

Academic Appraisal Report *of* Autonomous Colleges in Kerala

(As per the Minutes of the Autonomy Approval Committee meeting held on 01/06/2019
Govt. Letter No Hedn C3/333/2018/ Hedn dated 22/06/2019)



March 2020
The Kerala State Higher Education Council,
Thiruvananthapuram

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Summary of Findings

Only 8 of the 19 Autonomous colleges in the state submitted the academic appraisal report sought by the Kerala State Higher Education Council. Out of this only 4 colleges provided all the substantiating documents. A simple analysis of the data submitted by the various colleges points to the following findings.

1. NAAC Grade Status of Autonomous Colleges

All the 8 colleges that submitted the details have received either A or A+ grade during the period of study.

2. NIRF Ranking of Autonomous Colleges

Majority of autonomous colleges in the state are outside the National Ranking Framework (NIRF).

3. Teachers with Ph. D in Autonomous Colleges

The number of Ph. D holders in some autonomous colleges is decreasing and the percentage of teachers with Ph. D during the period of study is equal to the number of such teachers in several non autonomous colleges in the state.

4. Teachers with Recognition /Awards

The number of such teachers who have received recognition and awards is not impressive in autonomous colleges.

5. Teachers as Research Guides and Grants received for Research Projects in Autonomous Colleges

In the case of research grants received it is seen that the colleges could not maintain consistency. Decreasing percentage of Ph.D holders in autonomous colleges and low level of linkages of the autonomous colleges / departments with research institutions/ universities in the state are factors responsible for this situation.

6. Research Projects and Research Publications of teachers of Autonomous Colleges

some of the institutions have provided the total number of research projects, others have given the number of research projects per teacher and hence an average cannot be obtained. The data show low number of research projects obtained by these institutions.

7. Awards for Extension Activities in Autonomous colleges

The number of extension activities during the reference period ranges from zero to five and the average is very low.

8. MoUs with Institutions of Importance and Autonomous colleges.

The number of MOUs entered into by the autonomous colleges ranges between zero and 24. The average of MOUs obtained is below 5%.

9. Programme wise Pass Percentage of Students in Autonomous Colleges.

The general trend shows that the students' performance in the examinations under autonomy and university are more or less the same. It ranges from 44 percent to 100 percent.

10. Students Progression to Higher Education and Autonomous colleges

The percentage of students' progression to Higher Education has increased over the period of time.

11. Student Achievements in competitive examinations and Autonomous colleges.

The number of students qualifying for such examinations has increased.

12. Project Funding in Autonomous colleges

Research activities in the Autonomous colleges are not up to the level expected of them.

13. Total Project Fund Secured by the Autonomous colleges.

The average funding is only 1.73 crores in the entire autonomy period. The number of ongoing projects with more than 5 lakhs and total project funds received under autonomy period manifest the apparent backwardness in realm of research in the autonomous colleges of the state which can be attributed to other institutions in the state as well.

14. Number of Research Students who secured Young Scientist and other academic Awards.

The number of research students who secured academic awards vary from college to college and is between 1 and 5.

15. Number of Startups/enterprises by students/alumni

Data show that the number of startups by students/alumni is abysmally poor except for Rajagiri College of Social Sciences Kalamassery, which has claimed 14, but has provided supporting evidence for 9 only.

16. Prestigious Research Award

Data show that the faculty in certain colleges likes Rajagiri College of Social Sciences Kalamassery St. Joseph College Irinjalakuda and Assumption College Changannassery performed well in this regard.

17. Number of Patents

The data shows that in spite of their institutional constraints pertaining to research are encouraging the faculty to go in for the next stage of research.

18. Scholarships to Students from Weaker sections and Autonomous colleges

Majority of the students belonging to SC and ST category receive scholarships, fellowships and endowments. But, data pertaining to OBC students is insufficient as certain colleges provide only the number and others only the percentage.

19. KSHEC Scholarship in Autonomous Colleges

The data provided in this regard varies from college to college. A noticeable factor of the data is that colleges with more number of students who received KSHEC scholarship earlier continue to maintain their position. It also reveals the good reputation of such colleges among brilliant students.

