

**Assessment Report for  
Institutional Accreditation of**

**Prananath College,  
Khurda, Orissa**

**19, 20 December 2005**

**National Assessment and Accreditation Council  
Bangalore**

## Assessment Report for Institutional Accreditation of Prananath College, Khurda, Orissa

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### Section I: Preface

Prananath College, Khurda, Orissa was started in 1959 as private aided institution by the late Prananath Pattanaik, a noted freedom fighter and socialist leader devoted to the cause of education. He got support from local enthusiasts. Initially classes at the Intermediate level were started. The degree classes were started in 1971. The college got affiliated to Utkal University, Bhubaneswar in 1959 for Pre-University (Arts) classes and subsequently in 1963 degree classes in Arts were affiliated. Degree level Science and Commerce courses were started in 1970 and 1971, respectively. Honours courses were introduced in 1974. It is a Grant-in-aid college located in urban area. The vision of the college is to provide quality education to the youth and to provide them opportunity to develop physically, morally, intellectually and spiritually. The mission of the college is to provide scientific, literary and professional training and promote vocational competence in the students. The college got 2f and 12B status from the U.G.C. in 1969 in 1972 respectively. Recently the college has been proposed to be granted autonomous status.

The college possesses 75 acres of land and offers B.A., B.Sc. and B. Com. courses in Pass and Honours streams. The infrastructure is shared by the junior college. Nine subjects are offered in Arts and Commerce each and eight subjects in Science stream. The college also offers three vocational courses on self-financed basis. The college has 103 permanent faculty members out of whom 39 have Ph.D. and 27 have M.Phil. degrees. In addition, there are ten part-time teachers. The college has 39 permanent and 17 temporary non-teaching staff and 40 permanent and five temporary technical staff. The college has currently 2668 students in various undergraduate courses out of whom 1932 are male and 736 are female. The unit cost of education including salary is Rs. 11,399 and excluding salary component is Rs. 2,302. The college has annual system of examination. It has Central Library, Computer Centre, Girls and Boy's Hostels, Health Centre, Housing, Guest House, Non resident Centre, Post Office, Book Stall, Cooperative Store and Sports Facilities in addition to a Grievance Redressal Cell, Canteen, Parking Shed and a Common Room.

The college volunteered to be assessed by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, Bangalore and submitted its Self Study Report. A Peer Team was constituted by the Council to visit the institution and validate the Self Study Report. The Peer Team consisted of Prof. S.F. Patil, Vice Chancellor, Bharati Vidyapeeth, Deemed University Pune as Chairman, Prof. P.P.Mathur, Professor and Head, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics Centre, School of Life Sciences, Pondicherry University as Member Coordinator and Principal S.V. Chindhade, Manghanmal Udham College of Commerce, Pimpri, Pune, Maharashtra as Member. The Team visited the college on December 19 and 20, 2005.

The Peer Team examined in detail the infrastructural facilities available in the college, curricular and co-curricular programmes and the various aspects of the functioning of the institution. The Team also interacted with the Management members, Principal, students, teaching staff, non-teaching staff, parents and alumni of the college and elicited their views on the facilities and the functioning of the college. In addition, the Team also examined all the relevant records and paid visits to the different constituents of the college. Based on the above exercise, and within the scope of the seven criteria identified by the NAAC, the assessment of the institution is presented in the following sections.

## **Section 2: Criterion-wise analysis**

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

The syllabi of courses of studies offered by the college are prepared by the respective Boards of Studies and approved by the Academic Council of the affiliating University. Some of the faculty members are serving on various Boards of Studies. The courses are reviewed and updated every three years by the University. The college offers eight optional subjects in B.Sc., nine in B.A. and B.Com. courses. English and Oriya languages are offered. Several fixed combinations are being offered to the students. There is no provision of horizontal mobility. It takes at least one year to introduce new courses. In the past three years the college has offered one career oriented vocational course in Electronics Equipment Maintenance. The college has recently introduced some courses of contemporary interest such as Environmental Studies, Information Technology, Computer Applications, Population Studies, Business

Economics, Indian Society & Culture. The Peer Team appreciates the initiative taken by the college authorities in starting such innovative courses.

