## **Assessment Report for Institutional Accreditation**

of

# M.E.S. Arts & Commerce College, Mudalgi,

## Karnataka

9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> September , 2004

### NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

An Autonomous Institution of the University Grants Commission 2/4, Dr. Rajkumar Road, P.O. Box No. 1075, Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560 010



# Report on Institutional Visit by Peer Team To M.E.S. Arts & Commerce College, Mudalgi, Belgaum District, Karnataka.

Established on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1984 at Mudalgi, Gokak Taluk, Belgaum District in Karnataka by the Mudalgi Education Society to provide higher education facilities to the socially and educationally underprivileged aspirant rural students, the Arts and Commerce College with 84 students in Arts faculty to begin with, has grown steadily and in 2004-05 it had 747 students (127 women and 620 men) in the B.A. and B.Com. Courses, 23 teachers (20 permanent and 3 part-time) and 11 non-teaching staff. The college was recognised by the UGC under section 2(f) in April 1990 and under section 12B in November 1997.

Located in a rural setting in a 42 acre campus, this college is managed by the 15 member Board of Management of Mudalgi Education Society whose vision is to prepare youth to create a strong, secular, self-reliant, united and vibrant India. Inspired by the preaching of Swami Vivekananda and influenced by the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi, the founding fathers have been driven by the vision of 'mind moulding and nation building' in providing quality education through this college.

Affiliated to Dharwad University, this grant-in-aid institution volunteered to be assessed by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). On its submitting the Self-Study Report, the NAAC constituted a Peer Team with Prof.K.Aludiapillai (Former Vice-Chancellor, Madurai Kamaraj University) as Chairman, Dr. I.Bhanu Murthy as Member-Coordinator and Dr C.Gopinathan Pillai as Member to make an on site visit to the college and validate the Self-Study Report. From the NAAC, Dr.M.S.Shyamasundar, Deputy Advisor, functioned as the coordinating officer.

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The Peer Team made thorough study of the Self-Study Report submitted by the College and took up the on-site visit to the college on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> September 2004. Touring the campus extensively and taking note of the facilities provided, the team also had exhaustive discussions with the Principal, members of Board of Management, students, teaching and non-teaching staff, parents and alumni.

Based on the facts contained in the Self-Study Report, points observed during the visit and clarifications obtained during the discussions with various stakeholders, the Peer Team furnishes below the criterion wise report:-

### **Criterion I: Curricular Aspects**

The Goals and objectives of the college have been furnished in the Self-Study Report. They are mentioned in the prospectus and also displayed on the wall near the college gate. Education and Employment are the main goals.

In the study of humanities, language, literature and social sciences nine subjects are offered with provision for 44 combinations. Basically the languages taught are Kannada and English and subjects for B.A. include history, economics, education, political science, sociology, geography and statistics.

Under the B.Com. programme seven papers are taken each year. In 2001-02 'Computer Applications in Business' was introduced.

The curriculum for the various programmes is revised once in three to five years by the parent university. One of the faculty members functioned as co-editor of B.Com I-Kannada (Basic) text at the invitation of the Board of Studies in Kannada of the Karnataka University, Dharwad. Teachers from English, sociology, Kannada, political science and commerce departments participated in various workshops/seminars conducted by the University for updating curricula.

Subject combinations facilitate a multi disciplinary approach.

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### Criterion II - Teaching Learning and Evaluation

As an institution receiving grant-in-aid from Government, the college follows the guidelines issued by the Director of Collegiate Education in admissions.

Special classes are arranged for the educationally backward students. For students admitted to B.Com. without background in the subject, special classes are arranged in accountancy and commerce. Parents are kept informed of the progress of wards.

Through regular class test, assignments, mid-term and preparatory examinations students progress is monitored. Advanced learners are encouraged to give seminars, participate in group discussions, debates and competitions and given guidance to excel.

While organizing cultural activities, the aptitude and talents are given due recognition and consideration.

At the commencement of each academic year, the teachers prepare a detailed month wise teaching plan and carefully record in their work diary the coverage of curriculum as per plan. This is reviewed at the end of each month by the Principal. The teachers use a wide range of teaching techniques apart from classroom lectures like seminars, group discussions, use of OHP, maps, models, charts, watching academic TV programmes like Gyan Dharshan, Discovery and National Geographic Channel telecasts. Study tours, visits to industries etc are undertaken periodically.

The college had 189 teaching days during 2002-03. Nearly 84% of the classes are handled by full time faculty.

As per regulations of the Government, teachers are appointed by the management by calling for applications through newspaper advertisements. Selection Committee is constituted as per norms prescribed and meritorious

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candidates are selected. Temporary and Adhoc teachers are appointed and paid by the management.

