Report of the Committee appointed by the UGC to examine the proposal of Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Pharmacy, Pune, under the ambit of Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University).

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A Committee consisting of the following members was constituted by the Chairman, UGC to examine the proposal of Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Pharmacy, Pune, for its inclusion under the Bharati Vidyapeeth, a Deemed to be University:-

- Dr. S.K. Patnaik,
 Head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences,
 Institute of Technology,
 Banaras Hindu University,
 Varanasi.
- Shri Gurcharan Singh,
 Deputy Secretary, UGC

The Committee visited Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Pharmacy, Pune on 23rd October. 1999, and had detailed discussions with Dr. S.C. Gupte, former Vice-Chancellor, Pune University and presently Advisor to Bharati Vidyapeeth, Dr. Shivajirao Kadam, Principal of the College, the teachers and students. Dr. S.C. Gupte gave a brief account of the activities of Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University) in general and Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Pharmacy, Pune in particular. Both the teachers as well as the students advocated strongly for the inclusion of the Pharmacy College under the umbrella of Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University). Most of the faculty members felt positively that the inclusion of the Pharmacy College in the deemed to be university will enhance the status of the College, for the students as a whole and would also fulfil the aspirations of the faculty and would enable them to restructure and moderanise the new courses more quickly than what could now be done under the present situation. After considerable deliberations and discussions with the faculty and management of Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Pharmacy, the Committee examined the deficiencies pointed out earlier by the AICTE Committee which visiting Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune on 17th - 18th June, 1996 to consider their proposal for inclusion of Engineering, Management and Pharmacy disciplines under the umbrella of the deemed to be university. The Committee pointed out the following deficiencies in the case of Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Pharmacy whilst the other two proposals of College of Engineering and Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development, Pune have been accepted by the UGC and recommended to the Government of India for their inclusion under the Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University):

DEFICIENCIES

- 1. There is a total absence of research work.
- 2. Senior Teachers having adequate caliber stature need to be recruited urgently on an All India basis which would help to create a research atmosphere.
- 3. The Head of the Pharmacy College is not pharmaceutically qualified and urgent steps need to be taken to recruit qualified personnel.

The Bharati Vidyapeeth has submitted Compliance Report on the above noted deficiencies. The task of the present Committee was to verify whether these deficiencies have been fully complied with. The detailed report of the Committee which contains the compliance on the deficiencies as well as observations and recommendations is as follows:-

I. ON-THE-SPOT OBSERVATIONS FOLLOWING INSPECTION

- 1. (a) Research Activities: The faculty members belonging to various specialisations are at present involved in research activities which include supervision of Ph.D. Scholars, supervision of M. Pharm. Dissertations and execution of several research projects funded by AICTE, UGC and Pharmaceutical industries. Total number of research publications since 1996 are 09 and 35 in International and National journals, respectively. Teachers have presented their research findings in several International and National conferences both in India and abroad.
 - (b) Research Supervision: The faculty members have supervised successfully 12 students for their Ph.D. degree and 18 students are at present registered for their Ph.D. courses. Further, 202 M. Pharm. students have undertaken dissertations under the supervision of these teachers. There are 03 students registered for their Ph.D. courses after obtaining SRF on an All India Merit basis from CSIR.
- 2. Teaching Faculty: Presently the College has a faculty strength of 23 which includes 05 Professors, 07 Assistant Professors and 11 Lecturers. This strength includes addition of 02 Professors, 04 Assistant Professors and 05 Lecturers since 1996. Among these teachers, 13 are Ph.D. degree holders and the rest have registered for their Ph.D. degree. Teaching experiences of various cadres of faculty members at B. Pharm. and M. Pharm. levels show a variation between 18 to 26 years for 04 Professors and 11 years for one. Teaching experiences of 04 Assistant Professors vary between 16 to 28 and 03 between 5 to 9 years. Similarly, this variation among 05 Lecturers is between 13 to 16 years and for 06 between 4 to 6 years.

Teaching loads (i.e. on the basis of credits allocated for a subject or contact hrs per week) as per the existing syllabi prescribed by the Maharasthra University of Health Sciences, Nashik for B. Pharm. Pt.I,II,III,IV and M. Pharm. I & II Semesters are 377 (198 for theory & 179 for practicals). This excludes the research and dissertation works to be undertaken by the M. Pharm. I,II and III Semester students under the supervision of their teachers. Further, the total teaching loads include the loads for certain subjects, i.e. Industrial Psychology, Calculus & Biostatistics, Computer Applications, Business Mathematics etc. which are taught by teachers from other Departments/Colleges of Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed University). Further, a number of senior experts with adequate experiences from Pharmaceutical industries are invited as visiting faculty to deliver lectures to students.

3. Issue Concerning the College Principal: The Present Principal of the College, Prof. Shivajirao Kadam holds M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Chemistry which is an allied but important discipline of Pharmaceutical Sciences, i.e. Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Analysis of his curriculum vitae indicate his contributions to Pharmacy education and research which are enumerated as follows:

He is the founder Principal of the College since its inception as the first Pharmacy College in Pune region in 1981.

He is associated with the teaching of Pharm Chemistry at B. Pharm. and M. Pharm. levels for the last 20 years.

Following the approval by Pune University, he has successfully supervised 03 students for their Ph.D. degrees and 16 students for their M. Pharm. dissertations. Presently, 05 students have registered for their Ph.D. degrees under him.

He is the recipient of 02 Best Paper Awards (1986, 1995), recipient of a Best Teacher Award (1998) and recipient of IPER Outstanding Performance Award (1997-98).

