

University Grants Commission

REPORT OF THE INSPECTION COMMITTEE ON ITS VISIT TO Sikkim Manipal University of Health, Medical & Technological Sciences, Gangtok, (A PRIVATE UNIVERSITY) Sikkim, FROM 28th to 30th January, 2010.

In view of the above provisions in the UGC Act and UGC Regulations 2003, UGC has been making on the spot inspection of the private universities to assess their academic and physical infrastructure. Accordingly, Chairman, UGC constituted an Expert Committee, comprising of the following, for on the spot inspection of Sikkim Manipal University of Health, Medical & Technological Sciences, Gangtok, Sikkim

III. Composition of the Expert Committee

Sl. No	Name	Designation
1	Prof. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri Vice Chancellor, Tezpur University	Chairman
2	Prof. P.K. Sur Dept. of Radio-Therapy, Govt. Medical College Hospital, Calcutta	Member
3	Prof. Ramchander Head, Dept. of Dermatology, Lady Hardin Medical College, New Delhi	Member
4	Dr. Uma Kumar Dept. of Medicine, AIIMS, New Delhi	Member
5	Dr. Sunita Gupta Maulana Azad Medical Institute of Dental Sciences, MAM College Campus, New Delhi -110002	Member
6	Dr. Lairenlakpam Joyprakash Singh Head, Dept. of E&C, NEHU, Shillong	Member
7	Dr. K.P. Singh Joint Secretary, UGC, New Delhi	Member Secretary

IV. Inspection Report

Sl. No		
1.	Name of the University with notification No. & date of State Govt.	Sikkim Manipal University of Health Medical and Technological Sciences. Notification No. 9/LD/1995 dated 30 th October 1995. Copy of Act enclosed. Refer Annexure-1 of the Report
2.	Registered Office of the University	Sikkim Manipal University of Health, Medical and Technological Sciences, 5 th Mile, Tadong, Gangtok, East Sikkim – 737102
3.	Name & Headquarters of the Society / Promoting Agency	Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG), Manipal- 576119, Karnataka
4.	Whether the Society /Agency is involved in promoting/running any other University / Institution? If yes, give details	Yes. Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal (a deemed to be University)
5.	Territorial Jurisdiction	State of Sikkim.
6.	Date of visit	28 th to 30 th January 2010
7.	Programmes permitted to be offered by Gazette Notification of State Govt. and its reference	<u>SMU</u> 1. Ph. D <u>SMU- Skill Development Initiative</u> <u>(Courses SDI)</u> 1. Master in Hospital Management 2. Bachelor of Business Administration <u>SMIMS</u> 1. MBBS 2. M.Sc Medical (Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry & Microbiology)

		<p>3. Bachelor of Medical Lab Technology (BMLT)</p> <p>4. Integrated M.Sc in Medical Biotechnology</p> <p><u>College of Physiotherapy</u></p> <p>1. Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT)</p> <p>2. Master of Physiotherapy (MPT)</p> <p><u>College of Nursing</u></p> <p>1. B.Sc Nursing</p> <p><u>SMIT</u></p> <p>1. B.Tech.</p> <p>2. Bachelor in Computer Applications</p> <p>3. M.Tech.</p> <p>4. MBA</p> <p>5. MCA</p> <p>6. M.Sc. (Phy, Chemistry, Maths)</p> <p>7. 5 yrs. Integrated M.Sc Programmes</p>		
8.	Whether all documents requested by the Inspection team were provided.	Yes		
9.	If no, what are the deficit documents (list to be enclosed)	NA		
10.	Whether administrative authorities like Governing Council, Academic Council & BOS formed and minutes of their meeting produced?	Yes		
11.	Source of finance and quantum of funds available – Income & Expenditure A/c attached as Annexure-2 of the Report	2006-2007 (Rs in lakhs)	2007-2008 (Rs in lakhs)	2008-2009 (Rs in lakhs)

