



## **DRAFT REPORT OF THE PEER TEAM ON INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION OF**

### **PT. RAVISHANKAR SHUKLA UNIVERSITY RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH**

#### **SECTION—1: INTRODUCTION**

**Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University named after the first Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh after the reorganization of the states in 1956, was established on 1<sup>st</sup> May, 1964. When Chhattisgarh State was carved out from Madhya Pradesh on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2001, this University became a leading University of the new state. It caters to the educational needs of 16 districts of Chhattisgarh and also neighboring areas of other states. The University, with headquarters in the capital city Raipur, is spread over 208 acres of land. The University offers 99 academic programs with 24 teaching and affiliating type of University having 159 affiliated colleges, with a breakup of 75 Government funded, 77 Self-financing and 7 autonomous.**

**The number of students enrolled in this University during 2002-03 is 814 girls, 1163 boys, totaling to 1977. The University has 74 permanent teachers, 49 part-time teachers, 391 Administrative staff and 60 technical staff members.**

**The University provides affiliation to 138 liberal Arts and Science Colleges, 4 Law, 3 Medicine, 9 Engineering, 1 Education, 2 Management and 2 other types of colleges totaling 159. The number of students enrolled in the affiliated institutions is 1,00,306 in U.G. courses and 1,23,687 in P.G. courses.**

**Chhattisgarh was known as the 'Rice Bowl' of Madhya Pradesh. About half of the geographical area of Chhattisgarh is covered by forest having lot of biodiversity. Chhattisgarh region is as well known for its rich cultural heritage as for its abundant deposits of mineral resources such as gold, diamond, coal, iron, lime, tin, among others.**

**Chhattisgarh has a population consisting of 32% tribal, 12% scheduled caste, 51% backward class and about 5% upper classes. This shows that Pandit Ravishankar Shukla University caters a lot to weaker sections of society.**

**The University, in order to identify the areas of its strengths and weakness and to plan for the growth and expansion, volunteered to be assessed and accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, Bangalore submitted its self-**

study report to NAAC in December 2002. A Peer Team was constituted consisting of Professor. Chidananda Gowda- Vice Chancellor, Kuvempu University, Karnataka as Chairmen and Prof. K.C.Mathur- Head, Department of Chemistry, Awdhesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa, Prof. Pradip Narayan Ghosh-Professor of Physics and Dean of Science, University of Kolkata and Professor Ashok Aima-Dean and Professor, Department of Business Management Studies, Jammu as members. The Peer Team was assisted by Mr. B.S. Madhukar – Deputy Adviser, NAAC. The Peer Team visited the University from 26<sup>th</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2003.

The Peer Team made a detailed study of the Self-study Report submitted by the University to NAAC as well as the documents made available to it during its visit to the University. The Peer Team visited all the Departments, Centers and various places of service and interacted with concerned staff and students to gather information and assess the academic services made available. The members of the Peer Team also had discussions with Vice Chancellor, Members of the Executive Council, Registrar, Heads of Departments, Principals of affiliated Colleges, representative group of students and alumni for gathering more information. Using all this information, within the framework of parameters identified by NAAC, the Peer Team made a comprehensive assessment of the University considering the seven criteria laid down by the NAAC. This Report provides the assessment of the University in the form of strong points, moderate features and weak links that need strengthening.

## **SECTION—2:CRITERION-WISE ANALYSIS**

### ***CRITERION—I: CURRICULAR ASPECTS***

The Chhattisgarh State is a tribal dominated state with tribal population constituting 32.46% of the total population. Slightly less than half of the geographical area is covered by forest. The region is well known for its cultural heritage and abundant mineral resources. The University curricular aspects have been aied at regional development based on the resources available. Established in 1964, the University offers 99 diversified academic programs from certificate level upto D.Sc. D.Litt., under faculties of Arts, Science, Social Science, Life Sciences, Education, Management and Law. There are 24 teaching departments and 48 recognized research institutes/centers. The University also offers self-financing courses like Micro-Biology, Bio-Technology, MCM, Electronics, M.P.Ed., offering courses at P.G. level. Other courses like PGDCA, PGDIT, Computer Maintenance, Environmental Science, Adult Education and Yoga at P.G. Diploma level. There are Diploma courses in Clinical Biochemistry and Water Resource Management. Besides these, U.G. courses are also offered in BCA, B.Pharma under self-financing scheme. At present Distance Education program has not started, but envisaged.

Most of the courses mentioned are career oriented. Existing curricula for each course is revised and updated every year through Board of Studies, different Faculties

and Academic Council of the University. It has been observed that only very few departments are interacting with industries. This area need to be strengthened for research and development which will help students for job procurement.

At present no feed back mechanism from students is there, which is essential for quality teaching.

