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# Report of Peer Team on Institutional Accreditation of Akbar Peerbhoy of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai 21-22<sup>nd</sup> January 2004

Akbar Peerbhoy college of Commerce and Economics was established in 1969 by the Anjuman -i-Islam, Mumbai. It is a grants-in-aid College. It is located in a campus covering a total urban area of 0.50 acre.

The college is affiliated to the Mumbai University for the teaching courses of studies up to B.com degree examination (three year integrated B.Com Degree Course). In addition, the College also conducts certificate Courses in Computer programming (software), Diploma in Business Management, Degree of BMS (Bachelor of Management Studies), B.Sc (Information Technology) and BMM (Bachelor of Mass Media).

The college is a Minority institution catering to the needs of all sections of society particularly the deprived and underprivileged sections of society. The percentage of Muslim students has now increased to about 56% thanks to the suitable steps taken by the benevolent management.

The college aims at training all sections, especially socially and educationally backward students in the field of Commerce and Economics and developing their overall personality, so that they become assets to the society. To achieve this end, the college has numerous co-curricular and extra curricular activities. The institution has got UGC recognition in 1987 under sections 2F and 12B.

The college has qualified permanent teaching faculty strength of 14 out of which 3 have doctorates and two are M. Phil holders. In addition, there are two regular teachers approved by the University with PG as the highest qualification. There are 14 members on the non-teaching staff. The student strength of the college is 1, 522 of which only 24 belongs to other states.

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The college has Central library, two Computer centers, Sports facilities, Hostel, Canteen and Welfare Schemes. The number of books available in the library is 20,434 and 42 Journals and periodicals are subscribed.

The resources generated by the college during 2003-2004 are Rs. 1340000/-through self-financing Courses. The college received a government grant of Rs. 9140000/- and raised Rs.2104500/- through fees collection. The unit cost of the college education is Rs.9,707/-. The temporal plan of academic work in the college is semester system. The management runs other educational institutions also.

The Akbar Peerbhoy College, Mumbai requested NAAC Bangalore for accreditation and submitted the Self Study Report. NAAC constituted the peer team, consisting of the following members to visit and assess the college;

- (i) Prof. K. L. Kamal (Chair person)Former Vice Chancellor of Rajastan University.
- (ii) Dr. K. Abdullah Basha
   Director, Jamal Institute of Management, Tiruchirappalli 20
- (iii) Dr. S. K. Dhawan

  (Member Co-ordinator)

  Former Joint Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Shimla.
- (iv) Dr. Latha Pillai Advisor NAAC Bangalore.

The peer team carefully pursued and analyzed the self-study report submitted by the institution on 21 and 22 Jan 2004 and visited all the departments, labs, library and all other facilities and had a detailed discussion with the Management, Principal, Faculty members, Students, Administrative staff, parents and Alumni etc. A detailed report of good features as well as the issues of concern are as follows



Section 2: Criteria Wise Analysis

Criterion 1: Curriculum Aspects

Akbar Peerbhoy College. Mumbai, carries with it the aspiration of its founders to provide affordable education to the needy and poor students, boys and girls, especially from the minority community and provide college education to the first generation learners irrespective of their educational performances at the entry level. It provides college education to the students who passed with minimum passing marks or who have passed in more than one attempt.

The institution runs a three year Degree Course of B.Com along with other professional courses, viz., BMS, B.Sc (Information Technology), B. Sc. (Comp. Science) and B.M.M. The Institution also offers, Vocational Courses in Computer Application, which is sponsored by UGC.

In the First Year B.Com all the seven subjects are compulsory as per the university norms. In second year B.Com Advertising, Computer system, Economic systems are the optional subjects. Direct and indirect taxes, Export Management, Urdu Literature and Computer Systems are the optional subjects in the Third Year B.Com.

In the curriculum aspects, the college tries to do its best within the given parameter by the university. Being an affiliated college, the institution does not have any freedom to make innovation in curriculum and introduce inter-multi disciplinary element.

### Criterion II: Teaching, Learning and Evaluation

The institution has a transparent admission process. Admissions for B.Com are based on past academic records whereas for professional courses interviews and special entrance Tests are conducted. However, preference is given to educationally and economically weaker sections of society. The college follows the semester system. The college has 14 permanent teaching staff and two regular

teachers, out of which 3 are Ph.Ds and two are M.Phil holders, The student strength of college is 1522.

The teaching staff is recruited as per the university and government norms. In case of short-term shortage of teachers, the college appoints temporary teachers on clock hour basis in the aided sections. However, the percentage of classes taught by full time faculty is more than 85 which shows that teaching of subjects is done by the teachers, who specialize in that particular subject.

Evaluation of students is done according to university norms. The students are continuously assessed through class tests and assignments. Remedial courses help the weak students to cope with the problem of adjustment and adoptions. Students have been, in general, performing well in examinations.

The institution has linkages for teaching and research with British Council, American Library and Indian Merchants' Chamber and is also negotiating with John Strut and Cambridge Universities for academic collaboration. The college encourages teachers to participate in international, national and regional seminars apart from their participation in refresher and orientation courses. It is suggested that lecturers should be encouraged to acquire research degree.