Limitations

The above findings are severely constrained by the non availability or rather non cooperation of the colleges. Out of the nineteen Autonomous colleges in the state only 8 colleges submitted the relevant data on various parameters. The number of colleges which provided documentary evidence were even less. Similarly no comparison is made with the academic performance of non autonomous colleges or other higher education institutions in the state or outside the state.

Academic Appraisal Report of Autonomous Colleges in Kerala

The Autonomy Approval Committee meeting held on 01/06/2019 approved the draft format prepared by the Kerala State Higher Education Council for obtaining the data/information pertaining to the performance of Autonomous Colleges in the state. The format included details on 23 parameters and refers to the period from 2014 to 2019.

Table -1 List of Autonomous Colleges that have submitted the details.

Sl. No.	Name of College	Submitted
1	Fatima Mata National College, Kollam	Yes
2	St. Berchman's College, Changanassery	Yes
3	Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery, Ernakulam	Yes
4	Sacred Heart College, Ernakulam	Yes
5	Assumption College, Chanaganacherry	Yes
6	CMS College, Kottayam	Yes
7	St. Albert's College, Ernakulam	Yes
8	St. Joseph's College, Irinjalakuda	Yes
9	Mar Ivanios College, Nalanchira	NO
10	Maharaja's College, Ernakulam	NO
11	St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam	NO
12	Mar Athanasious College, Kothamangalam	NO
13	Marian College, Kuttikkanam	NO
14	Christ College Irinjalakuda	NO
15	St. Thomas College, Thrissur	NO
16	M E S Mampad College, Malappuram	NO
17	Farook College, Kozhikode	NO
18	St. Josephs' College, Devagiri, Kozhikkode	NO
19	Vimala College, Thrissur	NO

The state of Kerala has 19 Autonomous College of which 18 are in Aided sector and one is in the government sector. But, only 8 colleges have submitted the academic appraisal report sought by the Kerala State Higher Education Council. They are St. Joseph's College Irinjalakuda, St Albert's College Ernakulam, Sacred Heart's College Tevara, CMS College Kottayam, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences Kalamassery, Assumption College Changannasseri, Fatima Matha National College Kollam and St Berchman's College Changannassery. Of these 8 colleges, only the CMS College Kottayam, Fatima

Matha National College Kollam, Assumption College Changanassery and Rajagiri College of Social Sciences Kalamassery attached the supporting documents for the data provided. St Albert's College Ernakulam provided documents only for certain questions.

As these colleges received the status of autonomy at different periods, the data have been provided accordingly. The data pertaining to the colleges were sought under 23 parameters (Appendix 1).

1. NAAC Grade Status of Autonomous Colleges

Table . 2 NAAC Grade and Autonomous Colleges

Sl.No.	Name of College	NAAC grade
1	Fatima Mata National College, Kollam	A
2	St. Berchman's College, Changanassery	A
3	Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery, Eranakulam.	A (3.7)
4	Sacred Heart College, Eranakulam	A (3.30)
5	Assumption College, Chanaganacherry	A (3.13)
6	CMS College, Kottayam,	A (3.27)
7	St. Albert's College, Ernakulam	A (3.24)
8	St. Joseph's College, Irinjalakuda	A (3.10)

All the 8 colleges which submitted the details have received either A or A+ grade in the current period. There is no change in the NAAC grading of the colleges during the evaluation period. But it is reported that some of the autonomous colleges that have not submitted the details, have gone down in their NAAC grading which may even make them ineligible to continue as autonomous colleges given the UGC norms for autonomy.