From the session 2002, the University has redesigned its courses by adopting new U.G.C. syllabus. It is utmost essential for teachers in all subjects to be oriented in recent trends of the syllabus.

## **SECTION—II: TEACHING, LEARNING AND EVALUATION**

The University is working for 267-268 days in a year out of which 196 are teaching days. University has full time and part time teachers (Ratio 1.5:1). The University has total budget allocation for academic programmes upto the extent of 27.8%. Admissions to various academic programmes are 15 through merit and entrance tests. Almost half of the faculty members are attending Refresher Courses, National and International Seminars, Conferences and Workshops as participants and resource persons. In a few of the science departments teaching is supported by audio-visual methods, but in Art and Social Science departments traditional methods are followed. They may also adopt newer teaching methods. Remedial courses are not being implemented. Students in the University Teaching Departments need to be provided optional use of computers facilities.

The University has annual and semester system of examination. Normally door valuation is in practice, but in some courses central valuation is being practiced. Internal assessment of students is not being done expect in some professional courses having semester system. This may be considered for others also.

The faculty member keep abreast with recent developments in their subject area by attending Refresher Courses, Orientation Course, National and International seminars, conferences, workshops. SOS in Computer Science and Information Technology departments should extend the facilities to provide training to other departments also. The institution follows self-appraisal method to evaluate teachers on teaching and research. The University invites visiting fellows/professors under UGC Unassigned Scheme. Departments like Life Sciences, Anthropology and Chemistry have International linkages for research. However this practice needs to be followed by other departments.

It has been observed that all the teaching departments have insufficient permanent teaching faculty. Part time teachers cannot provide expertise and committed attention which students need for specialized teaching. Teaching innovations are to be encouraged.

It has been felt that bridge courses in languages especially English, Hindi and Sanskrit as may be required, should be offered to students.

### **CRITERION—III: RESEARCH, CONSULTANCY AND EXTENSION**

The faculty members of the University Teaching Departments are engaged in research and supervising Ph.D. and M.Phil. students beside teaching. Currently ongoing research projects there is a total outlay amounting to Rs. 194.45 lacs. The University has 225 research students registered for Ph.D. degree, out of which 43 are holding JRF positions. The faculty has published about 357 papers in last five years in National and International journals. Two SOS in Chemistry and Bioscience have been awarded DST-FIST scheme. Both the departments are engaged in active research and have generated funds from research projects. Departments like Physics, Geology and Anthropology are also engaged in active research. Other departments Mathematics and Statistics have projects worth more than lacs. The department of Geography has complete research projects worth Rs. 50,000/-. Bioscience department is having major instrumental facilities like tissue culture, HPLC, Computerized Chromocubicles. Department of chemistry is equipped with Atomic Absorption, Spectrophotometer and flow injection Analyser Department of Anthropology is equipped with PCR instruments.

The University is not utilizing its full potential in offering consultancy service. Departments like Bioscience, Chemistry, Anthropology, Adult Education, Geology, Computer Science, Management and Pharmacy can take lead in this direction. The University will gain not only financially but also academically.

Adult Education department has done commendable work in the area of Extension services and in the promotion of self help group for empowering rural women. The department has made significant contribution in the field of literacy. Other department should explore possibilities of useful extension activities.

It is suggested that University departments must promote interdisciplinary research.

### **CREATION—IV : INFRASTRUCTURE AND LEARNING RESOURCES**

The University augments the existing infrastructure through grants from the State Government and University Grants Commission. For maintenance of the infrastructure they rely on block grant from the State Government. Total built up area of the University is 43225 sq. m. which includes classrooms covering 15226 sq.m. and laboratories covering an area of 8932 sq.m. in a total land area 207.5 acre. In the 9<sup>th</sup> Plan period they could add 22 percent additional space. Care has to be taken to arrange more space of the departments like Geography and Anthropology.

The University has a central library functioning with the help of an Advisory Committee. The library has a collection of 1, 37,804 books. The library has added 9181 books costing more than Rs. 1.35 lacs. in 2001 and 6204 books costing Rs. 1.32 lacs in 2000. The numbers of subscribed journals and periodicals are 375 (National) and 125 (International). In the year 2001—2002 foreign journals of value Rs. 7,27,000=00 and Rs. 76,000=00 worth Indian journals were subscribed to. The ratio of the number of books to the students is 93:1. An INFLIBNET grant was received from the UGC. This facility is yet to be made functional. The library provides reprographic facility, computers, audio and video cassettes to the teachers and students. The library is kept open for users from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Few departments or schools (mostly interdisciplinary) have their own small libraries with books and journals. The library provides limited Internet service. But the individual departments are not connected by LAN. The departmental faculty members and research and also the students should get access to the internet. However a few departments have internet connectivity. The installation of such facility is not very expensive and should be established at the earliest.

