

Report of the expert committee appointed by the Chairman, University Grants Commission to examine the proposal of ~~Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana, Bangalore~~ for grant of Deemed to be University status under sec 3 of the UGC Act, 1956.

The University Grants Commission received a proposal of Swami Vivekananda Anusandhana Samsthana, Bangalore through Department of Secondary and Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi, to award Deemed to be University Status to it.

The chairman, UGC appointed an Expert Committee to examine the proposal and the committee has come up with the recommendations as it is given here under. The constitution of this committee is given as in Annexure - I.

The committee visited Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana, Prashanti Kutiram (sVYASA), Jigani (Hobli), Anekal, Bangalore on 12-13th Feb, 2002. The names of the experts who attended the meetings are given in Annexure-II.

On 12th Feb 2002 the committee attended Maitri Milan at 7.30 AM in Prarthana Mandir in which Dr. H R Nagendra the Director of the Institute gave a discourse on the Bhagavat Gita.

The Committees members also met at 9.00 AM on 12th Feb, 2002 for developing a common approach to the issues which go into the making of the Deemed to be University. Dr. P.S. Rajput, Director(Adm.) appraised the members of the UGC requirements.

At 10 am Dr.H.R.Nagendra, Director of sVYASA addressed the committee members with brief introduction of sVYASA since its inception, along with its major achievements and future visions. Following this, the heads of Departments, Prof. NVC Swamy, Dr.R.Nagaratna, Dr.R.Venkatram, Dr.Shirley Telles and Dr.H R Nagendra brief the members regarding research being pursued in the departments of Yoga & Education, Yoga & Health, Yoga & Management, Yoga & Clinical Neurosciences and Yoga & Philosophy, respectively.

The committee then visited each department for better understanding of the infrastructure, library, computer support system, research activities and other items pertaining to each disciplines. The committee also interacted with the students and faculty in the afternoon at 3 pm..They attended a Satsang in the evening at 6 pm and a Happy assembly at 8.30 pm.

Dr. Sanjay Kumar
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The committee finally met at 9.00 AM on 13th Feb, 2002 to finalise this report. With the above in view, the committee makes the following observations and recommendations.

Observations :

1. Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (sVYASA), Prashanti Kutiram, Jigani (Hobli) Anekal, Bangalore was established in 1986. The sVYASA is a registered society under Tamil Naidu Societies Registration Act 1975 (Tamil Nadu Act 27 of 1975). This society has approximately 110 acres of land with excellent topography & scenic beauty best suited for a Yoga University.

2. The sVYASA have five different departments namely, Yoga & Education, Yoga & Health, Yoga & Clinical Neuroscience, Yoga & Philosophy and Yoga & Management. It also has a separate section, which deals with international activities. Such activities help in International interaction amongst different countries.

3. Each department has its own independent building with adequate infrastructure such as, laboratories, library, decent lecture halls etc. The laboratories are well-equipped, which can measure human neurological functions and various such activities in minute details.

4. The sVYASA has six professors, five readers and ten lecturers. In addition, the institute has twelve guest faculty members from various institutions which help in teaching and research. The faculty consists of experts who have dedicated their lives to the institution and are working in an honorary capacity. The management has agreed to pay the UGC scales to salaried faculty members.

5. The sVYASA has central computer laboratory with Internet facilities, freely available to students and research workers.

6. The sVYASA has a good library with approximately 8870 books, 17 member of journals, 518 audio-cassettes, 103 Video and 175 dissertations. It also has original collection of Vedas, Ramayana, Mahabaratha, 10 Major Upanishadas, and 100 minor Upanishadas. The sVYASA has published 13 books with ISBN numbers and produced 10 VCD and sixty eight audio cassettes. In addition it has also published 33 books without ISBN numbers including ailment series, describing the effect of Yoga in controlling various diseases. It also publishes monthly journal - Yoga Sudha.

7. The sVYASA is running approximately 10 short term courses with the duration ranging from a few days to one & half years. The sVYASA admitted 1605 students during 2000-2001. Six Ph.D. students are in the process of completing their research work shortly,

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while eight others are in the process of registration under Bangalore University. Bangalore University, Mysore University, Mangalore University and Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences have given affiliation to their Ph.D. programmes.