## CRITERION II: TEACHING-LEARNING AND EVALUATION

Admissions of students to the various courses of study are made on the basis of their academic records. Students belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other weaker sections, holders of merit certificates of NCC, NSS and sports are given preference in admission as per the policy of the State Government. There is no provision of assessing students' knowledge and skills for a particular programme. The college provides special coaching to educationally weak students. The students are informed in the beginning of the academic year of the syllabi, evaluation methods and probable dates of college and university examinations. Periodical tests are regularly conducted. The syllabi are unitised and teachers are encouraged to prepare teaching plans in the beginning of the year. Mid term corrections are done in teaching schedule. Teachers are advised to maintain progress registers in each department and the Principal verifies them. The college had 240 working and 175 teaching days in the preceding academic year. Teachers use audio-visual and computer aided learning aids. Personal contact classes are held for Honours students.

Teachers are recruited by the State Selection Board, which is an autonomous body under the State Government. There have been no permanent appointments for the last several years. However, whenever required, the college recruits temporary faculty and pays them from the Management funds. In the preceding year eight appointments were made by the Management to meet the requirements of the workload. There is a mechanism of students' feedback on academic activities. The college has also started collecting feedback on some of the aspects of the campus life.

In the last two years two faculty members availed of Faculty Improvement Programme of the U.G.C. leading to Ph.D. Many teachers participated in Refresher/Orientation Programmes, conferences, seminars and symposia. It is noteworthy that in the last two years the faculty participated in thirty national level seminars and some of the teachers acted as resource persons in three national seminars. A few teachers also participated in international seminars abroad. The college has conducted four seminars/symposia in the past five years. Many of the faculty members served on various committees of the college. It is commendable that some of the teachers have also

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established national and international linkages. There is a need to formalise such linkages.

### CRITERION III: RESEARCH, CONSULTANCY AND EXTENSION

Although the college is an undergraduate teaching institution it gives emphasis on research as well. It is worth noting that the college is a recognized centre for Ph.D. programmes in Physics, Botany, Zoology, Economics, English and Oriya. Teachers are allowed study leave to avail of FIP awards. It deserves appreciation that during the tenth plan eight teachers were allowed study leave. In addition, eight teachers are registered for research degrees and ten faculty members are guiding research scholars. A Research Committee of the college helps in preparation of research projects and monitors the research activities. There are one Major and six Minor Research Projects ongoing. Several faculty members pursue active research and they have published research articles in national/international journals. Some faculty members have also authored several text books. During the last five years twenty-one teachers have been awarded Ph.D. degrees. One of the faculty members has received Fulbright Fellowship. The college publishes annually one volume of a research journal for Science and Humanities. The research activities are commendable and worthy of emulation.

There is a potential in the faculty members for providing consultancy in the area of their interest. However, government service conditions do not encourage consultancy at the UG level. Informal consultancy in the areas of environmental management, soil and water testing, plant pathology, auditing and accountancy is provided.

The college offers social service activities through Youth Red Cross, NSS and NCC wings. The activities include Campus Cleaning, Community Development, Health and Hygiene Awareness, Adult Education and Literacy, AIDS awareness, Drive against Superstitions, Environmental Awareness Plantations and Health Programmes, Blood Donation Camps, Documentation of rare manuscripts and conservation of ancient forts and temples, etc. There is a faculty member with an additional responsibility as Programme Officer to coordinate these activities. The college has adopted a village. The college also has established linkages with some NGOs. The Peer Team is impressed by the variety of extension activities conducted by the college.

The college has been conducting state level music, drama and one-act play competitions for the past 38 years in the memory of the founder which has helped the institution to groom talent in the college.

#### CRITERION IV: INFRASTRUCTURE AND LEARNING RESOURCES

The college is situated in sprawling 75 acres of land at the foothill of the picturesque "Barunei". Academic building of the college consists of 30 class rooms, 18 laboratories, three halls, staff common rooms, conference hall, separate common rooms for boys and girls, co-operative stores and extension counter of a bank etc. Principal's office, Accounts and Establishment Sections, Students' counter, Enquiry counter are housed in the administrative building. The infrastructure is shared by a higher secondary college being run by the management. The college has a canteen, a book stall, health centre, post office, NSS, YRC and Rovers' centres, career counselling cell and a sports centre. The college also has Boys and Girls' Hostels and eight faculty residences including a residence of the warden. The campus also has car and two-wheeler parking and a bicycle shed. A Botanical Garden with medicinal plants is being developed. The college maintains its infrastructure out of the College Development Fund. In addition, funds have been generated from local MLA and MP's Local Area Development Funds. The college facilities are allowed to be used by outside agencies for conduct of competitive examinations, organization of computer classes, distance learning courses of IGNOU and organization of seminars, competitions and other extra-mural activities. The campus is maintained clean, green and tidy. The campus has plantations of teak and fruit bearing trees. Facilities for indoor and outdoor games are provided.

