

**PEER TEAM REPORT
ON
INSTITUTIONAL RE-ACCREDITATION OF
BARRACKPORE RASTRAGURU SURENDRANATH COLLEGE, BARRACKPORE**

Section I: GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. Name & Address of the Institution **BARRACKPORE RASTRAGURU SURENDRANATH COLLEGE, BARRACKPORE, DIST: NORTH 24 PARGANAS – 700 120 (West Bengal).**
- 1.2. Year of Establishment 1953
- 1.3. Current Academic Activities of the Institution (Numbers)
- Faculties/Schools Arts, Science, Commerce & Management
 - Departments/Centres 24
 - Programmes/Courses offered PG 04 UG 26 Any other: 06
 - Permanent Faculty Members 85
 - Permanent Support Staff Non-Teaching : 37 , Technical : 20
 - Students UG: 4475, PG: 1984.
- 1.4. Three major features in the institutional context (as perceived by the Peer Team)
- Multi faculty College with conducive academic ambience.
 - More than 50% of the students are girls.
 - Performance of the students in the University examinations is highly impressive.
 - The institution has implemented most of the observations of the Peer Team at the stage of first accreditation.
- 1.5. Dates of visit of the Peer Team 13 – 14 March 2009.
(A detailed visit schedule is included) (Attached)
- 1.6. Composition of the Peer Team which undertook the on-site visit
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|--|--------------------|---|
| | Chairperson | Dr. Vasant M. Chavan (Former Pro VC, Shivaji University) Director, Bharati Vidyapeeth University, Institute of Management, Kadamwadi, Kolhapur-416003, Maharashtra. |
| | Member Coordinator | Prof. J K Mohapatra
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| | Member | Prof. Shankar Lal Gargh,
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Section II: CRITERION-WISE ANALYSIS

2.1. Curricular Aspects

2.1.1. Curricular Design & Development:

- Academic programs and courses are in tune with the vision, mission and the objectives of the college.
- The PG curriculum is designed to facilitate entry to further higher education as well as employment and self-employment.
- Curriculum offered by the Institution has relevance to the regional and national developmental needs.
- The institution makes effort to get feedback on different curriculum offered / proposed to be offered by the institution and submits its proposals to the University for approval.

2.1.2. Academic Flexibility

- All the courses are in the annual system. It would be better if the institution can impress upon the University to introduce Semester / CBCS at least for the professional courses.
- Adequate programmes/course combinations are available to meet the academic needs of the students.
- Six Add-on courses are offered along with regular courses.

2.1.3. Feedback on Curriculum:

- The institution collects feedback from the outgoing students on the curriculum.
- Feedback from employers is collected from time to time, particularly at the time of campus placement. However, the system needs to be streamlined and widened.
- Feedback from alumni and parents are collected and analysed and communicated to the University for the redesigning of the courses.

2.1.4. Curriculum update:

- The curriculum used to be updated by the affiliating university (Calcutta University) in regular intervals. However, the College has now come under a new University, the West Bengal State University and the University is yet to review the matter.
- Teachers were members of the P G Boards of Studies of the Calcutta University and have contributed in redesigning of the syllabus.
- The institution is offering interdisciplinary courses in subjects like Microbiology, Electronics, etc. and emerging thrust areas.



2.1.5. Best Practices in Curricular aspects (if any)

- Courses in emerging thrust areas and interdisciplinary in nature are offered.
- Add-on courses offered.

2.2. Teaching-Learning & Evaluation

2.2.1. Admission Process and Student Profile

- Wide publicity is given for inviting applications for admission to various courses through the College website and advertisement in regional and national newspapers. The institution follows merit as the criteria for admission. The online admission system developed by the institution is in tune with the demands of time.
- Admission process is transparent and based on pre determined criteria. The College ensures equity and access by admitting backward / economically weaker and differently abled students. Nearly 60% of the students are girls.
- The college conducts remedial courses in some subjects for improving students' learning level.

2.2.2. Catering to the diverse needs

- The College encourages advanced learners to accept more academic challenges while due attention is given for the weak learners in the tutorial classes.
- The College is sensitive to the needs of differently-abled students. However, more steps need to be taken to attract differently-abled students to the institution.
- Mentoring of students is carried on through the tutor-ward system, but the scope needs to be enlarged.

2.2.3. Teaching-Learning Process

- Detailed academic calendar is prepared before the starting of the new academic session, with a view to integrate the teaching, learning and evaluation process. Teachers maintain teaching diary and performance of the teachers is monitored on daily basis.
- Modern teaching aids are used in classroom teaching and seminars. For some courses, computer-aided teaching and project work is compulsory.
- Industrial visits, field work, exhibitions, quiz etc are conducted to inculcate experimental learning and problem-solving aptitude. Experts from reputed institutes are invited to deliver talks and interact.