2. NIRF Ranking of Autonomous Colleges

Table .3 NIRF Ranking of Autonomous Colleges

Sl.No.	Name of College	NIRF Ranking
1	Fatima Mata National College, Kollam	2019-83
2	St. Berchman's College, Changanassery	2017-46 2018-62 2019- NA
3	Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery, Ernakulam.	2017-25 2018-43 2019- 35
4	Sacred Heart College, Ernakulam	2017-28 2018-41 2019- 57
5	Assumption College, Chanaganacherry	2019- Not ranked
6	CMS College, Kottayam,	2019- 101-150 band
7	St. Albert's College, Ernakulam	2017- not participated 2018-100- 150 band 2019- not ranked
8	St. Joseph's College, Irinjalakuda	2019- 150-200 Band

Of the 8 colleges that submitted the details, Assumptions College Changanacherry and St. Albert's College Ernakulam do not have NIRF ranking. At present, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences Kalamassery is ranked 37. The Sacred Heart's College Tevara is ranked 57, St. Berchmans College Changanassery is 62 and Fatima Matha National College, Kollam is at 83. CMS College Kottayam is in 101-150 band and St Joseph College Irinjalakuda is in 151-200 band. So special efforts should be made to improve the NIRF ranking of colleges in the state which is reflective of the improvement in the quality of higher education institutions in the state visa viz national level institutions .It shows that the majority of autonomous colleges in the state are outside the national ranking framework.

3. Teachers with Ph.D in Autonomous Colleges

The Number of teachers with research degrees in a college is indicative the quality of the faculty in an institution which can positively impact the teaching –learning and research activities there. The data submitted reveals that there is no appreciable increase in the number of PhD holders in the autonomous colleges during the evaluation period. On the other hand, the data reveal the number of teachers with Ph.D are decreasing in the Autonomous Colleges over the years. St Berchman’s College Changannassery has the maximum of percentage of teachers with Ph.D (60) and St Joseph’s College Irinjalakuda has the least (27). The data further shows that the percentage of teachers with Ph.D in the current year is 40.36% which is equal to the number of such teachers in several non autonomous colleges in the state.

4. Teachers with Recognition /Awards

As per the data provided by the colleges, the number of teachers who have received awards, recognitions and fellowship from premier agencies are minimal. Though St Joseph College Irinjalakuda claimed 11 percent for the current year, it has not been supported by documentary evidence. Data show that other colleges have below 5 percent of teachers who have received awards and recognitions. For the current year, teaching staff with awards and recognitions are zero or negligible in colleges like St Berchmans College Changannassery (1.03) , CMS College Kottayam (1.5)and Fatima Matha National College Kollam. The number of teachers with awards/ recognition is not at all impressive in autonomous college as evident from the data submitted by these colleges.

5. Teachers as Research Guides and Grants received for Research Projects in Autonomous Colleges

The number of research guides in the autonomous colleges is low. Only St Berchman’s College Changannassery , CMS College Kottayam and Fatima Matha National College Kollam have more than 20 percent of teachers with guideship. St Joseph’s College Irinjalakuda (6), Assumption College Changannassery (6.58) and St Albert’s College Ernakulam (7.09) are at the lower end of the list . Decreasing percentage of Ph.D holders in autonomous colleges and low level of linkages of the autonomous colleges / departments with research institutions/ universities in the state are factors responsible for this situation.

None of the colleges could keep up any consistency in getting research grants. The amount received ranges between Rupees 50000 and Rupees 50 lakhs per year. On an average, colleges received a grant of Rs 1 crore to Rupees 2.5 crore since the attainment of autonomy.

6. Research Projects and Research Publications of teachers of Autonomous Colleges

While some of the institutions have provided the total number of research projects, others have given the number of research projects per teacher and hence an average cannot be obtained. While some of the institutions have provided the total number of research papers, others have given the number of research papers per teacher and hence an average cannot be obtained. At any rate the data show low number of research projects obtained by these institutions.

7. Awards for Extension Activities in Autonomous colleges

The number of extension activities during the reference period ranges from zero to five and average is very low. It is to be noted that St Berchman's College Changannassery has never received any award in this regard. Though St Joseph's College Irinjalakuda has claimed 12 awards in 2018-19, the same has not been supported with documentary evidence. The data manifests poor social linkage of these colleges as awards for the extension activities are indicative of the same.

8. MoUs with Institutions of Importance and Autonomous colleges.

The number of MOUs entered into by the autonomous colleges ranges between zero and 24. The average of MOUs obtained is below 5 percent. St Albert's College Ernakulam has claimed 24 MoUs in 2018-19, but the same has not been supported with documentary evidence.

