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**Report of the Expert Committee appointed by the Chairman,
University Grants Commission to examine the proposal of
[REDACTED] 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, Department of Secondary and Higher Education, of Mody Institute of Research and Education (MIER), Lakshmangarh, Rajasthan to accord Deemed to be University status to three of their colleges, namely, Mody College, Mody College of Engineering and Technology, Lakshmangarh and Mody College of Management Studies, undertaken together in an integrated manner.

The Chairman, UGC, appointed an Expert Committee to examine the proposal and submit their recommendations. The constitution of the Committee is given as Annexure-I.

The Committee visited Mody Institute of Education and Research on 23rd and 24th January, 2002. The names of the experts who attended the meeting are also indicated as Annexure-II.

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The Committee met together on 23rd January, 2002 in the meeting hall of Mody Institute of Education and Research, Lakshmangarh, Rajasthan. Mr. M.L. Surekha, Chairman, Local Governing Body, Mody Institute of Education and Research welcomed the UGC Expert Committee and briefed the Committee about status of the MIER, its objectives and future visions. Director, Principals of three colleges along with senior faculty members also participated in this meeting. Prof. K.K. Aggarwal, Vice-Chancellor, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi, briefed the Committee about the denovo concept to grant Deemed to be University status. Dr. P.S. Rajput, Director (Admn.), UGC apprised the members of the requirements of the University Grants Commission under denovo concept to bring commonality of approach. Thereafter, the Committee visited laboratories, library of College of Engineering and Technology and also had variety of discussions with teachers and students. The Committee also had round of entire campus i.e. hostels, Administrative block and playgrounds and other facilities created by the MIER. On 24th January, 2002, the Committee also visited College of Management Studies and Mody College. These visits to colleges were conducted to have better understanding of their curriculum, their research activities, their infrastructure, their libraries, their computer support system and other items of details pertaining to the discipline.

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The Committee also met on 24th January, 2002 to finalize its report. Keeping in view the visits to various colleges, interaction with faculty members and students the expert committee makes following observations and recommendations:

Observations:

The Mody Institute of Education and Research (MIER) was established on 27th February, 1986. This Institute has an aesthetically attractive campus in 202 acres with good lay-out with attractive avenues, lush green lawns and well kept orchards. The campus has decorative rest points silhouetted by 'Shilalekhs' depicting selected quotations and words of wisdom drawn from the Vedas, the Epics and opinion leaders. MIER is meant to be a campus where the teachers and the taught live together, dine together and work together in an environment of continuous influence and interaction for the enrichment of body and mind. The society is running three colleges, namely, Mody College, Mody College of Engineering and Technology and Mody College of Management Studies.

The Modi Institute of Education & Research (MIER), keeping in view the Government of India agenda viz. Women Education. Women Development and Women Empowerment, has started these three colleges exclusively for Women Education.

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The Mody College of Engineering & Technology affiliated to Rajasthan University, Jaipur, is running the courses of BE in Computer Science & Engineering, BE in Electronics & Communication with an intake of 90 seats each, BE in Information Technology with intake of 40 seats and MCA also with intake of 40 seats. Mody Institute of Education & Research (MIER) has approval from AICTE to run these courses.

The Mody College of Engineering & Technology has a separate three-storied building with a library, seminar hall and seminar rooms and laboratories well equipped with the equipments required for conducting the practicals. The admissions are mostly through RPET, Rajasthan.

The Mody College of Management Studies (MCMS) affiliated to Rajasthan University, Jaipur, has an excellent three storied building with a separate Computer laboratory, library and seminar hall, etc. The College is running MBA courses with intake of 60 seats. These courses have approval of AICTE.