	From fee:	16,980.70	5,041.76	3,419.99
	From State Government:	225.00	225.00	225.00
	From UGC:	Nil	Nil	Nil
	From other sources (details)			
	a) Health Care Services	117.23	168.04	293.31
	b) Interest & Other Incomes	353.64	474.54	780.63
	Total :	17,676.57	5,909.34	4,718.93
12.	Corpus fund of the Society / trust shown to the inspection team.	Not maintained		
13.	Statement of income & expenditure for the last 3 years (year-wise)	Same as Annexure-2 of the Report		
14.	Land documents, if shown, area of land registered in the name of the University and its location in the State.	Total Land of SMU = 60.85 Acres i) Tadong = (21.68+3.65) = 25.33 Acres ii) Majitar = 34.34 Acres iii) Proposed Management College at Tadong = 1.18 Acres Details attached as Annexure -3 of the Report		
15.	Administrative Office details SMIT i) Total plinth area. ii) Built up area SMIMS : i) Total plinth area. ii) Built up area	Academic = 26087 sqm, Living area= 454505 sqm, Per student area= 35 sqm out of which 1/3 area is for academics and 2/3 living area. 914 Sqm ** 1464.96 Sqm ** Note: ** This includes Nursing & Physiotherapy colleges.		

	iii) Separate offices for Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Financial Officer, Controller of Examination, Administrative office, Committee Room, students waiting room etc.	Yes. Details attached as Annexure -4 of the Report		
16.	Building details etc. i) Permanent ii) Temporary / Leased property	Details attached as Annexure-4 & 5 of the Report		
17.	Give details of Library i) Cover area ii) Number of books iii) Number of journals a) National b) International	Total Area of the Library -1350 Sqm (SMIMS) + 803 Sqm (SMIT) 9916 (SMIMS including Physiotherapy & Nursing Colleges) 11203 (SMIT), Volumes-17290, Reference books - 8583 45 (SMIMS) + 236 (SMIT) 35 (SMIMS) + 47 (SMIT)		
18.	Number of classrooms, give details	04 (SMIMS) + 06 (College of Nursing) + 04 (College of Physiotherapy) + 38 (SMIT)		
19.	Number of laboratories, give details	08 (SMIMS) + 04 (College of Nursing) + 24 (SMIT)		
20.	Whether students already admitted? If yes, details of courses and the number of students admitted in each course during the last three years.	Year	Course	No. of students admitted
		2006-2007	MBBS	50
		2007-2008	MBBS	50
		2008-2009	MBBS	50
		2006-2007	M.Sc (Med)	15

	2007-2008	M.Sc (Med)	15
	2008-2009	M.Sc (Med)	21
	2006-2007	BPT	08
	2007-2008	BPT	09
	2008-2009	BPT	13
	2007-2008	B.Sc Nursing	26
	2008-2009	B.Sc Nursing	30
	2009-2010	B.Sc Nursing	50
	2008-2009	BBA	44
	2008-2009	MHM	07
	2008-2009	M.Sc Int. Biotechnology	09
	2006-07	B.Tech	443
	2007-08	B.Tech	462
	2008-09	B.Tech	602
	2006-07	MBA	60
	2007-08	MBA	60
	2008-09	MBA	59
	2006-07	MCA	28
	2007-08	MCA	42
	2008-09	MCA	47
	2006-07	M.Tech	03
	2006-07	BCA	25
	2007-08	BCA	50
	2008-09	BCA	35
	2009-10	Integrated Physics	02
	2006-07	M.Sc (Phy, Chem,Maths)	37
	2007-08	M.Sc (Phy, Chem,Maths)	28