Thirteen teachers attended seminars/conferences/workshops the National/International level. During the last two years 3 members attended orientation courses and 13 participated in refresher courses. The participation of faculty in activities of the above type help them to keep updated in their area of specialisation.

Three teachers have been honoured with awards in recognition of their contribution – one in political science, one in geography and one in Kannada.

Evaluation of the work of the teachers is made through the filling up of a self-appraisal format twice a year. The Principal reviews them. The College Administrative Committee also sits with the Principal and reviews the performance of teachers. The students of the college fill up a format on their campus experience and this contains their response on performance of individual teachers. The Principal goes through these, and, where needed, advise and guide the teachers to overcome the deficiencies pointed out.

To improve the quality of the functioning of the teachers and the staff, the TQM programme was organised by the college.

There has been, in the opinion of the Peer Team, a multi-pronged effort to inject quality in the teaching-learning process in the college.

Evaluation methods are explained to the students at the beginning of the academic year and detailed information is furnished on the structure of the question paper, distribution of marks etc.

### Criterion III – Research, Consultancy and Extension

Of the 20 permanent teachers of this college, one holds Ph.D. in Kannada and another has an M.Phil. degree. The Kannada faculty member is an approved

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guide of the Karnataka University, Dharwad and five scholars are pursuing doctoral research under his guidance.

Faculty members of the Kannada Department have published 8 books and edited one book. A teacher of the department of geography has authored three books and a teacher of sociology has published a book. A book of poems has been brought out by an English teacher of the college.

Faculty members have been members of various associations and academic organisations and this has helped them to keep in touch with the latest developments in their subjects.

The Peer Team appreciates these initiatives and feels that these could be developed further so that there is a good ambience for research in the college.

Expertise available in the college is made use of by the society. The faculty member of the geography department has been consulted in locating water sources for putting up bore wells. This service as a water diviner has been rendered without any fee being charged. Similar the services of a teacher were utilised as a training supervisor in 2001 Indian Census and the Deputy Commissioner of the District conferred on him 'Best Master Trainer' award.

Various types of extension activities are carried on by the volunteers of National Service Scheme and by Scouts and guides. They include awareness camps for health and hygiene and AIDS, adult education and literacy, environment awareness, community development work, Vanamahotsava etc. Teachers have been delivering extension lectures in villages urging eradication of social evils like dowry system, child marriage, child labour, drinking etc.

The above activities sensitize the local population to social issues and create in them an inner drive to overcome the maladies. Students also learn the art of working with government departments and non-government agencies to achieve socially useful goals. There exits a unit of Bharat Scouts in the college under the

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leadership of dynamic teacher. The teacher concerned represented the country at the Seoi convention in the Korea this year. He also represented the college at the SAARC convention of Scouts and Guides last year.

### Criterion IV – Infrastructure and Learning Resources

The MES College has a sprawling 42 acre campus sharing it with two other educational institutions under the same management. The working hours of the college are from 7 AM to 2.10 PM.

The library of the college has 12,128 books and 32 periodicals housed in a separate building. It is kept open from 7 AM to 8 PM for 6 days in the week. Computer facility is available in the library. Xerox facility is provided in the college though it is not located in the library.

Adequately ventilated rooms are located in the buildings of the college accommodating Principal's Chamber, staff room, ladies room, laboratories for geography and computer departments, college office etc. Drinking water and toilet facilities are provided. Vehicle parking has been taken care of.

The facilities of the college are used by the local population for such purposes as morning and evening walk, drawal of drinking water, conduct of social functions like marriage etc.

The infrastructure is put to optimum use.

Students undergo an annual medical check up with the help of doctors at Primary Health Centre, Mudalgi. First aid facility is available in the College.

Sports and games get the attention that is due keeping in mind the adage 'a sound mind in a sound body'. Cricket pitch, kabaddi and kho-kho, tennikoit, shuttle and ball badiminton, football and hockey grounds and 400 metres track for athletics have been laid. Indoor games like chess, carrom, table tennis and weight lifting are provided for. With grants from the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs,

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Government of India a multi gym has been installed. The college garden is also maintained well.

Sports persons are given T-shirts, sports shoes, special diet, professional coaching in games like volleyball and concessions in fees. Participation of men and women students in Kabaddi, tennikoit etc and men in volleyball, kho-kho, cricket, tennikoit and athletics has been noteworthy.

### Criterion V – Student Support and Progression

Some of the support services provided by the college to the students include orientation for freshers on their joining the college, payment through bank for all dues to the institution, canteen, guidance for employment opportunities etc.

Feedback is obtained on campus experience from all students and action taken on suggestions feasible of compliance.

Annual prospectus is published providing all needed information ranging from admission procedure and courses offered to scholarships refunds and examination system.

