

ORIGINAL

**JANKIDEVI BAJAJ COLLEGE OF SCIENCE,  
WARDHA**

**PEAR TEAM REPORT  
AND  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**PEER TEAM REPORT**  
**OF**  
**JANKIDEVI BAJAJ COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, WARDHA.**

“What passes for education today, even in our “best” schools and colleges, is a hopeless anachronism” (A.Toffler). Jankidevi Bajaj College of Science woke up to this challenge, through enlightened leadership, and began serious search for quality in 1996 with the appointment of the Wakhlu committee. This spirit of quest for quality led the college to invite NAAC to assess and accredit JBCS. The staff, particularly those who hold leadership, deserves kudos for this bold initiative. Perhaps there are hundreds of colleges, who bewail the all round lowering of educational standards, but do not have the courage and vision to remedy the situation. Knowing what to do and caring to do it courageously, JBCS has placed itself in the category of a minority to be reckoned for quality.

Founded in 1962, by a philanthropic body, Shiksha Mandal, with just fifty students on the rolls, JBCS has grown into a co-education college of Science with 500 UG (and about 900 pre degree) students with a teaching fraternity of 35 and about 55 auxilliary staff, catering through eight science Departments.

Except for its historical association with Mahatma Gandhi, Vinoba Bhave and the Indian Independence movement, Wardha of 1962 was perhaps a sleepy mofussil town, yet to be touched by the liberating forces of higher education. Starting a pure Science college in 1962, four

years prior to Kothari commission, in an educationally backward area, the enlightened leadership of Shiksha Mandal was anticipating. Kothari Commission's clarion call to make education experience and application oriented. This thrust for application oriented courses led to the introduction of Microbiology in 1980, Electronics in 1985 and Computer Science in 1988. Permanently affiliated to Nagpur University, JBCS has UGC recognition under 2f and 12B.

NAAC's Peer team consisting of Fr. P.C. Mathew, SJ, and Dr. A.S. Kukla, visited JBCS on 4 & 5 August 1999, to validate the Self-Study Report.

The Self - Study Report affirms that "effectiveness and efficiency and all round excellence will be the key words determining the Quality of Education in the College". Where does JBCS stand vis-a-vis this affirmation? The Peer Team studied the Inputs from Departments, visited the college for a first hand assessment of its resources and resource utilisation, and interacted with the various constituents of the College, and perused records available. Based on our findings, the Peer Team affirms without hesitation that JBCS is firmly set on way to Quality Education. The Peer Team's findings under different criteria, and other noteworthy features are spelt out below.



## **CRITERION I : CURRICULAR ASPECTS and**

## **CRITERION II : TEACHING ,LEARNING AND EVALUATION**

Limited by the affiliating system, JBCS is not left with any choice in the syllabi, as also in the examination system. Efforts at introducing job oriented courses, the range of combinations of subjects, attempts at self-financing courses are noteworthy features.

The objectives of the Shiksha Mandal, defined more than 37 years back are too general. A clearer spelling out of the vision in terms of specific goals and objectives, as seen emerging from the misty outlines of tomorrow is an urgent task.

The mediocre results at University examinations and high drop out rates are matters of concern. The decrease in number and quality of the applicants, for no fault on the college's part is a concern shared by all. The proportion of seats to applications is 1:2, leaving much to be desired in terms of academic quality and motivation of students admitted. The existing ATKT (allowed to keep term) system of the University acts as the proverbial stroke on the camel's back .

Against this chaotic situation, one cannot but commend the efforts of the college in assessing students' knowledge through regular unit tests and model examinations, and remedial and bridge courses for SC/ST candidates particularly. The unitised plan of teaching and the regular seminars by students for fast learners are ventures worthy of emulation . The Audio visual room seems to help innovative teaching. Seminars , guest lectures etc are occasional healthy practices for faculty

improvement. OHP , slide projectors are provided . Self appraisal is practised with follow-up action .

The university results of the college, if viewed against the above spelt out mediocrity, cannot be judged as poor. The drop out rate is not very high as may appear and is attributed to the easy accessibility of professional colleges. For the same reason, if there is frustration and lack of motivation among the teachers, it is quite natural. The indifference of the faculty to national and international seminars may be attributed to the small town syndrome , as also absence of information. A conscious effort on the part of the management and staff are required to make all staff members computer literate and to extend the application of computers at different levels of administration and work of the college. An internet connection is overdue for the benefit of teachers and students.