The University has a Health Center that provides free medicines to the students through an out patient department. It is supervised by a full-time Medical Officer and a lady-doctor who works part-time. There is a full-time nurse and a compounder. Students feel that the center should be more user friendly particularly in connection with its working hours, and they need emergency services, transport for patients in late hours etc.

For physical education facilities the University has a fairly large stadium with grounds for football, kho-kho and lawn tennis. The stadium needs better maintenance. They have well maintained gymnasium and facilities for table tennis and badminton. They are preparing a cinder track for athletics along with a central ground for basketball. When completed this will be a good facility. As incentive for achievements in sports they offer the students track suits every year and a blazer every two years. Winners of zonal, inter-zonal and National events get cash awards. They also get preference at the time of admission on the basis of performance in sports. The importance given to sports is appreciable. It is observed that sports facilities are basically used by students of the department of physical education. The students of other academic departments should also be encouraged to use them to develop interest in sports. Annual sports events are to be organized for the students.

For accommodation of students there are two men's hostels with single and double rooms and two women's hostels for U.G. and P.G. students and research scholars respectively. However, one more men's hostel and another women's hostel are constructed and will be made functional from next academic session. The hostels provides television, telephone, indoor games and canteen facilities. However the response time for addressing complaints received by hosteliates should be reduced and filtered drinking water facility augmented.

Grievance redressal mechanisms for the students of the institution work through a Proctorial Board. For the teaching staff the Vice Chancellor looks directly at the grievances. For the non-teaching staff the Registrar and Vice Chancellor are responsible. The mechanism is satisfactory.

The workshop and instrumentation centre (USIC) have arrangements for mechanical, electrical and glass blowing work. This opportunity is very important for teaching and research purposes.

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

The University has a rather small number of students with total strength of 1709. It may be noted that they have 268 students from other states. So the number of students from outside the state is 15%.

The University publishes a Prospectus annually (Vivaran Patrika). From the Prospectus and a University website (<http://www.prsu.ac.in>) the prospective students get information about admission criteria, rules and regulations and other facilities. Annual Youth Festival is organized every year. Attempt should be made to involve all the students. There should be prizes or awards for cultural programmes.

The Employment Bureau located in the University campus provides information and guidelines to the students of the University and affiliated colleges about job opportunities and entrepreneurship prospects. Placement Officer in the School of Studies in Computer Science provides training of final year MCA students to help them get placement in different industries. Last year 4 MCA students got placement through the cell. It should be mentioned MCA students and MBA students could avail the opportunities in the placement cell. The range of activities of the Employment Cell should be widened so as to include all other departments and faculties. They should also explore the possibility of placement for the students of Economics, Chemistry and others. The students need tutorial courses to bridge the gap of their courses and the NET examination curricula.

The number of students who enjoyed financial benefits was 81 and 85 in the last two years respectively. The aids are in the form of National Scholarships, Merit Scholarships, and Research Fellowships for M.Phil. or Doctoral studies and Post-doctoral fellowships from funding agencies like UGC/CSIR/ICSSR. There are a few post-doctoral fellowships available. Payment of scholarship should start soon after they join. Among the total number of 1473 students who appeared for the first year and second year examination, 40 students dropped out (nearly 3%) and 1084 (73% were successful). The number of students who obtained first class was 401. The pass rate is satisfactory.

The University has a plan to offer academic and vocational courses through Distance Education mode in the near future. This is a welcome step.

The University is not very old, and hence they have not yet formed an Alumni Association and it seems that none of the departments except Life Sciences have such opportunities. They should establish an Alumni Association for the academic and financial benefits. An active Alumni Association may be helpful for placement of students and also providing support for creation of infrastructure.

## **CRITERION—VI : ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT**

The University organization follows the usual structure of management through Executive Council, Academic Council etc. the powers and responsibilities of the officers including the Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Deans and Chairman, BOS are defined in the University Act. For improvement of financial and management skills they take advice of faculty and finally the State Government and the Chancellor.

For violation of code of conduct in last three years 6 persons were suspended and increments were withheld for 7 persons. Confidential reports of the administrative staff are maintained by the Registrar's office and are considered at the time of promotion. The staff members participate in different training programmes. In the last year only one staff member had taken such training. More staff should participate in training programmes. Response to students must be quick, sympathetic and appropriate.

The financial resources are mostly from the State Government (720 lacs) and UGC (97 lacs). The self-financing courses generated 131 lacs. From fund-raising drives they could earn 43 lacs, which is commendable.

Annual audit of the University accounts is being done.