The central library with spacious reading space stocks totally 50542 books and 52 journals/ periodicals. During the last year 634 volumes were added to the collection. The library has a text-book bank facility. A reprographic machine is provided in the library. The library services need to be modernized and computerized on priority basis. There are four computers in the library. It is suggested that more computers may be made available in the library and availability of information through electronic resources and internet may be encouraged. The library is open between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. for 240 working days in a year. It is suggested that the library hours may be extended so that students can use it after college hours.



The college has a computer science laboratory where 11 systems are available. It is suggested that the college provides more computer facilities to cater to the needs of all the students and the staff. The college may consider hiring services of computer specialists for providing training programmes and some courses on the basics and internet usage for computer literacy. PGDCA/ certificate courses are conducted for the benefit of the students in collaboration with the Joint Venture Centre for Computer Education (JVCCE) where only three systems are available.

The college provides medical check up facility for staff and students through the Medical Officer of the nearby Govt. Primary Health Centre the building of which is provided by the management. The college has a playground. It provides physical facilities for sports and physical education under the guidance of a qualified teacher. Facilities are available for athletics and other sports activities like softball, volleyball, cricket, football, badminton, volleyball and basketball. Facilities for some indoor games are also provided. Several students represented in state and inter-university level sports events during the academic year. It is suggested that the college may hire services of some coaches for achieving better performance in various tournaments. The Peer Team would like to put on record its appreciation for the infrastructural facilities provided by the college and for maintenance of the campus conducive for teaching and learning.

The college has a Boy's and Girl's Hostels with adequate facilities. The college also provides residential quarters to the Principal, staff, hostel superintendents and watchmen.

#### CRITERION V: STUDENT SUPPORT AND PROGRESSION

The college prospectus is revised and printed every year, which provides necessary details regarding admission procedure, courses offered, relevant rules and regulations, fee structure, and facilities such as hostel, library and sports available for the benefit of students. It is felt that the college may put efforts to reduce the drop out rate of the students. The overall pass percentage has been consistently good, ranging from 90% to 98%. 90 to 95%, 84 to 89% in the last three years in Science, Commerce and Arts faculties, respectively. It is gratifying to note that many students in various subjects have secured high ranks in the university examinations. Though there is no formal system to record the students' progression to further studies or employment, approximately 30% of the students go for further studies or employment. There is a

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recently formed Students' Career Counselling Cell in the college. The cell has organised Entrepreneurship and Placement Awareness Camps sponsored by the Government and Non Government organizations. Many students have been beneficiaries of various financial aids like freeships, state government's Merit, Merit cum Means, post-matric, Teachers' children, Bidi worker's, Mining and National Scholarships. In the last year 290 students were beneficiaries.

Over the last few years the college has been publishing a (research) journal named *Manjari* which is worth praising. The college has various cultural activities through Extension Education Cell. Arrangements of Arts and Science Exhibitions have also been made.

An Alumni Association is being formed recently. It is suggested that the activities of the Alumni Association need to be strengthened and formalised for active involvement in welfare programmes.

The Peer Team would like to make a special mention of the commendable activities of the NCC and the NSS units for their meritorious involvement and achievements on both local and national levels, especially in the field of mountaineering, shooting and firing competitions. The planting of one thousand four hundred samplings of teak, sisal and fruit bearing trees in the premises of Boys' Hostels is worth mentioning and it has won the Indira Priyadarshini Award instituted by the MHRD, India. The NSS unit has also to its credit the Best NSS Volunteer Award (2001) as well as the Best NSS Unit Award (1995-1996).

#### CRITERION VI: ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

The college is administered by the apex body called the Governing Body with President, Principal cum Secretary and members from the government, affiliating university, teaching and non-teaching staff and Members of Parliament and Legislative Assembly.