9. Programme wise Pass percentage of students in Autonomous Colleges

None of the colleges could maintain consistency in the pass percentages of students who appeared for different examinations. In certain subjects, the pass percentage has gone up and in certain subjects it has gone down. The general trend shows that the students' performance in the examinations under autonomy and university are more or less the same. It ranges from 44 percent to 100 percent.

10. Students Progression to Higher Education and Autonomous colleges

The data reveals that the percentage of students' progression to Higher Education has increased over the period of time. But, this has to be read with the general trends in the higher education sector of the state where significant number of students opt for further degrees both within and outside the state.

11. Student Achievements in competitive examinations and Autonomous colleges

Though there is no consistency in the number of students who qualified for different national and state level competitive examinations, the data provided by different institutions shows that the number of students qualifying for such examinations have increased. Again, this is a general trend pertaining to the entire higher education sector of the state. The national agencies like NET, CSIR etc. also have increased quota for the number of students qualifying each examination.

12. Project Funding in Autonomous colleges

The average number of projects in each college is below 10. St Joseph's College Irinjalakuda has 20 and Fatima Matha National College Kollam has 13 projects with more than 5 lakh funding from different agencies. Assumption College Changanassery has only 4 and St. Albert's college Ernakulam has only 3 projects in the entire period of autonomy. This shows that research activities in the Autonomous colleges are not up to the level expected of them. There are several institution specific factors for this in addition to the general situation prevailing in the country.

Table4. Project Funding in Autonomous colleges

Sl.No.	Name of College	No. of Projects
1	Fatima Mata National College, Kollam	13
2	St. Berchman's College, Changanassery	16
3	Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery, Ernakulam.	11
4	Sacred Heart College, Ernakulam	8
5	Assumption College, Chanaganacherry	4
6	CMS College, Kottayam,	5
7	St. Albert's College, Ernakulam	3

8	St. Joseph College, Irinjalakuda	20
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13. Total Project Fund Secured by the Autonomous colleges.

The project funds received by different colleges after being granted autonomy ranges between 16 lakhs (Assumption College Changannassery) and 3.08 Crore (Rajagiri College of Social Sciences Kalamassery). The average funding is only 1.73 crore in the entire autonomy period. Data shows that Assumption College Changannassery, CMS College Kottayam, St Joseph's College Irinjalakuda and St. Albert's college Ernakulam has received funding below 1.3 crore. The number of ongoing projects with more than 5 lakhs and total project funds received under autonomy period manifest the apparent backwardness in realm of research in the autonomous colleges of the state which can be attributed to other institutions in the state as well.

Table 5. Total Project Fund Secured by the Autonomy Period

Sl.No.	Name of College	Amount(RS)
1	Fatima Mata National College, Kollam	17757680
2	St. Berchman's College, Changanassery	25709722
3	Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery, Ernakulam.	31298000
4	Sacred Heart College, Ernakulam	27986120
5	Assumption College, Chanaganacherry	1724000
6	CMS College, Kottayam,	7457937
7	St. Albert's College, Ernakulam	12979960
8	St. Joseph's College, Irinjalakuda	12769000

14. Number of Research Students who Secured Young Scientist and other academic Awards

The number of research students who secured academic awards vary from college to college and is between 1 and 5. St. Joseph's College which has claimed 9 for the entire period has not produced any supporting evidence for the same. So is the case with Sacred Heart College and CMS College that have claimed 1 each and St. Albert's College which has claimed 2. Fathima Matha College Kollam has claimed 3 awards but has provided supporting evidence for only 1. It seems JRF/NET awarded by UGC/CSIR and other such bodies have also been included for award in some cases.

15. Number of Startups/enterprises by students/alumni

Data show that the number of startups by students/alumni is abysmally poor except for Rajagiri College of Social Sciences Kalamassery which has claimed 14, but has provided supporting evidences for 9. St. Albert's College Ernakulam claimed 5 without any evidence. St Berchman's College Changannassery and Sacred Heart College Thevara haven't shown any.

