

**PEER TEAM REPORT
ON
INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION
OF**

**SRIMAD ANDAVAN ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGE,
TIRUCHIRAPPALLI, TAMILNADU**

TEAM

**Professor. K. Kunhikrishnan,
Chair Person,
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**Dr. M.D. Baby,
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At NACC: Dr. Latha Pillai. Advisor,

DATES OF VISIT: 22nd and 23rd March 2007

**National Assessment and Accreditation Council
Bangalore**

PREFACE

Section-I

Srimad Andavan Arts and Science College, Thiruvanaikoil, Tiruchirappalli established in 1996 affiliated Bharathidasan University. It is a self-financing postgraduate college offering both degree and PG courses, which is also co-educational. The college is recognized by UGC under 2f and 12B in 2003. The college has research facilities and programmes and is a centre of research for herbal studies. The college is governed by Sri Ranganatha Paduka Vidyalaya Trust. The Vision of the college is to build a thriving learning culture, responsive to the needs of the community at large through value based education and the mission is to provide access to the students irrespective of caste, community and religion and to foster innovation and creativity, recognizing and accepting social responsibilities. The mission also states creating an environment of intellectuals' stimulus, scientific inquiry and responsibility integrating a global perspective.

The college offers programmes in Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Computer Application, Physics, Mathematics, Business Administration, Commerce, Social Work, English, Sanskrit, Tamil and Business Process Outsourcing at the under graduate and post graduate levels, altogether 9 programmes in the UG level 9 programmes in the PG level M.Phil in three areas and Ph.D, in one subject. Apart from this college provides two PG diploma programmes and three diplomas. The college has 100 permanent teaching staff. There are more than 1750 students enrolled in the college for the above programmes situated in the five acre campus. The unit cost of education is Rs. 13,000/- and excluding the salary component is Rs.5,000/-. There are systematic teaching programmes conducted for nearly 180 working days as reported and the college also offers 16 short-term modular programmes in the form of bridge courses and short-term courses. The programme options available are unique and the learning environment is conducive for academic achievement. The college

management has invested nearly 6.5 crores of rupees to develop infrastructure and the built in area of the college building is 10814 Sq. Mt There is a hostel for girls consisting of 801 Sq. Mt and the hostel for boys consisting of 1864 Sq. Mt of built up area. The college has classrooms, laboratories, library and other basic facilities as reported.

The college has submitted a detailed self study report to the NAAC and agreed for the visit of the NAAC team as per the schedule. The Peer Team visited the college on 22 and 23 March 2007 and made a physical verification of the claims and the following report based on the same is submitted to NAAC after verification of the claims in the SSR and interaction with the teaching faculty, students, alumni, parents, and members of the governing committee of the management.

Criterion Wise details aspect are discussed as follows:

Criterion - I Curricular aspects:

The goal orientation of the college is to provide higher education, fostering and encouraging innovation and creativity by providing access to the students for the optimum use of college infrastructure facilities and to achieve excellence in teaching, learning and research. There is a strong focus on research integrating a global perspective in an area of specialization (Herbal studies by promoting traditional knowledge, economic and community development through integration of entrepreneurial spirit and productive partnership.) This is a unique contribution of the college, which is commendable. The major research project funded by DBT is the commendable programme of the college. The college is offering several programmes at under graduate and postgraduate level in Science, Arts, Management and Commerce. One unique programme which is ICT enabled - BPO

is offered and this is the pioneer programme offered in this college which is well accepted by the academic community, students and business community.

The programmes are all self funded at the UG level and PG level and the total number of students in the college is 1750. There are 806 male students and 226 female students at under graduate level and 255 male and 120 female students at the PG level and 9 students at the research level and 40 students in Diploma in the last academic year. In the current year 912 male students and 230 females under graduate level and 313 males and 132 females at the PG level. For various diplomas there are 45 males and 45 females enrolled in the college. For the Ph.D programme there are 8 students all in Biochemistry and Herbal research and 1 male and 8 female undergoing M.Phil programmes. The BPO programme is an add on programme which is unique. The academic flexibility in curriculum offered by the college is that which is quite appreciable and the feed back mechanism is also appreciable in terms of it's content and it's operation with the teaching faculty and the students. The college has taken initiative in enriching the curricular activities by making significant contribution by offering modular programmes beyond university approved schemes and syllabi.

Criterion - II - Teaching, Learning and Evaluation

The teaching, learning and evaluation process in the college have several appreciable features. The dynamic and interactive learning in the classroom and beyond classroom is unique in terms of catering to the diverse needs and delivery of learning materials. The admission process in the college has several positive characteristics. The marginalized downtrodden rural students are given greater access to higher education as a policy by the college. This is well reflected in the student composition. More than 70% of the students belong to backward and schedule caste, first generation learner groups from the rural areas. The learning

environment has several healthy trends which is evident from the teaching quality and the learning process. There are more than 100 teaching staff and around 15 technical staff and 35 members in the administrative and supporting staffs. 10% of the teachers have Ph.D and strong research orientation. More than 50% of the teachers are M.Phil and many of them are undergoing Ph.D or M.Phil programmes to earn higher degree and competence. The recruitment process is transparent and merit is given top priority as evident from the profile. Equal employment opportunity is given, which is another healthy trend. The slow learners are supported through SAP and the student records also prove that classroom activity and student support by faculty in the college satisfy the needs of students from deprived background. There is systematic evaluation and student feed back on teaching. The total picture of the learning environment is satisfactory and as such needs further encouragement. The faculty and the students are highly motivated.

