

**REPORT OF THE EXPERT COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY UGC TO
EXAMINE THE PROPOSAL OF GANDHI VIDYA MANDIR FOR GRANT
OF DEEMED UNIVERSITY STATUS UNDER SECTION 3 OF THE UGC
ACT, 1956**

The University Grants Commission received a proposal from Gandhi Vidya Mandir for grant of Deemed University status. The Chairman, UGC, constituted an expert committee with the following members to examine the proposal:-

1. Prof. P.L. Chaturvedi
Former Vice Chancellor
Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati University
Ajmer.
3/30 Jawahar Nagar
Jaipur
Convener
2. Prof. Vachaaspati Upadhyaya
Vice Chancellor
Lal Bahadur Shastri Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya
New Delhi
3. Prof. L.S. Rathore
Vice Chancellor
Jai Narain Vyas University
Jodhpur
4. Prof. Kalyan Mal Lodha
Former Vice Chancellor
Jai Narain Vyas University
Jodhpur
5. Prof. G.K. Lehri
Dean (Academic) and
Prof & Head of the
Department of Teacher Education
NCERT, New Delhi
6. Prof. Dibakar Kundu
Head of the Department of Education, Viswa Bharti
21/C Banmali Chaterji Street
Kolkatta

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7. Dr. Kamlakar Singh
Additional Secaretry
Department of Higher Education
Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
Bhopal

8. Sh. Gurcharan Singh
Joint Secretary
University Grants Commission
New Delhi -

Member Secretary

The Committee has visited Gandhi Vidya Mandir, Sardarshahr on 30-31 January, 2002. Prof. K.M. Lodha and Prof. Vachaspati Upadhyaya could not join the committee.

The committee members discussed and developed a common approach to the relevant issues for considering Gandhi Vidya Mandir to be the Deemed University. Mr. Gurcharan Singh, Joint Secretary, UGC, apprised the members about the details of the proposal and other related issues. A wide range of discussion took place with the Management, the faculty members and the students.

Historical background of Gandhi Vidya Mandir

Gandhi Vidya Mandir was established in the year 1950 with a self contained complex of 1280 acres, which is located 3 kms. from the city of Sardarshahr in the District of Churu (Rajasthan). This Institute primarily started with a mission of Gandhian Philosophy and to preserve Indian cultural heritage with limited resources. The Gandhi Vidya Mandir has since been grown and developed with an enviable ecology and local specific problems and also considering the significance of socio-academic environment of the country. GVM has conducted itself to propagate the Gandhian ideals based on basic education and values of Indian cultural system of thoughts in socio-economic context. GVM was originally conceived as a rural University with a far-sighted view and vision to impart education qualitatively and quantitatively with moral tenets and value-based approach so that it may evolve a system to mould basic requirements for rural development.

GVM is registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860 and is run by a well constituted Management Committee. The affairs of Institute of Advanced Studies in Education (IASE) are managed by a constituted Committee of GVM which is democratically and constitutionally elected members without discriminating caste, class or creed and is also free from religious, regional or political bias.

Academic Programmes

The Institute of Advanced Studies in Education which is the main constituent unit of GVM presently offers the following courses:-

Sr.No	Courses	Duration	No of Seats
1.	B.Ed.	1 Year	180
2.	M.Ed.	1 year	30
3	Ph.D.	2-5 years	15

In addition to the above courses, the Institute also offers In-service programmes of a duration of 6-21 days.

The Institute intends to introduce some innovative and self-financing courses on being conferred the Deemed University status.

Faculty Position

The present faculty strength of the institute is 20. The details are given in Appendix-1.

Funding

Under Plan, the Institute is fully funded by the Central Government through the State Government whereas under Non-Plan 80% of the finance are provided by the State Government of Rajasthan and 20% expenditure is met by the Gandhi Vidya Mandir from its own resources.

Infrastructural Facilities

Gandhi Vidya Mandir has a self contained township, lawns, parks, playgrounds, stadium, Auditorium, staff quarters, Guest House and Hostels both for boys and girls with a capacity of 350 students. There are adequate facilities for water and electricity. Class.rooms, laboratories and furniture of the Institute are adequate to meet the instructional requirements. The Institute has a well equipped computer laboratory for computer aided instructions..

Library

Institute has a Collection of 35000 books with an annual budget of nearly Rs. 2 Lacs.

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Research Work

A good number of faculty members are having doctorate degrees and some of them are pursuing research work for Ph.D. degrees. Some faculty members are also guiding research work. The faculty has undertaken 16 research projects, out of which 14 have already been completed and some more research projects are in progress. List of the research project is given in Appendix II.

Extra-curricular and co-curricular Activities

GVM has adequate provision for extra-curricular and co-curricular activities for the multi-dimensional growth of the prospective teachers. Trainees are fully exposed to an environment which provides sufficient opportunities for an integrated personality and they are also receiving an academic input of integrating life skills and culture specific pedagogies which facilitate the Institute to fulfil its desired goals and objectives.

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Looking to the aims and objectives of Gandhi Vidya Mandir; and its performance and achievements during the last five decades; the Committee feels that GVM has created a good climate towards promoting qualitative improvement in education and rural development in a remote and backward area of Bikaner region (Rajasthan). Not only it has promoted value-based education, but has made valuable contribution even in the field of Adult Education and towards promoting the spirit of self-reliant among the rural youth.
2. GVM has considerably encouraged girls education and Women empowerment in the region, though much remains to be done in the near future in gender sensitization and equity.
3. The infra-structure, senior faculty positions, pay structure, staff capacity building, laboratory modernization and library upgradation needs to be strengthened further.
4. The Committee is of the considered opinion that GVM has made an impact both in qualitative improvement in education as well as in the area of rural development as envisaged in the philosophy of establishing GVM.
5. As for the Corpus fund, the Institute is funded fully by the Central Government through the State Government of Rajasthan for Plan grants and 80% by the State Government under Non-Plan expenditure. Therefore, the condition of creating corpus fund may not be applicable to GVM.
6. The Committee recommends that Gandhi Vidya Mandir with its constituent of Institute of Advanced Studies in Education may be accorded with the status of the Deemed University in order to achieve its specific goals. This would also facilitate the Institute to evolve an indigenous curriculum based on local specifics and also for innovative and creative practices.

The Committee places on record its appreciation of the co-operation and help extended to it by the Management, Faculty members and the non-teaching staff in accomplishing the task.

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(Prof. P.L. Chaturvedi)

L.S. Rathore

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Kamlakar Singh

(Dr. Kamlakar Singh)

Gurcharan Singh

(Gurcharan Singh)

Sardarshahr
January 31, 2002