		2008-09	M.Sc (Phy, Chem,Maths)	37
		2008-09	M.Tech (ME, CSE,IT, ANT, DEAC)	11
		The above information has been given since the starting of the course or for last three years whichever is more.		
21.	Whether any Off-Campus or study/offshore centre of admission centre established outside the State /abroad	Yes, the Committee was informed that the University had applied to the Distance Education Council (DEC) for approval of 568 Study Centers vide their letter number SMU-DDE/DEC(Proposal)/08 dated 8 th May 2008 Annexure- 6 of the Report . However, the University could not produce any letter from DEC conveying approval of these Study Centers. The University as on date, is running 845 Study Centers throughout the country. Annexure- 6 of the Report		
22.	Whether functioning of the University have been computerized? If yes, to what extent	Computerized functionality of the University. 1. Finance: Finance of SMU and its constituent units are fully computerized. A package names FAS (Financial Accounting System) is implemented. Software is developed in Visual Basic and backend is maintained in Microsoft SQL Server. 2. HR: HR is partially computerized with in-house software SMUERP. Starting from Employee joining to their leave		

		<p>calculation, Salary, EPF etc. is maintained through software. The software is completely web/browser based, developed in .NET and backend as Microsoft SQL Server.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Central Store: Inventory management of central store is fully computerized. Stock maintenance, issue of materials etc. is maintained through SMUERP. The software is completely web/browser based, developed in .NET and backend as Microsoft SQL Server. 4. Hospital MRD: Patient record, patient history etc. are maintained through SMUERP software. 5. Hospital Billing: Through SMUERP software the billing of Hospital is computerized. 6. Hospital Pharmacy: The Hospital pharmacy is fully computerized with SMUERP software. 7. University Admission: University admission is fully computerized. Online Application, Online test booking, result publication, counseling and finally admission is maintained through web based admission software. 8. Library: Library of SMIMS and SMIT are computerized through EASYLIB software. 9. Maintenance: Day to day maintenance job is also tracked through SMUERP
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		<p>software.</p> <p>The campus of University and SMIT are networked using Fiber Optic as backbone. SMIT campus is made wireless internet zone recently. All the computers of both the campuses are connected to centrally managed network i.e. secure campus LAN. Internet connectivity is provided about 75% of the campus computers.</p> <p>SMIT Campus is having dedicated eight (8) MBPS Leased line connectivity from Reliance ISP at 1:1 ratio.</p> <p>Apart from that Broadband connectivity of 8 MBPS from BSNL is terminated to SMIT campus.</p> <p>SMU and SMIMS campus is having Two (2) MBPS Internet connectivity from Reliance and 2 MBPS Broadband connectivity from BSNL.</p> <p>WAN connectivity of both the Campus is executed using Cisco Router 2800 series and Cisco Firewall 535 PIX. Cyberoam is used for access control of the large number of Internet user database.</p> <p>Rest of the networking is in progress.</p>
23.	a) Research and Extension facility	<p>i) An ISRO sponsored centre for excellence for remote sensing and GIS at SMIT has been established.</p> <p>ii) An International centre for Nano Technology and Applied Adhesion is in the</p>

	<p>b) List of Research Publications for the last 3 years.</p> <p>c) List of ongoing research projects with their source of funding</p>	<p>process of establishment at SMIT in consultation with Adhesion Institute, faculty of Aerospace Engineering, Delft University of Technology, Netherlands</p> <p>iii) MOU has been signed with National innovation foundation (NIF) for the formation of GIAN-Cell (Grass roots innovations Augmentations-Cell) to support grass roots innovations and innovators in Sikkim and adjoining areas.</p> <p>Paper Publication by</p> <p>i) SMIT Faculty – 181</p> <p>ii) SMIMS Faculty – 30</p> <p>For details refer Annexure-7 of the Report</p> <p>During the last three years the faculty of university has completed 4 research projects and 25 research projects are in progress.</p> <p>For details refer Annexure-8 of the Report</p>
24.	Future plans for starting new courses	The University proposes to start a few engineering programmes in branches like Information Security, Embedded Systems, Geo-Informatics etc.
25.	Whether courses in emerging areas introduced/proposed to be introduced.	M. Tech. (Applied Nanotechnology) started from 2009-10
26.	Whether approval of relevant	Yes

