (Mrs.) J.S. Kusuma Geetha, Former Professor, University of Mysore, Mysore and Dr. T.V.N.Rao, Dean, M.S. Ramaiah Institute of Management, Bangalore – 560 054, as members. The peer team visited the college on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December 2003 and held extensive discussions with Management, Principal, Faculty, Students, Parents and Alumni Association Members. Peer team visited various departments, gymkhana, NSS and other infrastructural facilities with a view to validating the

self study report on the basis of the on-the-site-visit and interaction with various groups. Criterion wise report is given in the following paragraphs.

## **Section 2: Criterion-wise Analysis**

### **Criterion I: Curricular aspects**

The Kanya Mahavidyalaya was established with a clear mission for empowerment of the girls from the disadvantaged sections of the society, through diverse educational programmes. With this noble mission curricular / academic programmes were developed and implemented through aided programmes. Although two programmes and infrastructure facilities are being provided, the management needs to focus on programmes with social and economic relevance and job oriented courses to meet the challenges and present needs of the society.

The College has Arts and Commerce Faculties and all the academic programmes are guided by the University in terms of syllabi, examinations and evaluation, which leave little scope for innovative programmes to be offered by the college. It should be noted that the college has not made efforts to introduce any job-oriented courses on self-financing basis.

The curricular options are more academic oriented than career oriented. If there are some courses on entrepreneurship management included in the academic programme, a graduate will be in a better position to generate employment for herself and others.

At present the college does not have a mechanism to obtain feed back from the academic peers, students and employers on the curriculum followed by the college. There is an urgent need to evolve a mechanism to formulate innovative programmes and modify the existing programmes to suit the socio-economic environment of the region. The industry institutional interaction may be explored to improve the quality of the academic programmes by interacting with local industrialists.

Only one out of the entire faculty is a recognized research guide to carry out research for Ph.D programme is available in Marathi Department. The existing courses need to be

strengthened by involving experts to interact with the students on a regular basis. There is an urgent need to start some vocational courses on self financing basis.

## **Criterion II: Teaching-learning and Evaluation**

Teaching, Learning and Evaluation constitute the crux of the quality of educational services. In an effective system of education, appropriate inputs need to be given to get the desirable output. To do this the institution needs to be in a position to judge the students' knowledge and offer the remedial courses to get them prepared for that course. It is desirable, therefore, to identify weaker students right at the beginning of the academic session, immediately after the admission to the first year, and offer remedial courses. Kanya Mahavidyalaya needs to make organized attempts in this direction.

The teaching process adopted by a few teachers is commendable. While a few teachers have adopted innovative and newer methods of teaching, many of the teachers need to switch over to a more efficient methodology of teaching. The college encourages, at periodical intervals, guest lectures, workshops, seminars, projects, and educational tours at periodic intervals.

The examination is conducted by the college, under University directions, at the end of the year. However, the college should encourage teachers to adopt a creative and innovative evaluation process to identify the extent of knowledge absorption by the students so that remedial measures can be initiated, on an ongoing basis.

Teacher recruitment is done according to the rules and procedures laid down by the government. The selection of teachers is done through an interview conducted by the Selection Committee appointed under the statutes of the Shivaji University.

Faculty development programmes should be initiated by the college with a multi-pronged approach, consisting of, short term programmes arranged in the college in different departments by inviting experts and guest faculty from the national level teaching and research institutes. Faculty should be encouraged and also be given the financial support to attend Faculty development programmes.

Self evaluation by the Faculty should be streamlined so as to produce the desired impact and the students' evaluation of teachers may be further strengthened. It is also highly essential to monitor the teaching practices by a well-designed procedure and reward good and innovative teachers. There are a few teachers with good academic and research output in some departments of the College, only their numbers must increase.

College does not have any national level linkages and tie-ups for facilitating student learning and placements. There is an urgent need for the college to look up for more linkages for its own development.

### **Criterion III: Research, Consultancy and Extension**

Kanya Mahavidyalaya has very few teachers involved in active research. Since the college does not have any postgraduate departments, the research output and the research culture is yet to begin. Although the staff has the freedom to publish their research in academic fora, only a very few faculty members were able to avail of this opportunity. Currently research activities are being conducted only in one department.

Faculty, currently, are accepting assignments to act as resource persons in the Distance education programmes of other open Universities. However, they are not doing any individual or institutional consultancy work although there is a lot of scope for some of the departmental staff to take up consultancy work. Industry-institutional interface will promote research and consultancy operations.