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The Mody College is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan offers B.A./B.Sc./B.Com (Pass and Hons.) degree courses with various subjects combinations B.Sc. (Hons.) in Computer Science, B.Sc. (Hons.) in Electronics, Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA), M.Sc. Bio Technology, Micro Biology, M.Com (ABST) and M.A. English & Economics. This College is being run in the classrooms and laboratories of the school, which MIER is running in its campus. Only 16 to 20 percent of the seats out of the total intake of the students are filled up in the above mentioned courses. MIER is going to start courses, namely, M.A. (English), M.A. (Economics), M.Sc. (Biotechnology), M.Sc. (Microbiology), M.Com (ABST) from the year 2002-2003.

The Institute has 16 hostels well furnished in the most modern way with mess facility, including abundant supply of hot and cold water and a 24 hour electricity supply. The Institute is constructing a central building for dining facilities costing about 10.00 crores which will accommodate approximately 1750 students at a time.

Mody Institute of Education & Research (MIER) is, at present, attracting girl students from all parts of India. There are 19 Engineering colleges affiliated to University of Rajasthan. Mody College of Engineering & Technology in the 2000-2001 has begged 1 to 8 positions among the girl students of the State.

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The Institute has constructed play fields strictly according to the International standards and also has provisions for horse riding.

MIER also offers Personality Development Programme that combines lecturers, demonstration workshops on communication skills, etc.

MIER has fully equipped clinic with a resident lady doctor and trained female nursing staff. The Institute also conducts periodic medical check ups and vaccinations. The students are also provided with facilities of routine check ups by various specialists.

Each College and even some Divisions have library and reading rooms with good collections of books and a few important journals.

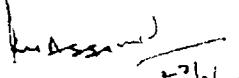
Classrooms are spacious, ventilated and acoustically engineered. Classrooms are mostly having the modern teaching aids. The laboratories are equipped with latest and the best in experimental gadgets, including computer laboratories with adequate infrastructure.

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MIER has in all 715 students in, Mody College of Engineering & Technology and 120 in MBA. Most of the seats in Mody colleges in various courses are lying vacant. There are 57 teachers in Mody College of Engineering & Technology out of the sanctioned strength of 86, 8 teachers in Mody College of Management Studies out of the sanctioned strength of 10 and 24 teachers out of the sanctioned strength of 68 in Mody College.

MIER has recruited very young faculty from various parts of India, which are well-educated. The faculty has published their work in some of the journals, but most of the work done by them is in the Institute where they have completed their M.Sc./M.A., M.Phil and Ph.D. The faculty is energetic and has a good potential to do research work in the area of their specialization. The MIER should now lay emphasis on recruitment of senior faculty to create distinctive and innovative programme in these areas. As they will have no restriction of the Rajasthan University syllabus, then they will require senior faculty with some vision and expertise to take it to excellence. Till they are able to get the senior faculty in the Institute, they should have Advisory Committee i.e. expert in each discipline, may be with the help of UGC, to guide them because the young faculty did not show this vision. Since it is an exclusively women Institute and have good infrastructure, the Committee feels that Deemed University status may be favourably considered by the UGC.


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MIER has not given proof that they are keeping Rs.5.00 Crores as Corpus Fund as per UGC guidelines.

The suggestions of the Committee are:

- that MIER which has already laid the cables should get internet facility within six months;
- that MIER should enhance academic infrastructure required to develop the Institute urgently;
- that UGC may sent an Expert Committee between 2-3 years to look into the potential of excellence achieved during this period by this Institute.
- that MIER should restart its B.Ed programme for better Development and Empowerment of Educated Women taskforce.

Recommendations:

The Committee feels that the Mody College of Engineering & Technology and Mody College of Management Studies have potential to develop further, but the Mody College, which is functioning from the school building has very little potential to develop independently in near future also.

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The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Mody College of Engineering & Technology and the Mody College of Management Studies which have promised to develop into good quality Institute may be given status of Deemed to be University under denovo category and Mody College may be included later on as and when it shows that it has potential of excellence as examined and ascertained by a UGC Committee for the purpose.

K. K. Aggarwal
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(Prof. K. K. Aggarwal
VC - CASIP UMSU
ABU