It is commendable that there was no strike by Teachers/Students/Staff in the last ten years. So there was effectively no loss of teaching and working days during this period on this count.

It is noteworthy that the Academic calendar is drawn by a committee with the Chancellor as the Chairmen. It is implemented by the Vice Chancellor with the help of Schools of Studies. It shows that the academic consideration is given the highest priority in the state.

Computers are available in many sections of administrative wing. Confidential, academic and finance sections make use of computers.

On the whole, it appears that the University is managed well with emphasis on academic development in the newly born state. For the purpose of efficient and proper management, the University should computerize the administrative set-up using MIS.

The University needs to consider resource mobilization and effective utilization of resources with due priority. Several academic departments lack instruments, Computers, Computers and Internet facilities. Without such support systems quality cannot be improved. As an example Geography department cannot teach GIS and remote sensing without the necessary software and computers for the students. The Computer Science department also needs to buy appropriate software. In Electronics department more emphasis is necessary for instrumentation.

The departments should submit more proposal for research funding from central funding agencies. The equipments and other facilities could eventually be used for students training purposes. Instead of depending only on the State Government grants they have to explore other possibilities.

### **CRITERION—VII: HEALTHY PRACTICES**

**The following are the healthy practices observed by the Peer Team.**

- **Discipline prevails in the Campus and teacher-taught relationship is friendly.**
- **Attempts to introduce self-financing courses in several departments.**
- **Department of Life Sciences, Anthropology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, and History have National and International linkages.**
- **Department of Regional Studies with interdisciplinary research is a good effort.**
- **The University organizes various extension activities through the Department of Adult Education and Extension. This programme has a good impact on the society in the state.**
- **Promoting self-help groups (SHG) in rural areas for socio-economic empowerment and preservation of tribal art and craft is being undertaken by the centre.**
- **Academic calendar is followed.**
- **Monthly progress report of each department transmitted to Chancellor for his perusal.**

### **SECTION—3 : OVERALL ANALYSIS**

The task of educating the youth for gainful employment and enabling them to play catalytic role in the state's economic development, the University has to

reformulate a new visionary agenda for its continued and relevant contribution to the state. The University needs to strengthen the teaching learning process. While appreciating the efforts of the University for improving quality and standard in the academic programmes, the peer team notes the following suggestions for the consideration of the University.

- **Filling up of vacancies particularly for faculty positions.**
- **Computerization of the University and central administration to be taken up as a priority**
- **Computerization of the Library and networking to be taken up on priority basis.**
- **Purchase of text books (no. of copies) to be increased in the library. Text books in Hindi medium be procured particularly to help B.P.Ed. and M.P. Ed. Students.**
- **The working hours of the Library should be increased and the possibility of keeping it open on Sundays should be considered.**
- **All students passing out the University should have working knowledge of computer. The computer science department may plan and facilitate this aspect.**
- **The University convocation should be organized every year.**
- **Component of field training/industry training is to be enhanced and is to be built in the curriculum. M.o.U.'s may be attempted with local industries for the purpose.**
- **The principals of the affiliated colleges desired that a centralized instrumentation centre should be provided for the students studying in the catchment areas and constituent colleges of the region. This possibility may be explored by the University.**
- **The University should have a perspective plan for long-term development of the University.**
- **They should formulate a mechanism for students feed-back.**
- **The Alumni Association should be formed.**
- **More placement cells and effective career-counseling are necessary.**

- **Functioning of College Development Council needs to urgently overhaul for Quality improvement programmes focusing on need-based and subject-based requirement of the college teachers of the affiliating undergraduate college.**
- **Skill up-gradation training for non-teaching staff and rotation of jobs with a proper Human Resource Development policy should be taken up.**
- **Linkages to be established by the departments in the University through M.o.U.'s at National and International levels.**
- **Attracting foreign students particularly from SAARC countries is to be considered.**
- **It is necessary to encourage larger participation of students in sports and cultural activities.**
- **Attempts should be make the Student Association active and vibrant.**
- **Extension activities of the centre for Continuing and Adult Education needs to be extended to more areas in the tribal belt of the State.**

**The Peer Team wishes the University all the best in its endeavors for achieving excellence in all spheres of activity. The Peer Team also wishes to record its appreciation for excellent co-operation and goodwill extended to it by Pandit Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur.**

***SD***

**Prof. K. Chidananda Gowda  
(Chairman)**

***SD***

**Prof. K.C. Mathur  
(Member)**

***SD***

**Prof. P.N. Ghosh.  
(Member)**

***SD***

**Prof. Ashok Aima  
(Member)**

**I agree with the report**

***SD* (01.03.03)**

**(Prof. B.P.Chandra)  
Vice-Chancellor**

**Place: Raipur**

**Date: 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2003**