2.2.4. Teacher Quality

- 22 Teachers are Ph.D holders, 10 possess M. Phil Degree and 38.8% Teachers have cleared the SET/NET.
- Teachers are appointed as per the Guidelines of the

UGC, University and State Government. The recruitment process is well defined and transparent. Efforts may be made to fill up the vacant teaching posts.

2.2.5. Evaluation Process and Reforms

- 40 teachers have participated in Refresher / Orientation courses.
- System of continuous assessment of the students through assignments, class tests, term tests, pre-tests is in vogue.
- The PG examination system is transparent and effective.
- Students are shown the answer scripts of various internal tests conducted by the institution and teachers discuss the shortcomings with individual students and the performance of the student is informed to his/her parents in the parent-teachers meetings.

2.2.6. Best Practices in Teaching-learning and Evaluation (if any)

- Experimental and participatory learning is practiced.
- Use of modern teaching aids.

2.3. Research, Consultancy & Extension

2.3.1. Promotion of Research

- The institution promotes research. There is a Research Monitoring Cell and budgetary provisions are there to grant seed money for conducting research.
- Leave of different kinds are granted to teachers to undertake research and teachers are encouraged/ supported to attend Seminars and Conferences hosted by other institutes / agencies. Teachers have attended in large number of seminars. The institution may try to host National Seminars.
- The College has signed MoUs with few institutes of repute which facilitates the faculty to undertake research and the students to complete their project work. Five teachers are guiding research scholars as co-guides.

2.3.2. Research and Publications Output

- Teachers of the College have published nearly 100 articles in various journals. More articles may be published in Referred / Impact Factor Journals.
- Teachers of the college have completed / operating 37 minor research projects funded by UGC and other funding agencies. Further, the institution has awarded six Research Projects to teachers from its own funds. One Major research Project with funds from the MPLADs Fund is in operation. More Research Projects can be procured from other funding agencies.
- Steps may be taken to promote research in collaboration with industry and the results of the research may be published.

2.3.3. Consultancy

- Consultancy services and the resources generated through this are limited. There is further scope to widen consultancy services by utilizing the expertise of the teachers.
- There is a need to constitute a cell to organize and coordinate the consultancy activities of the institution.

2.3.4. Extension Activities

- The institution supports and promotes extension activities. The extension and outreach programmes are conducted by NSS volunteers and NCC cadets. The faculty takes part in these activities. The institution has received award from the Balmer Lawrie & Co. and the State Government for its extension activities.
- The extension activities of the College include health awareness programmes, blood donation camps, development of green environment, AIDS/HIV awareness programmes. There is a Centre for Thalassaemia Eradication under the Microbiology Department of the College in association with Indian Red Cross society and the facilities available there are availed by the neighbourhood.
- It has adopted one Ward of the Barrackpore Municipality and the NSS Volunteers monitor its development. Students contribute financially to the needy people out of the funds generated through the Micro-Savings Boxes. The Women Development Cell should expand the scope of its activities.

2.3.5. Collaborations

- The NSS units and NCC wings organise various extension activities in collaboration with GOs and NGOs.
- The College has established formal collaboration with Industries / Establishments, which has facilitated the students to undertake internship and has increased their employability.

2.3.6. Best Practices in Research Consultancy and Extension (if any)

- Establishing and operating the Centre for Thalassaemia Eradication.
- Granting research projects to teachers out of the institution's fund.

2.4. Infrastructure & Learning Resources

2.4.1. Physical Facilities for Learning

- Located in two well-protected campus areas of 4.955 Acres with a built-up area of 20052.88 sq. m with well-maintained class rooms, adequately equipped laboratories with equipments like ECR, HPLC etc. and adequate space for co- and extra curricular activities. There is a need to further enhance the infrastructure to run all academic programmes effectively.
- There are facilities for indoor and outdoor sports

and games. One Mini-Auditorium with 250 seating capacity, Digital Classrooms, Language Laboratory, a Multi-gym are available to cater the needs of the students.

2.4.2. Maintenance of Infrastructure

- The institution makes use of its infrastructure optimally by conducting various academic programmes and co- and extra-curricular activities and letting out to outside agencies for various activities.
- Budgetary allocation is there for maintenance of the College. The estate is well maintained.
- The institution has an in-built mechanism to maintain its infrastructure and physical facilities.
- Computers and other equipment are maintained through Annual Maintenance Contracts. It will be better if the staff of the Computer Science Department develop expertise to maintain the computers.