8. The major research contribution of sVYASA is an Integrated approach of Yoga Therapy as applied to various diseases like schizophrenia, cancer, bronchial asthma etc. They are also undertaking research studies effect of meditation on physiology of man and compilation of scientific literature on Yoga, Naturopathy and Ayurveda.

9. The institute has published 49 papers in national and international journals. These publications meet high international standards. (Annexure III)

10. The institute has completed 8 research projects financed by various government agencies such as Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Railways etc. At present, the institute has three research projects funded by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India. The DST has also given a grant of RS 25/- Lakhs for strengthening the infrastructure under FIST programme. From all the projects the institute has generated approximately Rs. 85.00 lakhs (Annexure-IV)

11. The institute has collaborative research programmes with 13 national and 6 international organisations. (Annexure-V)

12. The sVYASA has organised 12 International Conferences, 2 workshops, 61 symposia and compiled 16 project reports. The students of various courses have so far produced 168 dissertations.

13. The faculty members have won awards such as Karnataka Kalpavalli, ICMR Young Scientist, Fullbright Fellowships, Yogashree, Bhaskar, National Citizenship award, prestigious prize from John Templeton Foundation – USA, and National citizenship etc.

14. The sVYASA in its Arogyadhama section has treated 1027 patients for various ailments during 2000-01. It has introduced HOLSYM and SMET programmes in 51 Central Govt. undertakings, Corporate Sector and Private & Govt. Institutions to deal with stress management.

15. The sVYASA has corpus funds to the tune of Rs. Three Crores.

The sVYASA could not start M.Sc programme in Yoga because no University was ready or even had competence to give affiliation to such programs. The management of sVYASA assured the committee that they would start master level programmes in different subjects, once the status of Deemed University is granted to this institution.

16. The staff / teachers work mostly on an honorary basis and have dedicated their lives to serve the mankind. The sVYASA may be advised to recruit core staff in all the

Dr. Sankar
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departments as per the UGC guidelines. The committee is of the view that in such institutions the UGC should insist upon the theoretical knowledge practical performance and experience of Yoga practice while making recruitments at different level of the faculty. Relaxation may be given in age and formal qualification at the time of recruitment because the Yoga teachers develop their expertise at a later stage and the university be not deprived of such experienced persons.

17. In sVYASA has intensive care unit. Some of the faculty members are medical experts who can take care of any medical emergency as an when it arises. It also has nurses on its staff to assist the doctors.

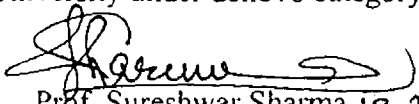
18. The most of faculty members and students have been provided with accommodation / hostel facilities. It has excellent seminar hall, and play grounds.

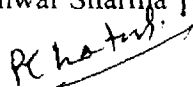
The modification of MOA is under process as per UGC norms and will be submitted fairly soon.

Recommendations

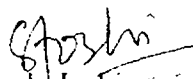
1. A special consideration may be made in this institution for admitting maximum foreign students in view of the fact that there is a huge demand of Yoga Instructors in foreign countries and adequate institutions with academic inputs are not available elsewhere.

2. With the above background, the committee is of opinion that it is a unique institution imparting knowledge in a specialised field like Yoga and Naturopathy. They have been able to create a spiritual environment based on character building, man making of high order with cultural background. Keeping in view, the potential of the institution and its promise of excellence, the committee unanimously recommends that being an outstanding centre with rigorous scientific research in Yoga in all its dimensions, the Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthan be conferred with the well deserved status of a Deemed to be University under denovo category of Sec 3 of the University Grants Commission Act 1956.

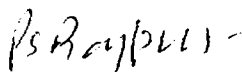

1. Prof. Sureshwar Sharma 13.2.02



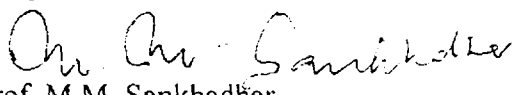
3. Prof. P.L. Chaturvedi



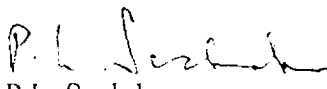
5. Prof. Shubhada Joshi



7. Prof. P.S. Rajput


2. Prof. M.M. Sankhadhar


4. Prof. K Krishna Bhat


6. Prof. P.L. Sachdev