### CRITERION III: RESEARCH ,CONSULTANCY AND EXTENSION

A minor research project by one teacher ,part time research by two teachers for their Ph.D.,the EIP programmes and the extension work by NSS,NCC,and PEC stand out as little oasis in an apparent desert!It was encouraging to know that quite a few apparatus for the Physics laboratory are assembled by the staff members.

While lack of research may be explained away due to absence of P.G. Departments, or to absence of any personal benefit, monetary or otherwise, one can not explain why only 7 Ph.D.s are there out of 35 staff members. There is lack of encouragement on the part of the management and an indifferent,if not negative, attitude,towards research among a

sizeable section, coupled with probably ignorance of opportunities available. The younger members of the staff have to take the lead to blaze a new trail in this respect.

#### **CRITERION IV: INFRASTRUCTURE AND LEARNING RESOURCES**

One is impressed by the sprawling campus of 10 acres dotted with buildings and interspersed with playing fields: Football, Basketball, Volleyball etc. No wonder if the college has an admirable record in sports and games at the University level. Health club and Gymnasium are assets to be proud of. The maintenance of the campus seems to be in good hands.

The laboratories are very spacious compared to the number of students. While they are well equipped, it has been suggested that obsolete and damaged equipments are not replaced promptly.

There is a library committee to look after the routine affairs of the library. Compared to the space available for other facilities, the reading room and library are accommodated in a somewhat smaller building. It caters to both the junior and senior college students. Numberwise the collection is impressive. But there are more text books than general and specialized books. There is a good number of magazines and journals. Accessibility must be made easier in terms of books allowed to be taken and by reducing the time lag in getting the books applied for. Full computerisation of the library should not be delayed.



The failure of earlier attempts to run a canteen, should not deter the management from offering canteen facilities to staff and students. There has been very vocal and concerted request for it from students.

There seems to be too much dependence on the government /UGC finance for future infrastructural development. Alternate sources such as Alumni must be sought out. The Management, with its enlightened approach should come with timely assistance.

#### **CRITERION V: STUDENT SUPPORT AND PROGRESSION:**

Though no records are maintained, quite a few passing out get employment or proceed for further studies. The reason for the apparent low pass percentage and high drop out rate has been explained. Regular feedback exercises by students are done, and the suggestions are implemented in most cases. It is a pleasant surprise to hear that nearly 80% of the students enjoy scholarships of different categories.

It is gratifying to note that the accreditation process has led to the establishment of the J B C S Alumni association. Placement services are getting organised. It is surprising to read that employment cell is not able to motivate students. It is important that the employment potential of the neighbouring places are assessed, and a serious effort at interfacing with industry is initiated.

## **CRITERION VI: ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT:**

The top management exhibits a certain clarity of vision and commitment to quality. L M C under the direction of Shiksha Mandal looks after the management of the college through periodic meetings. Structures have been established as per the University act. There are more than 13 committees- staff council, library, prospectus, admission, student council, college examination, attendance, quality improvement, etc. formed. These are functioning and well co-ordinated in the smooth administration of the college. This has contributed to improvement at different levels: academic and administrative. The set up reflects good participation of teachers at different levels of decision making and execution. However, students are left to organise extra-curricular activities. Their participation at the decision making level is almost nil.

There are many welfare schemes operating to help the staff. Finance management is good. Budgeting and auditing are regular annual features. There is no grievance redressal cell, but grievances are sorted through ad hoc arrangements.

The top management-trust members- should have direct contact with teachers and staff, particularly for first hand information. They do not appear to be convinced of the need for encouraging research, interdisciplinary approach etc despite their being enlightened otherwise.



## **CRITERION VII : HEALTHY PRACTICES**

Under this criterion may be mentioned :

- 1.The insistence on lesson teaching in units.
- 2.The seminar organised by students.
- 3.Enlightened and quality conscious management.
- 4.The tremendous potential : Human resources and infrastructure.

