

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
NEW DELHI****REPORT OF THE UGC EXPERT COMMITTEE TO ASSESS THE
PROPOSAL OF ~~UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION~~ NALANDA (BIHAR)
FOR GRANT OF 'DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY STATUS' UNDER
SECTION 3 OF THE UGC ACT, 1956.**

The University Grants Commission received a proposal from the Ministry of Human Resource Development for consideration of the proposal of Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda (Bihar) for grant of 'Deemed to be University' status.

The proposal was placed before the Screening Committee constituted by the Commission to screen such proposals. The Screening Committee recommended the visit of the Committee to assess the physical, financial and academic viability of the proposal.

The Chairman, UGC constituted an Expert Committee consisting of the following members to visit Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda (Bihar) and to give its recommendations for conferment of 'Deemed to be University' status:-

1. Prof. Ganesh Umakant Thite Convener *G. Umakant Thite*
C/o Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute
Pune - 411 004
2. Prof. K.T.S. Sarao Member *K.T.S. Sarao*
Department of Buddhist Studies,
University of Delhi
Delhi - 110 007
Mob. No. 9811262124
3. Prof. Satya Prakash Sharma Member
Department of Sanskrit
Aligarh Muslim University
R/o 53, Saraswati Vihar,
Gyan Sarovar, Aligarh - 202 001

1. *G. Umakant Thite*
3. *S. Prakash Sharma*

2. *K.T.S. Sarao*

4. *Convenor* Page 1 of 7

K.T.S. Sarao

4. Prof. (Ms.) Kamlesh Nagar
Department of Hindi
Dayalbagh Edn. Institute,
R/o 28/165, Gokulpura,
Agra – 282 002
Member
5. Shri C.K. Kapahi
Deputy Secretary
University Grants Commission
New Delhi
Member Secretary

The Committee visited Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda (Bihar) on 8th - 10th June, 2005 for on the spot assessment of the physical and academic infrastructure available with the institution.

The Committee was received & welcomed by the Director, Registrar and other senior faculty members.

INTRODUCTION

The Institution is registered under the Societies Registration Act (XXI of 1860). The certificate of Registration is annexed as Annexure-I. It is an autonomous Institute under the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Govt. of India. The Institute is presently affiliated with two universities viz. Magadh University, Bodh Gaya (for M.A.) and K.S.D. Sanskrit University, Darbhanga (for Pali Acharya).


At the outset, the Institute gave a powerpoint presentation before the Visiting Committee with regard to its salient features, achievements, physical infrastructure, academic achievements, research output and future plans.

The Committee then visited Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, met the faculty members, students and the non-teaching staff. The observations of the Committee are given in the succeeding paragraphs.

The Nava Nalanda Mahavihara was established on 20th November, 1951 to provide quality education free of cost upholding the traditions of ancient Nalanda University.

1. G. N. Thakur

2. G. K. B. S.

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Aims and Objectives

- a) To develop a residential centre of education of international importance on the lines of the ancient vihars (where the teachers and the taught lived together) devoting themselves to studies and higher academic pursuits along with the research in Pali language and literature, and Buddhist studies through Sanskrit, Tibetan, Chinese, Mongolian, Japanese and other Asian languages. In addition, contemporary Buddhism in various parts of the world may also be made subjects of studies and research.
- b) To set up and maintain departments of studies in Pali and Buddhism, Philosophy with special reference to Buddhist Philosophy, Logic Philosophy and Comparative Religion alongwith Departments of Sanskrit, Ancient Indian History & Asian Studies, Applied Buddhism alongwith the teaching of Modern European and South-East Asian languages.
- c) To impart practical teachings of Lord Buddha by organizing meditation retreats like Vipassana meditation course etc.
- d) To hold examinations and to grant academic awards and distinctions or titles to persons and to prescribe standard of proficiency for the award of such diplomas, certificate and other distinctions.
- e) To confer honorary degrees, awards and other distinctions.
- f) To organize an up-to-date library of Buddhist literature in Pali, Sanskrit, Tibetan, Chinese, Japanese, Mongolian and other languages containing printed as well as electronically printed manuscript materials, including former and recent publications of research works, and also of modern thought, in order to facilitate comprehensive and comparative studies.
- g) To get itself integrated with any other institutions, association, body or society, whose objects are similar, wholly or partly, to the objects of the Society.

1. G. U. Thakur

2. G. K. Bhanu

3. S. P. Bhanu

4. S. P. Bhanu

A. P. Bhanu

A. Physical Infrastructure

Nava Nalanda Mahavihara has a total area of 72 acres (built up area is near about 20 acres) and rest is meant for future development. The Institute has its own Academic and Administrative Building, Residential Complex, Students Hostel and separate Xuan-Zang Memorial Hall.