### Criterion III: Research, Consultancy and Extension

Some of the faculty members have publications and also presented papers in various conferences, seminars, workshops etc. The teachers should be encouraged to take research projects. At present, only 15% faculty members are actively involved in research.

The Institution is responsive to community needs and conducts relevant extensions and awareness programmes. The college promotes various extension activities in the field of social work. The college has taken special efforts to promote awareness about AIDS, leprosy etc. With the resources available in the college, starting of one or more house journals would be a step in the right direction to encourage publication of research articles by teachers.



The NSS volunteers are involved in many social outreach activities like literary campaign, AIDS awareness etc.

## Criterion IV: Infrastructure and Learning Resources

The college has adequate infrastructural facilities. The total area of campus is 0.50 acre. The college is kept clean and is well maintained. The college allows external agencies to use its facilities during weekends and holidays.

The central library has 20434 books, book bank facility and 42 Journals / Periodicals are subscribed. The college also has a very well developed computer centre. There are 40 computers with 2 servers, one for windows and another for Linux operating systems.

The management is working with a missionary zeal in developing the infrastructure to provide quality education. Sufficient accommodation has been provided for the various departments. The college gets financial aid from the state government and also running self-financing programmes as well.

The college has Gymkhana facilities for the students. While various in door games are played within the college, out door games are played by hiring full sized grounds. The College management runs a hostel where 20 seats are reserved for the college students.

### Criterion V: Student Support and Progression

The College educates students from the surrounding poor localities who are mostly first generation learners and girls belonging to educationally backward Community. The college is in the process of strengthening the placement and employment cell to help students in identifying career options.

The college management is very supportive to financial needs of the students and helps them in many ways. Though the pass percentage is satisfactory, measures are to be taken for further improvement.



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A number of students of this institution have occupied the senior official positions in Maharastra government and various other avenues of life. Alumni association of the College should be strengthened for generating academic and financial resources for the college and the students.

Indoor games, outdoor games, debate clubs, cultural programmes, audio video facilities, dance music competitions, essay writing and excursion are the others recreational, leisure time, facilities available to the students of the college. One of the student was selected for Youth Orientation programme held in America.

#### Criterion VI: Organization and Management

Akbar Peerbhoy College is governed by the Anjuman-i-Islam Educational Trust, Mumbai. The periodic meetings of the trust analyze the working of the institution and provide direction for conducting long term and short tem activities of the college. Internal co-ordination and monitoring is done by Principal.

There is a Local Management Committee consisting of the management, educational experts and elected representatives of teaching and non-teaching staff. The Principal is member-secretary. The college collects tuition and other fees as per the guidelines of the university.

The college has about 20 committees to co-ordinate and monitor various curricular and extracurricular activities. The college has introduced various welfare programmes, such as group insurance for the students, student aid fund, book bank, festival advance etc for the benefit of the students and employees. The college has a cooperative credit society for teaching and non-teaching staff.



#### Criterion VII: Healthy Practices

The college follows a number of healthy practices, some of which are listed below.

The college is providing quality education at affordable cost to the poor and weaker sections of the society.

The college is offering self financing UGC courses in emerging and joboriented fields to the students.

The campus maintenance and discipline are praiseworthy

The college imparts value-based education to its students to build up strong minds. An effort to introduce ethical values is praiseworthy.

Remedial classes are conducted for weak students.

NCC and NSS activities are conducted regularly in the college which have created an awareness about social problems.

#### Section III: Overall Analysis

Akbar Peerbhoy College of Commerce and Economics was established in 1969 in Mumbai by the Anjuman-i-Islam a prominent voluntary educational and social service organization. It is located in the metropolis urban locality having 0.50 acre of land. It is affiliated to Mumbai University. The college offers a three year degree course of B.Com along with other professional courses namely B.M.S, B.Sc (IT), B. Sc (Comp. Sc.) and B. M. M. The institution also offers vocational course in computer application, which is sponsored by UGC.

The philosophy of the institution is directed towards educating the weaker sections of the society and for creating socio-cultural awareness among young student generation. The college is planning to start M. Com. Course from 2004-2005.

Inspite of the space and below average student admission constraints; the performance of the college in terms of facilities and pass percentage is commendable.



#### Recommendations

- Barring two all the teachers are as per UGC norms. These two also may be motivated to improve their qualifications.
- There is need to motivate more teachers to take up research projects.
- The college has well-established department of Commerce, Management Studies and Computers. These facilities may be utilized to start Post Graduate Courses in management and job-oriented courses such as PGDCA, MCA, Certificate Courses in Advertisement and other area specific courses.
- It is recommended that students of BMS and BMM should be taken to other
  institutions, more often, imparting such courses so as to give them
  opportunity to interact with the students of these institutions.

The team expresses its gratitude to the management, Principal, Vice Principal, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff and students of the college for their kind cooperation, hospitality and interaction during the visit.

Prof. K. L. Kamal Chairperson Dr. K. Abdullah Basha

Member

Dr. S. K. Dhawan

Member Coordinator

I agree with the report.

(S.A.M. Hashmi)

Principal Principal

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