## **OVERALL ANALYSIS**

After the study of self-study reports, and after interacting with various constituents and functionaries and visit to the infrastructure available and seen the human and material resources, the team has come to the conclusion that J B C S is making commendable efforts to realise the objectives of the Shiksha Mandal. The college has a high reputation in Vidarbha region and in the corridors of Nagpur University. While affirming that J B C S is firmly set on the way to quality education the Peer team would commend the following as quality assets of the institution.

- 1.The far sighted vision and the quality consciousness of the management.
- 2.The commitment, dedication and hard work of the teachers and staff despite heavy odds.
- 3.The regular encouragement to unit system and seminars by students.
- 4.The participatory approach to administration and management through various committees.

5.The sprawling and well maintained campus and the different infrastructure facilities.

6.The achievements in the games and sports fields.

7.Welfare schemes for staff.

8.The liberal scholarship from Government and other agencies enjoyed by students.

The Peer team would also bring the following for follow up to augment J B C S search for quality.

1.While objectives of the college defined some 37 years back remain too general, a clear spelling out of the vision in terms of specific goals and objectives in contemporary idiom is an urgent necessity.

2.The college apparently suffering from “small town syndrome” must discard it and must establish national level linkages for staff and students.

3.The opportunity for interfacing with industry must be utilised for job opportunities, research and consultancy.

4.A research culture and tradition has to be attempted at with encouragement from management and senior staff to the junior members of the staff.

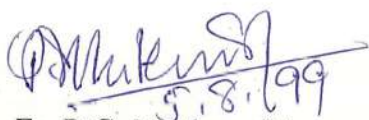
5.There is a distinct possibility for P G and autonomy for J B C S . Are the management, teachers and staff are ready to take up the challenge?

6.The industry linkage should open up the possibilities of introducing self financing courses with specific orientation.

7.The computer culture has to catch up with the management,staff and students to take up J B C S to the next millenium. The college should link up with Internet.

8.The cry of the students for a canteen deserves sympathetic consideration.

The Peer team is convinced that implementation of these realistic suggestions will take the college to higher heights of quality,making it ready to face the challenges of the 21st century.



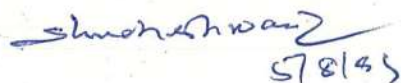
Fr. P.C. Mathew SJ

Chairman- Peer Team



Dr. A.S. Kukla

Member- Peer Team



Head of the institution

**Principal,**  
**Jankidevi Bajaj**  
**College of Science, Wardha,**



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## **The Peer Team's findings and noteworthy features of J. B. College of Science, Wardha.**

- (A) (1) Enlightened leadership of Shiksha Mandal started a pure science college in 1962, four years prior to Kothari Commission in an educationally backward area.
- (2) The staff deserves .....for the bold initiative taken to go for assessment and accreditation by NAAC in the year 1999.
- (3) Members of Peer team affirms without hesitation that JBC is firmly set on way to Quality Education (QE)
- (4) Introduction of job oriented courses like Microbiology (1980), Electronics (1985) and Computer Science (1988)
- (5) range of combinations of subjects i.e. 6 U.G. programmes.
- (6) Introduction of Self-financing like Computer Science
- (7) Regular unit Tests and model examinations.
- (8) Remedial and bridge courses for SC/ST candidates
- (9) Unitised plan of teaching.
- (10) Regular Seminars by students for fast learners.
- (11) Audio-visual room to help innovative teaching.
- (12) Seminars and guest lectures for faculty development.
- (13) Self-appraisal with follow up action.
- (14) University results of the college can not be judged as poor.
- (15) Drop out rate is not very high as may appear - attributed to the easy accessibility of professional colleges.
- (16) A few apparatus for the Physics laboratory are assembled by the faculty themselves.
- (17) Sprawling campus of 10 acres.
- (18) Admirable record in sports and games at the University Level.
- (19) Health club and Gymnasium.
- (20) Good maintenance of the campus.
- (21) Very spacious and well equipped laboratories.
- (22) The collection in the library is impressive with good number of magazines and journals.
- (23) Regular feed back from students and its implementation.
- (24) 80 % of the students enjoy scholarship of different types.
- (25) Alumni association- an outcome of accreditation process.
- (26) Management with clarity of vision and commitment to quality.
- (27) Regular meetings of L.M.C.
- (28) Establishment of structures as per University Act.
- (29) More than 13 committees functioning and well coordinated in the smooth conduct of the college.
- (30) Good participation of teachers at different levels of decision making and execution.
- (31) Welfare schemes for faculty, staff and students.
- (32) Good finance management.
- (33) Budgeting and auditing are regular annual features.
- (34) Tremendous potential with respect to human resources and infrastructure.
- (35) High reputation in Vidarbha region and in the corridors of Nagpur University.