16. Prestigious Research Award

Data show that the faculty in certain colleges likes Rajagiri College of Social Sciences Kalamassery (16), St. Joseph College Irinjalakuda (30) and Assumption College Changannassery (10) performed well in this criterion. But other colleges have made no claims .

17. Number of Patents

The data shows that St. Berchuman's College Changannassery and Assumption College Changannassey have 1 each patents granted. St. Joseph College Irinjalakuda, CMS College Kottayam and Fathima Matha College Kollam do not have patent- granted or filed. Other colleges have filed application for patents. This a good sign that colleges in spite of their institutional constraints pertaining to research are encouraging the faculty to go in for the next stage of research in the emerging world.

Table 6. Patents registered by Autonomous colleges

Sl.No.	Name of College	No. of Patents
1	Fatima Mata National College, Kollam	Granted- 0 Filed- 0
2	St. Berchman's College, Changanassery	Granted- 1 Filed- 0
3	Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery, Ernakulam.	Granted- 0 Filed- 3
4	Sacred Heart College, Ernakulam	Granted- 0 Filed- 1

5	Assumption College, Chanaganacherry	Granted- 1 Filed- 0
6	CMS College, Kottayam,	Granted- 0 Filed- 0
7	St. Albert's College, Ernakulam	Granted- 0 Filed- 1
8	St. Joseph College, Irinjalakuda	Granted- 0 Filed- 0

18. Scholarships to Students from Weaker sections and Autonomous colleges

Majority of the students belonging to SC and ST category receive scholarships, fellowships and endowments. But, data pertaining to OBC students is insufficient as certain colleges provide only the number and other only the percentage.

19. KSHEC Scholarship in Autonomous Colleges

The data provided in this regard varies from college to college. While St. Berchuman's College, Changanassery has only 2 students receiving KSHEC scholarship in the current year, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences has claimed none. The data provided by other colleges range between 57 (CMS College, Kottayam) and 78 (Assumption College, Changanassery). But Assumption College has not supported the claim with any evidence/list. A noticeable factor of the data is that colleges with more number of students who received KSHEC scholarship earlier continue to maintain their position. It also reveals the good reputation of such colleges among brilliant students.

Conclusion

Only 8 colleges submitted the academic appraisal report sought by the Kerala State Higher Education Council. Out of this only 4 colleges provided all the substantiating documents. It has been found that the colleges must improve the NIRF rating that they have received in the period. From the data provided it is seen that the number of Ph.D holders in some autonomous colleges is decreasing and the percentage of teachers with Ph.D in the current year is equal to the number of such teachers in several non autonomous colleges in the state. Another criterion taken up was the number of awards and recognition received by the faculty and the number of such teachers is not impressive in autonomous colleges. In the case of research grants received it is seen that the colleges could not maintain consistency. The data received shows that research activities in the Autonomous colleges are not up to the level expected of them. The number of patents received and start-ups are quite low. Student progression has been found to be satisfactory. The number of students receiving various scholarships has been found to be minimal. Overall the performance of autonomous colleges is far below to what is expected. A simple analysis of the data submitted by the autonomous colleges shows that conferment of autonomous status does not substantially enhance the academic performance of autonomous colleges.

Appendix – I

Form for filling Academic Appraisal Report of Autonomous Colleges

Name and Address of the College:

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Sl.No.	Criteria	
1	Grade Awarded by NAAC with validity details	
2	Ranking in National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF)	
3	<i>Percentage of full-time teachers with Ph. D. (year wise)</i>	
4	<i>Percentage of full-time teachers who received awards, recognition, fellowship at State, National, International, from government etc. (year wise)</i>	
5	<i>Grants for research projects sponsored by the government and non government sources such as industry, corporate houses, international bodies, endowment, during the last five years (INR in Lakhs)</i>	
6	<i>Percentage of teachers recognized as research guides at present (year wise)</i>	
7	<i>Number of research projects per teacher funded by government and non government agencies</i>	