He is the Dean, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Pune University since 1992.

He is the Chairman, Board of Studies in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Pune University since 1991.

He has authored 03 books, one in Physical Pharmacy and 02 in Medicinal Chemistry.

He has brought research grants to the tune of Rs.35,34,500/- from AICTE and UGC since 1996.

He has presented several research papers in National and International Conferences.

- 4. Laboratory Facilities: Addition of 08 laboratories since 1996, measuring 8,000 sq. ft. to the existing building area of 42,000 sq. ft. fulfils essential criteria as per AICTE guidelines in conducting B. Pharma. M. Pharma. and Ph.D. courses. The allocated M. Pharma. and other laboratories are equipped with electricity, gas and water supply fittings. Further, there is a stand by generator for non-interruption power supply.
- 5. Sophisticated Research Instruments Facility: A laboratory with sophisticated instruments worth Rs. 37.57 lac has been developed after 1996. Another sum of Rs. 25 lac as sanctioned by AICTE is available for future purchase of other equipments. These instruments were purchased out of the grants received through research projects, public testings and industrial consultancy.
- 6. Computer Facilities: A central computer laboratory with hardwares worth Rs. 6.3 lac (include 20 computers, 03 printers, 04 UPS etc) and softwares worth Rs. 5.6 lac (include Unistat version 3, Wingather, Star version 5, Labworld soft, Chemdesign, Chem X) has been established. Further, another laboratory has been established with all facilities to carry out Computer Aided Drug Design studies.
- 7. Library Facilities: The College subscribes 20 and 46 numbers of National and International journals, respectively which are relevant to Pharmaceutical Sciences, the library has a reasonable number of text and reference books for use by all students and staff.
- 8. Auditorium: An auditorium with a surface are of 2400 sq. ft. has been constructed recently.

II. OTHER SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS

(a) Manufacturing Unit: The College is the first Pharmacy Institution in the country to establish a manufacturing unit in the name of "Gent Rid Pharmaceutical Pvt. Ltd." Which

has been attached to the College to train the B. Pharm. students to develop skills in production, quality assurance, marketing etc. In this regard, the unit has already manufactured 80 lac tablets of Paracetamol out of which 35 lac tablets have already been sold. 25 more formulations are approved and production is expected to start soon. It has been envisaged to generate funds of around Rs. 5.0 lac per years.

(b) Public Testing Laboratory and M.O.U.: Due to the availability of several sophisticated equipments, the college has established an unique Public Testing Laboratory duly approved by the Department of Food and Drug Administration, Government of Maharasthra. More than 40 Pharmaceutical industries are availing this facility. Further, some of these industries are also availing the facility of "Animal Toxicity Studies".

More recently the College has signed a M.O.U. with one of the most renowned multinational company, Hoechst Roussel Merian to carry out analysis of their bulk drugs and formulations.

- (c) Animal House Facility: The College has an Animal House where several types of animals, e.g. rat, mice, rabbit are maintained and bred regularly under controlled conditions. These animals are used for both practical experiments by the students and research purposes.
- (d) Industrial Collaborations: The College has established collaboration with several Pharmaceutical industries on several research projects. Bio-Ved Pharmaceuticals has donated a number of equipments to the tune of Rs. 20.00 lac during the last 04 years. Further, this industry is also providing Research Fellowships to M. Pharma and Ph.D. students.

The Committee would like to make the following suggestions to be followed by the College in future:-

III SUGGESTIONS

- 1. The College should switch over to the semester system for B. Pharm. course.
- 2. Syllabi for both B. Pharm. and M. Pharm. May suitably be amended and upgradation be done every 3-4 years. Experts from other institutions and from industries may be consulted while framing these syllabi.
- 3. All the sophisticated instruments/equipments may be lodged in one centrally located laboratory.
- 4. The College should subscribe to more journals in areas of microbiology, biochemistry, pharm biotechnology, immunology etc.
- 5. In case needed, teachers from Department of Pharmacology, Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology of Bharati Vidyapeeth Medical and Dental College may be requested engage certain theory classes in the relevant subjects.

- 6. In accordance to the adoption of newly framed syllabi, few additional faculty members may be recruited and funds so required may be generated by the College at the level of the State Government.
- 7. The College should encourage its faculty members to participate in more number of conferences and the junior teachers be deputed to attend to refresher/induction courses, organised by the Academic Staff Colleges of UGC.
- 8. Prof. S.S. Kadam, the present Principal of the College who is having a Ph.D. degree in an allied discipline of Pharmaceutical Sciences and is responsible for the academic and developmental growth of this premier Pharmacy institution of the Pune region and also possessing vast experiences in teaching, research and research supervision in Pharm. Chemistry may continue as the Principal of the College. In the meantime, various disciplines/specialisations may be Headed by senior teachers having basic degree in Pharmacy. However, in case Prof. Kadam relinquishes the present position, then a suitable person having a basic degree in Pharmacy may be appointed as the Principal of the College.

IV RECOMMENDATIONS

As per the observations as mentioned above which were based on on-the-spot verifications concerning institutional and infrastructural facilities, e.g. laboratories (including those for instrumentation and computer), library, research including qualitative and quantitative publications, teaching faculty, resource generation and also based on specific observations, e.g. manufacturing unit, public testing facility, industrial collaboration etc., the Committee strongly recommends for the inclusion of Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Pharmacy under the ambit of Deemed University of Bharati Vidyapeeth.

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(S.K. PATNAIK)

(GURCHARAN SINGH)