The dropout rate is quite low for B.A. course and nil for B.Com. course. After finishing studies in 2003, 17 took up employment and 21 pursued higher studies. Fifteen joined the KES and two passed KPSC examinations.

Most of the alumni are employed as teachers at various levels. Some have taken to service, legal profession and business.

Twelve types of scholarships are available. In 2002-03 about 150 students got scholarships valued at Rs.1.43 lakhs.

Teachers provide counselling to students who approach them with problems. Guidance for employment is also offered. In 2003, nearly 22 persons secured jobs. About 4% of students took to self-employment. A book-bank scheme is in operation.

The college has an alumni association which evinces interest in the growth of the college. As many as 25 students represented the Karnataka University at the inter University sports meet in Kabbaddi, Kho – Kho , Volley Ball, and Athletic last year.

Results in University examinations have ranged from 69.60% in B.A. to 92.86% in B.Com. In 2002-03 the college produced a rank holder in B.A. During the previous 20 years there were three University rank holders.

### Criterion VI - Organisation and Management

Mudalgi Education Society is in overall charge of the functioning of the college. The Degree College Administrative Committee which meets every month is in immediate charge of the affairs of the college. A number of committees in charge of specific areas like admission, timetable, library, examinations, gymnasium etc with many of the teachers as members assist in the administration of the college. This ensures participative management.

The non-teaching staff maintain diary for work done from day to day. They are sent for training program organised by the University and Directorate of Collegiate Education.

From time to time the Government of Karnataka revises the tuition and other fees payable by students in aided colleges. In 2002- 03 it was Rs.1,705/- for B.A. and Rs.2,505/- for B.Com.

The salaries paid to staff in 2002-03 amounted to Rs.60.26 lakhs. Audit takes place regularly.

A grievance redressal cell looks into complaints and sorts them out.

Dress code for teaching and non-teaching staff is in vogue.

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### **Criterion VII – Healthy Practices**

- 1. Twenty committees formed to assist the college in academic and administrative functions roping in all staff as members ensures a sense of belonging among the staff.
- 2. Regular meetings of the Principal with the staff and of the Degree College Administrative Committee every month and management-staff interactive meetings help to sort out all issues and keeps channels of communication always open.
- Teachers-Parents meet organised twice a year helps to monitor effectively progress of students.
- 4. Suggestion box kept in the college helps to get feedback from any one concerned with the functioning of the college.
- Student Welfare Officer and S.C./S.T. cell officer help needy students whenever they face problems.
- Value education imparted through special guest lectures and celebration of festivals and observance of various Days for specific events/issues helps students to develop right attitudes.
- 7. Award of 17 endowment and other prizes to meritorious students encourages merit.

#### **Overall Analysis and Suggestions**

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The MES College at Mudalgi is a typical rural college striving hard to provide quality education to the rural poor. In a span of twenty years quite a few commendable efforts have been made including receiving recognition from the UGC, attracting funds from UGC and other agencies like Department of Sports for Development, etc. Starting computer education in a limited way is also a step in the right direction. Keeping in view the forthcoming Silver Jubilee of the College of

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2009 and the changing educational scenario at the college level, the Peer Team wishes to place the following suggestions for appropriate action by the concerned:-

- (i) Preparation of a Master Plan for the next 15 to 20 years listing out plans for academic and infrastructural growth.
- (ii) Make all students computer literate during their stay in the college by offering a certificate course, if need be on a self supporting basis by the MES.
- (iii) Explore the feasibility of tapping the alumni for further strengthening of the infrastructure like library, computer laboratory, counselling and guidance.
- (iv) Establish linkages with local industries, educational institutions, NGOs to the mutual advantage of the college and the organisation concerned.
- (v) Provide more facilities for improving communication skills, Spoken English and creative writing.
- (vi) With the assistance of UGC start new courses/subjects that have a career orientation or offer certificate and diploma courses leading to acquisition of skills useful in rural areas eg. Horticulture, poultry, vermil-culture, bee-keeping etc.
- (vii) Act as a resource centre for distance education programmes of reputed universities and assist students do post-graduate, diploma and other courses at affordable cost.

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(viii) The teachers need to be persuaded to promote research culture by taking up minor/major research projects funded by UGC and other funding agencies and also taking up doctoral research.

The Peer Team wishes to thank the Principal, management, teaching and non-teaching staff, parents, alumni and students for their courteous interaction and extend them their best wishes for a great future.

Name

Signature

1. Prof. Aludiapillai

Chairman.

2. Dr I.Bhanu Murthy

Member-Coordinator.

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3. Dr C.Gopinathan Pillai Member.

I agree with the observations and recommendations made by the Peer Team in this Report

Name and Signature of the Head of the Institution

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Date: September 10, 2004.

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