	statutory bodies obtained for starting professional courses/increased intake.	Refer Annexure- 9 of the Report	
27.	Admission procedure	Course	Admission procedure
		MBBS	Entrance Exam Conducted by SMU
		BPT	On the basis of marks in 10+2 (PCB)
		B.Sc Nursing	On the basis of marks in 10+2 (PCBE)
		M.Sc (Medical)	On the basis of marks in 10+2 (PCB)
		BMLT	On the basis of marks in 10+2 (PCB)
		BBA	On the basis of marks in 10+2 (Any stream)
		M.Sc Integrated Medical Biotechnology	On the basis of marks in 10+2 (PCB)
		Master in Hospital Management	On the basis of marks in Graduation
		B.Tech	AIEEE/ ENAT (All India Test Conducted by SMU)
		MBA	MAT/ CAT/ MBAET
		MCA	MCAET
M.TECH	GATE qualified candidates will be preferred		

		M.Sc. (Physics)	B.Sc. Degree
		M.Sc. (Chemistry)	B.Sc. Degree
		M.Sc. (Maths)	B.Sc. Degree
		BCA	Entrance test conducted by SMU
28.	Fee structure for the different courses run by the university.	Attached as Annexure-10 of the Report	
29.	Examination system	<p>The University aims at developing an efficient and flexible system with emphasis on quality teaching learning process. The CGPA (Cumulative Grade Point Average) system of evaluation which has built in continuous and comprehensive evaluation is in place and all programmes are governed by this system. The students are evaluated on class/ tutorial participation, assignment work, laboratory work, class tests, quizzes and sessional examinations which together will constitute the in-semester assessment. In addition, the students have to appear in the end semester examinations in all the theory and laboratory subjects as per the course of study. Each subject is evaluated for a total of 100 marks: 50 for in –semester assessment and 50 for end semester examination.</p> <p>In the Medical college, institute follows the MCI Rules and Regulations for the evaluation/examination and for other</p>	

		courses the university follows the CGPA System.																																																
30.	Number of sanctioned posts Professors-Readers-Lectures	<p>SMIMS</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Designation</th> <th>Sanctioned</th> <th>Filled Up</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Professor</td> <td>21</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Associate Professor / Readers</td> <td>19</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assistant Professor / Lecturers</td> <td>27</td> <td>34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sr. Resident/Tutor</td> <td>35</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior Resident /M.O</td> <td>53</td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>155</td> <td>133</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>College of Nursing</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Designation</th> <th>Sanctioned</th> <th>Filled Up</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Professor/Principal</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vice Principal</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Associate Professor</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lecturer</td> <td>6</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assistant Lecturer</td> <td>19</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>29</td> <td>21</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>College of Physiotherapy</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Designation</th> <th>Sanctioned</th> <th>Filled Up</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Professor/Principal</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Designation	Sanctioned	Filled Up	Professor	21	23	Associate Professor / Readers	19	16	Assistant Professor / Lecturers	27	34	Sr. Resident/Tutor	35	28	Junior Resident /M.O	53	32	Total	155	133	Designation	Sanctioned	Filled Up	Professor/Principal	1	1	Vice Principal	1	-	Associate Professor	2	1	Lecturer	6	6	Assistant Lecturer	19	13	Total	29	21	Designation	Sanctioned	Filled Up	Professor/Principal	1	-
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		Associate Professor	2	1
		Assistant Professor	3	3
		Lecturer	3	4
		Assistant Lecturer	3	3
		Total	12	11
		SMIT		
		Designation	Sanctioned	Filled Up
		Professor	22	22
		Reader	39	38
		Lecturer	89	107
		Total	152	167
		Distance Education		
		Designation	Sanctioned	Filled Up
		Director	N/a	1
		Assistant Registrar	N/a	1
		Additional Registrar Administration	N/a	1
		Management	N/a	14
		IT	N/a	7
		Health Sciences	N/a	9
		Vocational Sciences	N/a	6
		Total	-	39
31.	Names, designations, qualifications and publications of the existing teaching staff	Details attached as Annexure-11 of the Report		