**(B) The Peer Teams Suggestions and its implementations.**

- (1) A clearer spelling out of the vision in terms of specific goals and objectives is an urgent task.  
The aims and objectives, leading to specific goals and mission, relevant to the present generation, have been rephrased and the efforts are being done in that direction. (copy enclosed)
- (2) Indifference of the faculty to National and International seminars. The "small town syndrome" with which the college was suffering for a fairly long period, has been cast off and wings have spread far and wide to the National level. We had organised National Seminar on "Biodiversity" on 9th and 10th August 2002 in which nationally acclaimed resource persons were invited and 200 delegates from all over India, Participated. The response was extremely overwhelming.  
Another National level Seminar on "Pollution free environment is planned on 25th December 2003.
- (3) A conscious effort is required to make all staff members computer literate and to extend the application of computers at different levels of administration and work of the college.  
Conscious efforts are being taken to increase the computer literacy among staff members and students. Special training classes were held to impart computer knowledge to the faculty and staff. At present all the staff members, teaching and non-teaching, are good at computer learning.  
The computer culture has caught up very rapidly and almost the entire work in the college is computerized. The work in administrative block and library is totally computerized.
- (4) An internet connection is over due for the benefit of teachers and students. Internet facility has been provided by the college to teachers and students.
- (5) More number of MRP and research activity by teachers for Ph.D. is needed.  
In addition to regular teaching to undergraduate students in various subjects, teachers are also involved in research activities. We have already completed work on THREE minor research projects after accreditation of the college.  
Educational Innovations were carried out by the faculty along with students in the XI th Plan of U.G.C. in different science subjects.  
Near about 50% of the faculty is doing research leading to Ph.D. and by the end of this session, they are going to complete the work.
- (6) Reading room and library are accommodated in a somewhat small building.  
A new library building will be constructed in near future with the financial assistance from management.
- (7) Accessibility of students to library must be made easier.  
It has been done by allowing the students to take more number of books and by reducing the time lag in getting the books applied for.



- (8) Canteen facility to staff and students.  
The demand of the students for canteen has been finally met with.
- (9) Distinct possibility for P.G. and academic autonomy The college has started P.G. in Botany in the academic session 2004-05, followed by other subjects in subsequent years.  
In near future, the college is intended to apply for academic autonomy.

(C) **Work done after Accreditation.**

"Internal Quality Assurance Cell" ( I Q A C ) was established on 14th September 2000 by Shiksha Mandal to monitor internal quality of all the institutions run by it. Some of the healthy practices followed in the college are as follows :-

- (1) Academic diary for teachers with follow up action by the Head of the Institution,
- (2) General knowledge Test ( GKT ) for Senior College students for which Prizes are given by Shiksha Mandal.
- (3) Evaluation of teachers by students.
- (4) Regular meetings of "Teacher Parent Association" ( T P A )
- (5) A new look to "Information and Guidance Cell" for Senior College students.
- (6) Introduction of "self-study systems" for students in the fields of their interest under the guidance of teachers.
- (7) Sharing of experiences by top notchers in each subject with fellow students.
- (8) Formation of "Cleanliness Committee" to keep the campus clean.
- (9) The following seminars/workshops/orientation courses were conducted and organized by Shiksha Mandal in which respective members from each college participated.
  - (a) Conference of Principals, Vice-principals, HOD's, Directors and Supervisors (19-8-2000)
  - (b) Seminar for librarians and Physical Education Teachers (9-12-2000)
  - (c) Audit camp for auditors and accountants (12-9-2001)
  - (d) Seminar for non-teaching staff (21-9-2002)
  - (e) Seminar for cleanliness committee (2-9-2003)
  - (f) Seminar for extension activities like PEC, NCC & NSS
  - (g) Inter collegiate "Games and Sports Meet" for students and staff is an annual feature which is conducted by the parent body.
- (11) All the Healthy practices which were in force before accreditation are continued with a margin of improvement.