It is encouraging to note that the college has undertaken extension activities like NSS and NCC to promote community services. The College should organize more outreach programmes in the areas of adult education, eradication of child labour and public health. More medical camps in rural areas will help poor people. Self-employment opportunities and entrepreneurship development among women is one area where the college could focus on. Legal awareness and women empowerment programmes should be conducted for women in the neighbouring areas.

#### **Criterion IV: Infrastructure and Learning Resources**

The College is located in a rented building. It has space for the classrooms, library and administrative offices. The infrastructure includes classrooms, staff rooms, library, Gymkhana and NCC room. The Library does not have adequate space to accommodate a normal complement of students. The College does not have a computer center. The college has ample water and power supply.

The college does not own the buildings in which it is located. It has four buildings of which two are located in one place and the remaining two are located in two different places. The physical infrastructure is put to use not only for college programmes but also for use by a Junior College and a School. The timetable is spread in such a way that classrooms are used optimally. The college works on a shift system.

The library is housed centrally. There are 6771 books in the Library. The library subscribes to 39 periodicals.. The library facilities are shared by both the degree college and the junior college. More magazines and journals may be added. It is advisable to allocate money for procuring more periodicals to inculcate the reading habits of the students. The Library does not have Internet, photocopying and computer facilities. On the whole the library needs to shift to a more spacious location.

There should be central computer facility which could be used by all the faculties, since the departments do not have independent computer facility. Additional facilities have to be provided for the staff if they have to pursue research. The college does not have an independent health center. There is no hostel facility in the college.

College does not have abundant space for providing physical and infrastructural facilities in sports and physical education. Regular training facilities are not available to the students. The college has produced some good sportspersons who represented the College, University and the State, at different levels of competitions. Facilities for indoor games are also not available in the college.

There is no canteen to cater to the needs of the students, staff and visitors. On the whole the infrastructure facilities in the College need to be improved. There is always scope for

improvement of the facilities. All the stakeholders that the peer committee interacted with, such as the parents, staff, alumni and even the governing council members, strongly expressed the need for the college to have its own building and grounds.

#### **Criterion V: Student Support and Progression**

Though college is located in Urban area, it mainly caters to the needs of students from the disadvantaged sections. More than 800 students seek admission in the college and pursue higher education. At the undergraduate level about 80% of the enrolled students appear for the qualifying examinations. Based on the data provided, progression to employment and further studies is 10%. Nearly 95% of the students successfully complete their studies, while, on an average, 5% of students dropout of the courses. Given the fact that this is a college admitting, very often, first generation learners, the progression rate is satisfactory. Admission on the basis of merit and reservation for various categories is strictly observed.

The college has an alumni association. However, at present the Alumni association is not very active. The college should develop a mechanism to obtain a comprehensive feedback, at periodical intervals, from the old students. This will help the administration in taking remedial measures for quality improvement.

Not many students leaving the college take up competitive examinations such as the UGC-NET, SLET, IAS, CAT and so on. Attention must be paid to this fact by the college. Some extra guidance and coaching might help the aspiring students. Career guidance effort must be strengthened. The long list of alumni indicates that many students of the college have settled in vocations and careers after leaving the college. They may be able to inspire the present students to pursue professional careers. Therefore, the alumni association may be involved in the career guidance effort.

College publishes prospectus regularly. It contains details of courses offered, procedure for getting application, eligibility for admission, reservation rules, fee structure, facilities available etc.

Various schemes for financial assistance are available to the students, which include assistance from the Governmental and non-governmental agencies.

College has an informal career guidance service. There is a need for a formal Placement cell. Counseling to the students is also done informally in the college. Mentoring process may be started where by a group of 15 to 20 students is allotted to each teacher for help and counseling in academic matters. Mentoring activity may be incorporated in the Time-Table.

#### **Criterion VI: Organisation and Management**

The Abhinav Shikhan Mandal, Miraj, manages the affairs of the College with the help of an executive committee. The Principal of the college is a member of this committee. The committee is responsible for general administration of the college, for the recruitment of lecturers and other staff, and for disciplinary action.

Principal is the administrative and academic Head. A Vice-Principal and the Office Superintendent and the Accountant assist him. The Local Managing committee, set up as per the statutory requirements of the Shivaji university, helps in decentralizing the administration. Heads of departments and various committees look after the day to day activities of the college.