Criterion – III - Research Consultancy and Extension:

The college has a strong research orientation especially in Biochemistry, Biotechnology and Microbiology. A major research project is undertaken on the validation and standardization process of herbs. The herbal garden and the ancient knowledge on medicinal properties are systematically investigated in to. There is a major DBT project under taken by the college and nearly 8 students are doing Ph.D in one focal area of herbal studies. The linkage with industries is quite satisfactory. A large number of teachers participated and presented papers in seminars and conferences. The research publications reported by faculties are also note worthy. The extension activity is quite impressive and the college faculty has adopted a village for community services and extension activities related to herbal studies social development, women empowerment etc. The impact of the project is noticeable and commendable. It is to be further supported and encouraged. The overall picture of research output, linkage and extension is quite satisfactory in terms of activities of the college faculty and students. Every effort should be made to promote this positive academic component in the college community.

The three NSS units activities are quite commendable. The college has bagged best programme officer awards from Bharathidasan University on three occasions.

Criterion - IV - Infrastructure and Learning resources.

The college is housed in nearly five acres of land easily accessible by road in the sub-urban area with built in area of 13000 sq. mt. There are enough space for class rooms, laboratories, staff room and other academic facilities. The library consists of nearly 14000 volumes and has basic facilities required. The infrastructure facilities are well maintained, well planned. It is quite adequate to meet the present requirements. Library as a learning resource though adequate require further improvement. Students may be provided with more reading space and provision and automation including digitalization is highly desirable. There are nearly 200 computer nodes available in the college mainly in the department of computer science. The administration is more or less fully computerized. The academic growth and development of the institution is in line with the infrastructure facilities. There are several supportive features in the college and projects like mushroom cultivation, tissue culture, vermi composting, community development programmes, National Service Scheme, all provide effective ambience for academic atmosphere. However, physical education facilities is to be given more attention and a suitable planning for further development of the college is to be chalked out. The overall picture of the infrastructure and resources and its management is to be appreciated.

Criterion - V Student support and progression.

The student profile of the college is quite unique as the admission process gives special emphasis for access and equity to the rural under privileged and marginalized groups. There is a transparent procedure in admission and fee structure and financial aid and other student support services. The slow learners are identified at the time of admission itself and systematic efforts are being made by monitoring the progress till the end of the course. This effort is to be appreciated as the positive effect is reflected in the results. Bridge courses, remedial programmes and add on courses are positive contribution towards student progression. There is a placement cell and in some subjects more or less 100% placement is also ensured. Career guidance, NSS activities and community participation are unique and highly commendable. The village adoption programme and the student adoption programmes require special mention.

Criterion - VI Organisation and Management

The college is managed by a highly motivated management with a clear vision and perspective on the future development of the college. The management and the principal, the staff and the student share the common objective. The resource mobilization and the investment pattern is well appreciated. There is a transparent and positive quality coupled with high amount of involvement seen in the organization and management.

Value based education, Total quality management concern for social values are good indicators of the management and positive decision making in the affairs of the college. The man-power planning and recruitment process has positive outlook and the finance management is quite systematic and fully modernized. The management has drawn a well designed plan for the development of the future

of the college. As such the goal orientation has to be appreciated as a model for similar institutions. The student adoption programme developed by the management is a positive step to be specially noted.

Criterion – VII Healthy Practices

The institution is quite concerned and sensitive to the changing needs of the higher education and job market. Special efforts are given in skill development and value based education. The herbal research centre and its activities, the adoption of one single village with the objective of enhancement of the total quality of life of the villagers and the activities drawn in collaboration with distance learning programme the MOU and linkage with several industries are special features to be appreciated in the college. ICT enabled learning programmes and language lab are note worthy features. The college has organized several national workshops and seminars and soft skill development and promotion of Sanskrit and ancient knowledge are commendable academic activities. The external and internal quality monitoring cell and several innovative diploma and certificate programmes and the strong practical orientation is to be specially appreciated. Several committees to monitor the academic and co-curricular activities and social responsibilities are another feature. The college has been recognized by Bharathidasan University as the Best Self Financing College in cultural activities under the University in the year 2006.

OVERALL ANALYSIS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS:

The overall academic picture is quite promising because of the strong academic bias and research orientation of the institution. The college provides not only high educational facilities and access but also promotes scientific research with a strong community orientation. The only area to be strengthened to maintain high quality is the expansion of the library and physical education in the college. The college has demonstrated as a committed management, highly motivated team of teachers and as such promotes the academic aims and objectives. The following suggestions are made.

1. The college may expand the library facilities and go for more electronic and digital resources in the library.
2. The college sports facilities may be strengthened further
3. A women development club may be established
4. NCC for boys and girls may be explored.
5. The college may seek autonomy for better academic flexibility.
6. Internal Quality Cell may assure continuous monitoring of academics and research activities and publish transparent report

To summarize the academic and co curricular activities of the college, excellent academic ambience and research output are reported and verified. The research efforts made by the college is commendable and the social action programmes clubbed with research is note worthy. The student progression and access as reflected in the admission procedure are well supported by the professional commitment of the faculty members. The result in the university examinations vouch the efforts. Students have performed very well in the

university examinations. The co curricular and community development activities are also seen as sincere efforts on the part of the college to discharge social commitment.

The peer team appreciates and expresses gratitude to the members of the management, the principal, the coordinator of NAAC activities, all the staff members and the students for their co-operation and support in the activities of the peer team. The team wishes the college a very fruitful and meaningful academic future so that its existence will have a more meaningful social and community developments in the years to come.

Members of the Peer Team:

- 1. Professor K. Kunhikrishnan (Chair)**

- 2. Dr. Siddalinga swamy (Member Coordinator)**

- 3. Dr. M.D. Baby (Member)**

I have gone through the report and agree with the contents

**Dr. K. Prema
Principal**

Place: Tiruchirappalli

Date: 23rd March, 2007