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**Report of the Expert Committee constituted by the
UGC to consider the proposal of Panjab Engineering
College, Chandigarh for grant of Deemed to be
University status under Section 3 of the UGC Act.**

The Chairman, UGC constituted an Expert Committee comprising of the following members to examine the proposal of Panjab Engineering College, Chandigarh for grant of deemed to be university status under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956:

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| 1. | Prof. S.K. Joshi,
252, National Physical Lab.
Dr. K.S. Krishnan Marg,
New Delhi-110 012 | Chairman |
| 2. | Prof. A. Kalanidhi
Former Vice-Chancellor,
Anna University,
Chennai | Member |
| 3. | Prof. Y. Venkataramni Reddy
Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University,
Hyderabad-500 012 | Member |
| 4. | Prof. R.S. Sirohi
Director,
IIT,
New Delhi-110 002 | Member |
| 5. | Dr. P.S. Rajput
Director (Admn.),
UGC, New Delhi | Member Secretary |

The Panjab Engineering College (PEC) was originally established as Mugalpara Engineering College at Lahore (Now in Pakistan) on November 9, 1921. After partition in 1947, the College got shifted to Roorkee (India) and was renamed as East Panjab College of Engineering. In December, 1953, the College got shifted to its present campus at Chandigarh to function under Government of Panjab. Presently PEC, Chandigarh is functioning as a department under the Chandigarh administration. The College has glorious past and has produced eminent scholars like Prof. Satish Dhawan.

The Committee visited Panjab Engineering College (PEC) on 23rd and 24th August, 2002. Dr. R.S. Sirohi could not attend the meeting. First there was a presentation regarding the activities and achievements of the Panjab Engineering College. Then there was a meeting with faculty members of the College. The deliberation started with introduction of faculty members present. Various questions and inquiries address to by the members from the faculties were clarified. After this, the Expert Committee interacted with undergraduate students. The students indicated that there is good interaction between students and teachers, laboratories facilities are good and most the students get campus placement.

After lunch, the Committee visited administrative wing and saw the spot evaluation section, the auditorium, student placement cell, library including multimedia centre and cyber cafe which is used by both students and teachers. The Committee members also interacted with some PG and part time Ph.D. students. After this, Committee split into following three groups:

First group visited Departments of Applied Sciences, Civil Engineering and Metallurgical Engineering. The second group visited Departments of Mechanical Engineering, Production Engineering, Aeronautical Engineering, Central Work ship. The third group visited Departments of Electrical Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering, Electronic Communication Engineering and Information Technology. These groups had interaction with faculty members of the concerned departments and visited the laboratories. The brief report on these departments are given as Annexure-I.

The whole Committee then visited the Centre of Excellence in Computational Engineering. This takes consultancy jobs on GIS related problems as well as structural design verification projects. It is self-reliant and provides useful training to students who also earn while they learn.

This College has 146 acres of land which is adequate for future expansion also. The buildings for Administrative, Academic and Library are spacious and well

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maintained. The College provides residential accommodation to approximately 50% faculty and non-teaching staff in the campus. For students, both boys and girls, there is hostel accommodation which accommodate all the students interested in staying in hostels. The College has excellent sports and recreation facilities. There is also a guest house, common hostel/community hall, hospital/dispensary, shopping complex, Bank, Post Office, auditorium and canteen facilities.

Academic Programmes

The College offers UG (Bachelor of Engineering) in nine courses and PG in eleven courses and admits 385 students in UG and 118 students in PG level. There are also 47 part-time Ph.D. scholars. In the last five years, the College has produced 1514 UG, 281 PG and 9 Ph.D.

The current sanctioned strength of this faculty of the College is 169 against which there are approximately 97 are working as regular faculty. The pay scales of the faculty of the College are as notified by the UGC.

The approximate annual budget (Plan + Non-Plan) of this College was 10 crores. All the funds of College are from UT administration.

Panjab Engineering College has been provided with an internet connection with a band width of 512 kbps through VSAT. The whole College has a network with optical fibre cable. The College has main Computer Centre where students and teachers have free access to computational and internet facilities. The institute has got a number of chapters of national and international professional bodies including IEEE, IEE, SME, ISTE, IETE, IECI and IFA.

A number of low value research projects are being conducted in the college in collaboration with other institutions like Panjab University, IIT Roorkee and IIT, Delhi

etc. MoU have been signed with industries and research organization including Quark Media etc, DRDO, CEDT etc. for Teaching and Research in the areas of mutual interest.

The record of research publications from the College in regular journals is not good enough. The College is earning from projects and consultancy of the order of 6 crores rupees over a period of last four years. The faculty members also participate in extension services and continue education programmes as well as have attended/organized many seminars and conferences.

The UG students produced by the College are of good quality and approximately 60-70% are absorbed in the companies visiting campus for campus placements.

The undergraduate teaching and lab facilities of this campus are good and teachers also have a good career profile but research contribution from this College are meager. This may be due to the multiplicity of administrative control and long drawn recruitment process. The faculty members stagnate at a particular position because of vacancy based promotions.

Keeping in view the minimum eligibility criteria in term of objective. programmes, faculty, infrastructure facilities, financial viability, the Committee strongly recommends for declaring this institution as Deemed to be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act. However, the Committee feels that in order to realize the full **potential of** this institution which is located in the nice city of Chandigarh and can attract **good** faculty the following enabling provisions are necessary and MHRD should at least **take** the following steps so that it grows into a strong and reputed institution of Technology:

- a) The College be called Central Institute of Technology with 100% funding by MHRD, New Delhi.
- b) The governance structure should be similar to those of IITs. The Chairman of Board of Governors should be an Academician or an Industrialist.

- c) The admission should be 50% from UT Chandigarh and 50% at national level at UG level and 100% at PG level through national level test.
- d) The recruitment of faculty members may be based on IIT pattern as has been done in NIT institutions. Also the institute should have a flexible cadre promotion system.
- e) The first Director of the Institute should be an eminent person preferably from the IIT System. The leadership in the initial phases would be crucial for the future development and growth of the institute.

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(Prof. S.K. Joshi) (Prof. A. Kalanidhi) (Dr. Y. Venkatarammi Reddy) (P.S. Rajput)
NPH, New Delhi Ex-VC, Anna Univ. VC, JNTU, Hyderabad Dir.(Admn.) UGC