2.4.3. Library as a Learning Resource

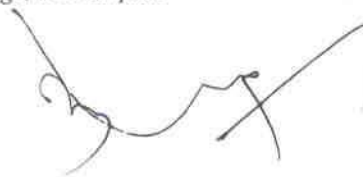
- The College library is housed in two buildings of 9000 Sq.ft. Area (in two campuses) and has 30900 books titles and subscribes to 29 National Journals, 1 international journal, 10 e-journals, 06 Magazines. There are 97 CDs and 07 Audio-Visual Resources. There are more than 400 back volume of journals.
- There are 22 departmental libraries to cater to the needs of the faculty and students of the department. The departmental libraries need augmentation. More books and journals may be procured for the library. The college needs to expedite the process for Inlibnet and EduSat.
- The resource of the Library has been augmented continuously during the last five years. The library has open access system, reading room facility for teachers, scholars and students. The reprographic facility is available.
- Computerised library with 06 computers, bar coding and Internet facility with good use of library management software functions under the supervision of Library Advisory Committee.

2.4.4. ICT as Learning Resources

- There are 183 computer terminals in the College. 96 Computers are stand alone, while 64 have LAN connectivity. All Departments have Computer facility. Internet browsing facilities are available for students with a nominal fee and for faculty free of cost. Computer and Internet facilities needs further strengthening. Some computer labs need more space.
- The College updates its Website regularly.

2.4.5. Other Facilities

- There are staff rooms and rest rooms for the girl students. A Women's Hostel for 20 boarders is available. The efforts of the college to further



expand the capacity needs impetus. Absence of hostel for boys is noticeable.

- There is facility for parking, a well equipped language lab and water purifiers. Canteens are well maintained and provide subsidised eatables.
- There is a Health Centre with a part-time qualified Doctor. One Guest Room on-campus is available. Water is adequately available and Power backup system is in place. The general ambience of the campus is conducive for teaching and learning.

2.4.6. Best Practices in the Development of Infrastructure & Learning Resources (If any)

- Optimum utilisation of physical facilities
- Has developed a system for rainwater harvesting.

2.5. Student Support and Progression

2.5.1. Student Progression

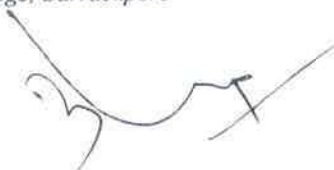
- The College collects data regarding students' progression to higher education and employment informally. This needs to be formalized.
- The pass percentage of the College is impressive and some students have secured University Ranks in the last five years. The percentage of results of the College is higher than the University percentage.
- The drop out rate is 5-7 per cent which is due to socio-economic reasons. The institution is making efforts to reduce the drop out rate.

2.5.2. Student Support

- College publishes its updated prospectus every year which contains necessary information which is made available to all students.
- Besides the government sponsored scholarships, freeships are awarded by the institution. The Teachers' Council and Alumni Association have also instituted scholarships for the meritorious students.
- The College has a Career Development and Placement Cell, which functions under the supervision of a Committee. The Placement Cell has taken steps for on-campus and off-campus placements and some well-known companies have recruited students of the institution. The Cell also arranges coaching facilities for students to appear in various recruitment examinations and admission tests. A fulltime placement coordinator will be more helpful.

2.5.3. Student Activities

- The College has indoor and outdoor games and sports facilities. The institution conducts regular sports and games events and extends training facilities to the students. Students of the College have participated in the Inter-Collegiate, Inter-University games and sports meets. Few students have represented the State in the National events.



- The Department of Commerce and the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication publish journals. The institution publishes its Annual Magazine. There are departmental Wall Magazines. Students are encouraged to write for these publications but they should be motivated to write in English.
- The College organises cultural programmes on various occasions, which provides opportunity to the students to exhibit and develop their talents. One student has proven his talent through the release of his audio albums. Many NCC cadets have cleared 'B' & 'C' Certificate Examinations and two students had participated R.D. Pared.

2.5.4. Best Practices in Student Support and Progression (If any)

- Teachers' Council and Alumni Association have instituted Scholarships.
- Financial assistance given to students facing accidents and emergencies.

2.6. Governance and Leadership

2.6.1. Institutional Vision and Leadership

- The vision and mission of the Institution is in consonance with the stated objectives of Higher Education.
- The Principal and the Management provide leadership and guidance for achieving the Goals and Objectives of the Institution.
- During the last five years the Management has started 4 P.G., 3 U.G. and 4 Value Added Courses.

2.6.2. Organizational Arrangements

- The organizational structure of the College is as per rules. Various committees have been constituted to assist the Principal in administrative and academic matters.
- The management encourages teachers to monitor and participate in various activities of the institution.
- There is a Grievance Redressal Cell which also functions as a cell for prevention of sexual harassment.