	<i>(year wise)</i>	
8	<i>Number of research papers per teacher in the Journals notified on UGC website (year wise)</i>	
9	<i>Number of awards and recognitions received for extension activities from government/ recognised bodies (year wise)</i>	
11	<i>Number of functional MoUs with institutions of national, international importance, other universities, industries, corporate houses etc. (year wise)</i>	
12	<i>Details of programme wise pass percentage and placement of outgoing students (year wise)</i>	
13	<i>Percentage of student progression to higher education (year wise)</i>	
14	<i>Number of students qualified in state/national/ international level examinations (eg: NET/SLET/GATE/ GMAT/CAT/GRE/ TOEFL/ Civil Services/State government examinations)</i> <i>(year wise)</i>	
15	Ongoing projects with funding above 5 Lakhs during evaluation period	
16	Total Project fund secured in the period	
17	No. of Research Students who secured Young Scientist Award and other such academic awards (year wise)	
18	Number of Startups/Enterprises started by the students / Alumini during the evaluation period. (year wise)	
19	Prestigious Research Awards received from professional bodies/scholarly societies/National/ International Academies (year wise)	
20	Number of Patents: a) Patents granted b) Patents filed	
21	Number and Percentage of SC students getting scholarships, endowments and freeships	
22	Number and Percentage of ST students getting scholarships, endowments and freeships	
23	Number and Percentage of OBC students getting scholarships,	

	endowments and freeships	
24	Details of students getting KSHEC Scholarships	

Institution Seal

Signature of Principal

Note:

- (1) All data/information shall be given year wise, based on the performance/ achievements since the award of autonomous status to the college
- (2) All details given shall be supported with bonafide documentary evidences
- (3) Attach additional sheets for providing extra information, wherever necessary
- (4) All details shall be submitted to the Kerala State Higher Education Council, KSSTM Campus, Vikasbhavan PO, PMG, Thiruvananthapuram – 695033 email : heckerala@gmail.com

Minutes of the meeting of the Autonomy Approval Committee held on OE-06-2019 at 10.00 am at Mascot Hotel, Thiruvananthapuram.

The meeting started at 10.10 AM. Dr. K.T. Jaleel Hon. Minister for Higher Education presided in the meeting. The following members attended the meeting.

1. Dr.K.T.Jaleel - Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education
2. Dr, UshaTitusIAS - Principal Secretary, Higher Education
3. Prof. RajanGurukkalP.M - Vice Chairman, Kerala State
Higher Education Council
4. Shri. VijayakumarT. - Special Secretary, Law Department
S.Prof.SabuThomas, - Vice Chancellor, Mahatma
Gandhi University
6. Dr. Muhammed Basheer - Vice Chancellor, Calicut University
7. Prof. V. P.MahadevanPillai - Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala
8. Prof.GopinathRaveendran - Vice Chancellor, Kannur University
9. Dr.RajanVarughese - Member Secretary,
Kerala State Higher Education Council

In his introductory remarks, the Hon'ble Higher Education Minister pointed out that this is the first meeting of the Autonomy Approval Committee since the new government assumed office. He pointed out that the report submitted by the committee constituted by the Kerala State Higher Education Council to study the problems pertaining to the Autonomous Colleges in the state calls for serious attention. The demand for more autonomous colleges in the state can be considered only in the light of there commendations in the report. The universities and colleges in the state have to improve their quality and efficiency to meet the challenges posed by the entry of private universities.

The following agenda was transacted and decisions taken.

Agenda 1. Discussion regarding the report submitted by the committee constituted by the Kerala State Higher Education Council to study the problems pertaining to the Autonomous Colleges in the state.

The committee considered the report submitted by The Kerala State Higher Education Council to study the problems pertaining to the Autonomous Colleges in the state and after discussion, the Autonomy Approval Committee approved the report.

a) The major recommendations on the Act amendment proposed in the report were approved with the following modifications.