Assessment of manpower requirement is done by the management. The selection of teachers is done as per the rules framed by the government. The selection is done as per rules applicable to the grant-in-aid posts. There is no system of performance appraisal for teaching and non-teaching staff. Except for promotional purposes, no appraisal is done for the staff in a systematic manner. Evaluation of teachers by the students has been introduced only in 2002-2003. There is a need for periodic training of the non-teaching staff. Computerization of office documents needs to be initiated.

Besides the welfare schemes available from the government, the management provides financial help in deserving cases.

The college prepares annual budget allocating resources to various users. There is an internal auditor for the college accounts. The aided courses are in deficit. The deficit is made good by the management.

Current sources of funds are the fee collection and salary and non-salary grants from the government. Special funds mobilization campaign to garner a corpus to finance the growth of the institution is necessary.

### **Criterion VII: Healthy Practices**

Republic and Independence Days are celebrated. Civic responsibilities are inculcated through extension activities. The college has made all the efforts to provide a value based education. Students are engaged in meaningful activities to increase their awareness about hygiene, health, scientific temper, secularism etc.,

The teachers are dedicated and committed. The college does not collect any donation for admission and appointments. Complete transparency in admission and appointment is a healthy practice followed by the College Management. Lectures on AIDS awareness, evils of dowry, women's, stress management, sexual harassment and many such problems are regularly arranged for the benefit of students.

Students come from middle and lower middle class backgrounds. There are many first generation learners, particularly from the surrounding rural areas, who come enthusiastically to learn from the college. The faculty and students have an excellent relationship. On whole the college appears to be a caring and concerned organization. Even the parents expressed satisfaction about the service motive of the institution. Students' keen participation in the college activities is noteworthy.

### **Section 3: Overall Analysis and Suggestions / Recommendations.**

The college has a noble mission of empowering girl students from the backward sections through higher education. The peer team commends the institution for all the good work it is doing for the cause of higher education as stated in the above criteria. However, Management should evolve a perspective plan for the development of the institution. a need assessment is required to be done for developing the relevant and career oriented quality programmes. The following recommendations are made by the team for further improvement of the institution.



- First and foremost recommendation of the peer team is that the college should put up its own buildings and should arrange for sufficient space for sports and other activities. With out achieving this the college will find it difficult to grow.
  - Vocationalising the programmes according to the needs of the society is an important consideration.
  - Women studies may be an integral part of the college which will facilitate the assessment of women's needs and plan programmes for women's development and women's empowerment.
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- Entrepreneurship management courses may be introduced which will equip the students with adequate competencies for economic empowerment.
  - Every faculty member may participate in research and extension activities especially for academic excellence.
  - Computer proficiency needs to be stressed for all the students, teaching, administrative and technical staff. In this context it may be noted that the college does not have computers to service the students. Therefore, the college needs to invest in a number of computers and a Computer Laboratory.
  - The use of innovative teaching methods by all the teaching staff is essential to motivate students' learning. The use of computers in teaching learning process is not there at all. Therefore, it is desirable that each department may have atleast a computer with Internet facility and a printer.
  - Students need to have intensified coaching and career counselling.
  - The college needs to forge linkages with the industry for training and development. Industry-institution interface may be commenced for the benefit of the students.
  - It will be desirable if the college enhances the library and reading room facilities. The Library needs further strengthening regarding purchase of books, subscribing to journals and computerization. There is a crying need for more space for the Library.
  - There is a need that college devises and undertakes faculty improvement programmes for its teachers.
  - Health center may be established in the campus.
  - There is also a need for accommodating the Alumni Office in the campus and the alumni's help may be taken in all future development activities.

# Quality Profile

Name of the Institution : Kanya Mahavidyalaya

Place : Miraj, Maharashtra

Criterion	Criterion Score (Ci)	Weightage (Wi)	Criterion X Weightage (Ci x Wi)
I. Curricular Aspects	60	10	600
II. Teaching-learning and Evaluation	70	40	2800
III. Research, Consultancy and Extension	50	05	250
IV. Infrastructure and Learning Resources	50	15	750
V. Student Support and Progression	60	10	600
VI. Organisation and Management	70	10	700
VII. Healthy Practices	70	10	700
		100	$\Sigma C_i W_i = 6400$

$$\text{Institutional Score} = \frac{\Sigma C_i W_i}{\Sigma W_i} = \frac{6400}{100} = 64.00$$

*Urash*  
Director