2.6.3. Strategy development & deployment

- It would be better if the college develops a plan document for the coming 10 years for the future growth, in addition to its present system of planning.
- Feedback from students, parents, alumni and prominent persons of the locality are taken into consideration while developing the plan of action for the institution's growth and development.
- MIS need to be developed and put in place.

2.6.4. Human Resource Management

- The management is sensitive to human resource requirement to implement the various academic activities of the College. The management has

- 2.6.5. Financial Management & Resource Mobilisation
- appointed staff for the newly started courses.
 - Performances of the teachers are monitored through SAR. Students' Feedback on teachers' performance is in practice. The performance of the non-teaching staff is monitored by the Principal.
 - The management takes steps to improve the efficiency of the manpower of the institution.
 - The College utilises the funds provided by the State Government, UGC and other sources as per the norms laid down.
 - Accounts of the College are computerised and audited by Internal and External Auditors. There are no audit objections.
 - The College ensures proper and optimum utilisation of funds.
- 2.6.6. Best Practices in Governance & Leadership (If any)
- Management encourages feedback from different sources and acts upon the same.
 - Participatory management is in vogue.
- 2.7. Innovative Practices**
- 2.7.1. Internal Quality Assurance System
- The IQAC of the College provides a forum for quality assurance and sustenance.
 - The Students' feedback, alumni response and observations of the parents are taken into consideration for improving quality.
 - Students' representation is there in the IQAC, GB and other committees to encourage their participation in decision-making.
- 2.7.2. Inclusive practices
- The institution is sensitive to the needs of differently-abled, girls and economically weak students.
 - The College makes efforts to develop the personality of the students. which helps the students coming from disadvantaged socio-economic and rural background.
- 2.7.3. Stakeholder Relationship
- The students and the faculty undertake extension activities in the neighbouring areas and have adopted a Ward, thus making the institution relevant to the neighbourhood.
 - The College inculcates civic sense in the students through its various extension and outreach activities.
 - Steps may be taken to conduct more parent-teacher meetings and of the alumni.

Section-III: OVERALL ANALYSIS

- 3.1. Institutional Strengths
- Healthy academic ambience
 - Offering inter-disciplinary/professional courses

along with traditional.

- Computerisation of most of the activities of the College.
- Performance of the students in the University examinations is very impressive.
- Has made itself relevant to the neighbourhood.
- Average use of ICT in teaching-learning process.
- Average research achievements.
- Co and extra curricular activities need further strengthening.
- Infrastructural facilities are insufficient in term of student strength.
- Collaboration with industry is negligible.

3.2. Institutional Weaknesses

3.3. Institutional Opportunities

- To expand collaboration with higher educational institutions of repute.
- Scope for introducing more short-term Diploma / Certificate courses.
- Offering some online training / coaching on specific career areas by networking with the professional agencies in this field (coaching for Tally, Banking / Insurance among others)
- Complete ICT based teaching and learning.
- Developing the soft skill of the students.

3.4. Institutional Challenges

- Introduction of Semester / CBCS.
- Acquiring autonomous status.
- Better achievements of the students in games and sports.
- To develop credible expertise to offer consultancy.
- Widening the placement activities and opportunities.

Section IV: Recommendations for Quality Enhancement of the Institution

- Efforts may be pursued to start short term programmes in the cutting edge areas which may be of particular benefit in career relevance.
- Exploring the research potentials of the faculty, provision of consultancy services be encouraged by establishing formal linkages with industries / institutions.



- The ICT thrust in teaching / learning may be strengthened / expanded further.
- Adequate thrust may be given in faculty development activities, particularly in latest pedagogy and e-content preparation. The salary of the management appointee staff needs rationalisation.
- Alternative environment friendly energy resources can be utilised on campus.
- The infrastructure and library needs to be made disabled friendly.
- Efforts may be made for resource mobilization.
- There is a need to have departmental budgets.
- The institution should expedite the implementation of INFLIBNET / EduSAT.
- The college may strive to introduce more number of professional courses, M.Phil. & Ph.D. Programmes in subjects for which it is now offering PG programmes. Further it would be better if a course in Performing Arts is introduced keeping in view the talent of the students.

I agree with the observations of the Peer Team as given in this Report.

Signature of the Peer Team Members:

Chairman:

Dr. Vasant M. Chavan

Member Coordinator:

Prof. J K Mohapatra

Member:


Prof. Shankar Lal Gargh

NAAC Coordinating Officer:

Dr. Jagannath Patil


Place: Barrackpore (West Bengal)

Date: 14 March 2009.


Dr. Ajoy Kr. Mukherjee
Principal
Principal,
BARRACKPORE
Rastraguru Surendranath College


14/3/09




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