1. Representation of College Union Chairman/ Secretary in the Governing Council/ Academic Council respectively of Autonomous Colleges.
2. Teacher representatives in the Governing Council and Academic Council shall be elected from the permanent teachers of the Autonomous Colleges.
3. A Grievance Redressal Cell to look into students' grievances on teaching, learning, evaluation, conduct of examinations and declaration of results shall be created. This Cell shall have representatives of students, teachers and parents, in addition to the Principal. The Report of the Grievance Redressal Cell shall be placed in the Governing Council meeting.

b) The University Laws of Kannur, Calicut, Mahatma Gandhi and Kerala Universities have been amended to establish Autonomous Colleges in the state. However rules and regulations have not been framed yet in this regard. This has resulted in deadlocks between different stakeholders, especially between Autonomous Colleges and Parent Universities.

The meeting entrusted the Kerala State Higher Education Council to submit the draft Rules and Regulations of University Laws (Third Amendment) Act 2014 pertaining to Autonomous Colleges within one month time.

- j) The academic programmes of Autonomous Colleges are not recognized by the Universities of the state. This would affect the future of the students. Steps should be taken to recognize the academic programmes of Autonomous Colleges by the Universities of the State.
- k) The post of Controller of Examinations shall be created in all Autonomous Colleges. He/ she shall be a permanent faculty of the college. His/her workload shall be equal to the Principal of the College.
- l) Areas on able tenure of the Principal and teaching faculty should be ensured in Autonomous Colleges on academic grounds

2. Specific issues of Maharajas College ,Ernakulam

Considering the specific problems of the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam the following recommendations were accepted by the Committee.

- 2.1. More financial and administrative powers to be delegated to the Principal (especially as the Secretary of the Governing Council).
- 2.2. More staff members to be provided for the office of the Controller of Examinations.
- 2.3. Expansion and upgrading of the college office to be urgently undertaken.
- 2.4. Arrangements are to be made for the efficient utilization of funds for undertaking innovative initiatives with ease. There should be proper coordination of the use of funds from different sources (CDC, RUSA, Plan Fund, Autonomy Fund, etc.).

Agenda No. 3 -Complaint submitted by Ajith Fredjeev Dinakarlal from Tamilnadu regarding the misuse of powers bestowed on autonomous colleges by Marian College, Kuttikkanam

The meeting authorised the Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University, Kotayam to enquire into the complaints submitted by Sri. Ajith Fredjeev Dinakarlal against the management of Marian College

- c) The Autonomy Approval Committee should meet regularly.
- d) The Autonomous Colleges have to follow the University regulations on the syllabus revision. The University shall not levy exorbitant fee for syllabus revision.
- e) Separate Board of Studies for all subjects of teaching (including the subsidiary/complementary courses) is mandatory in Autonomous Colleges. Autonomous Colleges must send the complete list of Board of Studies to the University after the reconstitution of the Boards.
- f) University laws/ regulation with regard to starting of new programmes shall be mandatorily followed by the Autonomous Colleges. This is vital to ensure transparency and accountability in the process. The University must give its decision within six months after the receipt of application, failing which the new programme will be deemed to be approved. The University has the power to fix the fee in this regard.
- g. In the light of proliferation of Self Financing Programmes in Autonomous colleges beyond their Academic resources and infrastructural facilities, Universities have to tighten their regulatory function.
- h. The University has to distribute the final certificate to the students within 45 working days after the receipt of final Tabulation Report from the Autonomous Colleges. The final Tabulation Report cannot be altered under any circumstance.
- i). The University and the State Government representatives in the Governing Council of Autonomous Colleges have to ensure that the Autonomous Colleges follow the rules and regulations stipulated by the University and the State Government in these matters. Any violation in this regard may be reported to the Universities, the State Government and Autonomy Approval Committee.

(Autonomous), Kuttikkanam and to submit a report to the committee within two weeks time.

Agenda No. 4 - Granting of Autonomous status of colleges, who have applied for the same.

Granting of Autonomous status of colleges with NAAC grade 3.5 and above shall be taken up after incorporating the proposed changes in the University Laws (Third Amendment) Act 2014 pertaining to Autonomous Colleges as decided in the Autonomy Approval Committee meeting.

The meeting also approved the draft form for filling Academic Appraisal Report of Autonomous Colleges submitted by KSHEC

The meeting came to an end by 11.15am