Offices and departments of the college are governed by the directions and regulations of the state government. Various committees of the faculty members help in the management of the college. The Staff Council, Cultural Committee, and Residential Committee coordinate and monitor the activities. The institution prepares annual budget which is placed before the Governing body for approval. Regular audit of accounts is carried out by the Department of Higher Education. There are Committees for Students'

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and Employees' Grievance Redressal under the control of the Principal and an Anti-Sexual Harassment Cell under the chairmanship of a senior lady teacher. The Credit Co-operative Society provides loans to the employees. The Employees' Welfare Fund provides instant financial support to the employees in emergency. The college provides Employees' Provident Fund and ex-gratia support to non-teaching staff on superannuation.

#### CRITERION VII HEALTHY PRACTICES

It is notable that the college has informal linkages on national and international levels in the form of a proposed academic exchange programme with William O' Douglas Honors College, Central Washington University, USA. The college strengthens the regular academic programmes through a good variety of self-financing courses of technical and general nature. Value education is imparted in various ways such as spiritual discourses, prayers in the hostel, talks, and certain religious celebrations. Intensive efforts are undertaken to inculcate civic responsibilities and community orientation in the students through NSS, NCC, Red Cross, other NGOs and YRC. A state level music competition in light and classical music is a regular feature of the cultural activities of the college for well over the last thirty-seven years. The association with and active help to the Oriya Sahitya Parishad is also a commendable feature. Retired teachers and Principals are invited for the benefit of their experience and knowledge to the students and the college. The other highlights include the introduction of vocational and add-on courses, a large number of teachers with Ph.D. degrees and prestigious publications in the form of research articles, books and text-books as well as felicitation of eminent personalities in the field of education, literature, culture and social service.

#### Section 3: Overall Analysis:

Established way back in the year 1959 the Pranath College, Khurda (Orissa) has come a long way and it is now confidently marching towards its Golden Jubilee year in a short time from now. Over the years the college has developed as a premier institution of higher education in Orissa through conscious and consistent efforts for innovation, change and betterment. As a result, it has acquired enough experience.

expertise and confidence to get an Autonomous status, which the college believes will confer further liberty and opportunities for scaling newer heights in the field of higher education, culture and social accountability. The starting of the self-financing courses in science and computer education is an important realistic value addition to the programme options. The research activity is singularly significant and the extracurricular inputs are very useful for the all-round personality development of the students. The impressive galaxy of the alumni vouches for the equally promising prospects for the students that are enrolled every year. The college has remarkable achievements in the academic, literary and cultural fields. Even so, in order that the college may achieve higher laurels the Peer Team would like to make the following few suggestions for the consideration and implementation in the institution.

- Self-financing Post-graduate programmes in Chemistry, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Fashion designing, Visual/ Mass communication, M.A. in English and M.Com. may be instituted in a phased manner
- Gender specific vocational programmes for the girl students may be started
- A competitive examinations center may be established
- A Commerce laboratory may be formed for a practical orientation of the students
- Language laboratory may be established.
- Programmes for inculcation of soft skills may be undertaken
- Teachers may be encouraged to organize seminars, symposia, conferences at state/ national level
- Computerization of the library and administration may be taken up on priority basis
- Each department may be provided at least one computer and the total staff may be asked to become computer literate
- A Staff Academy may be formed as a forum of free intellectual debate among the staff

- The activities of the Placement Cell may be structured and strengthened
- A structured feedback by students on teacher performance may be sought regularly and the teachers may be given the feedback
- Activities of the Alumni Association may be structured and strengthened
- Internal Quality Assurance Cell may be formed with functional procedures laid down in detail.

The Peer Team wishes to put on record its appreciation and gratitude for the cooperation and hospitality provided by the Pranath College, Khurda, Orissa.

### *Names and Signatures of the Peer Team Members*

**Prof. S.F. Patil**  
(Chairman)

*S.F. Patil*  
20/12/05.

**Prof. P.P. Mathur**  
(Member-Coordinator)

*P.P. Mathur*  
20/12/2005

**Prof. S.V. Chindhade**  
(Member)

*S.V. Chindhade*  
20-12-05

I have read the report and I agree with it.

Place: Khurda  
Date: 20 December 2005



*Devi*  
20/12/05  
Dr. D.C. Mohanty  
Principal  
Pranath College, Khurda