B. Equipments

The Institute has equipments worth Rs.89.00 lakhs comprising of 16 Computers, 06 Printers alongwith One Scanner, One Multi-media Projector, Two Digital Cameras, One Video Camera, Three Zerox Machine and Three Fax Machine etc.

C. Library

The Library has a total collection of 47,000 books at a total cost of Rs.60.00 lakhs. It also subscribes 44 Indian and 14 Foreign Journals at a cost of Rs.1,44,000/- p.a. The Library has Reading Rooms, Journals and Text Book Section, Internet Room etc. The Library is fully computerized. The Library has a rich collection of rare books connected with a variety of Tripitaka. It also has manuscripts collection of rare and of valuable nature connected with Buddhism.

D. Students

The Institute has a total strength of 253 students on its roll including 58 foreign students from East and South East Asian countries in various courses offered by the Institute.

E. Academic Programmes

The Institute is running Ph.D., M.A. Courses in Pali, Philosophy and Ancient Indian & Asian Studies, Pali Acharya, Pali Diploma, Pali Certificate, Diploma in Tibetan, Sanskrit and English languages.

1. G. N. Thakur
 2. G. N. Thakur
 3. S. P. Singh
 4. S. P. Singh
- A. K. S. S.

F. Hostel

The Institute has two Hostels to accommodate 80 students.

G. Teaching / Non-teaching Staff

The Institute has sanctioned faculty strength of 5 Professors & 14 Lecturers. However, at present Institute has 4 Professors on Contract, 5 Guest Lecturers and 9 Permanent Lecturers. It has a strength of 34 Administrative (non-teaching) staff including Director and other class A.

H. Innovative programmes

The Institute has organized 3 National Seminars, 7 International Seminars, 3 National Symposiums, 4 Workshops and 13 Special Lectures on various aspects of Buddhism. Oftenly, the Institute organizes special convocations and awards honouris causa degree to eminent scholars of Buddhism and eminent personalities who have worked for the enrichment of Buddhist Studies. The Institute has done the work on computer application in Pali and Buddhistic research. The Institute has produced a module on Indian Culture and Civilization.

At present three Minor Research Projects sponsored by UGC are to its credit. The Institute has published Devanagri edition of Pali Tripitika in 41 volumes first time in India and published first volume of Pali-Hindi Dictionary. The Institute has 50 publications to its credit in all.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Expert Committee after visiting the Nava Nalanda Mahavihara observed as under:

1. The infrastructure available at the Institute is sufficient in terms of academic and administrative activities.

1. G. M. Thakur
3. S. P. Das

2. G. K. Barua
4. Amarendra Kumar
A. I.

2. The projects in progress regarding the improvement of the infrastructural facilities, on completion, certainly shall enhance the academic and cultural significance of the Institute.
3. Academic activities and research projects being carried out are satisfactory within available facilities though they need more improvement in future. The Committee feels that faculty shall be motivated to enhance the standard of research and get International Standards.
4. The publication work being carried out is very good and the same shall be continued.
5. The library is very good. It has a large number of rare Books, Manuscripts and sufficient collection of Journals.
6. Students from many South-East Asian countries visit the Institute and are getting good facilities of education. These students will help in building strong cultural relations between India and their respective countries.
7. The future plan as observed by the Committee seems to be quite optimistic and encouraging. If the UGC confer the status of a Deemed University, the Institute can play important role in the field of Buddhist Studies in preserving the significant cultural heritage of India.
8. The Committee is of the considered opinion that the Institute shall appoint permanent faculty on an all India basis within six months from the date of conferment of the status of Deemed University.

1. G. M. Thite

2. G. S. Baroo

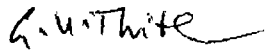
3. S. S. D. S. D. S. D.

4. Amal Kumar

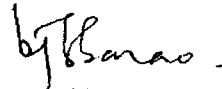
A. P. S.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee after assessing the physical and academic infrastructure of Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda (Bihar) recommends to the University Grants Commission for conferment of 'Deemed to be University' status, under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, to Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda (Bihar).



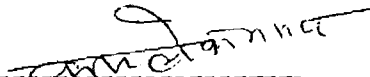
Prof. Ganesh Umakant Thite
Convener



Prof. K.T.S. Sarao
Member



Prof. Satya Prakash Sharma
Member



Prof. (Ms.) Kamlesh Nagar
Member



Shri C.K. Kapahi
Member Secretary

Place: Nalanda (Bihar)
Dated : 10-06-2005