	(department-wise)	
32.	Whether the faculty members organized or attended international / national conference workshops, if so, give details.	Yes, Details attached as Annexure-12 of the Report
33.	Linkages with other Institutions (National & International, give details).	Attached as Annexure-13 of the Report
34.	Whether Non teaching staff appointed, if yes, give details	Attached as Annexure-14 of the Report
35.	Whether Institute is following UGC pay scales for teaching staff	The University has not uniformly implemented even in the pre-revised UGC scales so far.
36.	Facilities for faculty and staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hospital: Presently the Central Referral Hospital has 500 beds.. It is a nine storied building with a floor space of more than 3,00,000 sq. ft. The hospital has 21 specialties and 8 operation theatres. 2. Communication: Two ISD/STD booths operate inside the campus. A telephone connection has been provided on each floor in the hostel building. 3. Bank: Canara Bank operates an extension counter on campus. There is also a UTI Bank with ATM facility nearby. 4. Entertainment: The University organizes movie show at frequent

		<p>intervals in the fully equipped auditorium.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Medicare (medical insurance): All staff are covered by the Medical Insurance Scheme (Medicare) provided by the University. There is a separate ward reserved for students/staff at the Central Referral Hospital (CRH). 6. Staff quarters 7. Post office 8. Amul Parlour
37.	Facilities for students	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hospital : Presently the Central Referral Hospital has 500 beds.. It is a nine storied building with a floor space of more than 3,00,000 sq. ft. The hospital has 21 specialties and 8 operation theatres. 2. College : The college is fully equipped and staffed. The college is housed in an imposing building with all modern facilities All non clinical and clinical Departments are fully operational. 3. Lecture hall : There are 4 lecture halls equipped with modern audio-visual teaching aids. 4. Laboratories and Dissection hall : There are 9 Laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment. The dissection hall is large enough for 150 students to work simultaneously. 5. Computers : All departments are

provided with computers. Internet facilities are available in the college and central library.

6. Library and reading rooms : The library has 8000 text and reference books and subscribes to 100 National and International journals. Internet and Medline facilities are available for students and faculty.

7. Hostel: The Institute is fully residential. All undergraduate students are required to stay in the hostel. Only permanent local residents are exempted. The nine storeyed building houses 200 rooms. Each room is furnished with a mattress, a study table, a chair, a cupboard/shelf for each student. Every room has an attached toilet, service area and hot water facility. An exclusive dining hall with a modern kitchen and mess is also housed in the hostel building. The mess provides vegetarian / non-vegetarian meals. Dining in the mess is compulsory for all inmates of the hostel. The students of first year will be provided with 3 seated rooms.

8. Communication : Two ISD/STD booths operate inside the campus. A telephone connection has been provided on each floor in the hostel building.

9. Bank : Canara Bank operates an

		<p>extension counter on campus. There is also a UTI Bank with ATM facility nearby.</p> <p>10. Entertainment: The University organizes movie show at frequent intervals in the fully equipped auditorium.</p> <p>11. Sports: Facilities for Tennis, Volleyball, Basketball, Table Tennis, Badminton, Carom and Chess are available. The college also has an active cricket team.</p> <p>12. Medicare (medical insurance) :All students are covered by the Medical Insurance Scheme (Medicare) provided by the Institute. There is a separate ward reserved for students at the Central Referral Hospital (CRH).</p> <p>13. Teacher guardian scheme : Under this scheme, each student is allotted a specific teacher guardian who provides emotional support, monitors academic performance, provides necessary guidance to his/her ward and communicates all such details regularly to the parents of the student. This scheme has received tremendous support from students and parents alike.</p>
38.	Sports and games facilities with details	i) Outdoor Games: Cricket, Tennis, Basket-ball, Football, Volley-ball, Hockey.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) Indoor Games: Badminton, Table tennis, Gymnasium, Chess, Carom, Pool table. iii) Basketball courts with Flood-light facility. iv) Track and field athletics. v) Sports Club regularly organizes various sports and games events at Inter department, Inter-collegiate, Inter-University, district, state and national levels.
39.	Hostel facilities available, if any.	Yes
40.	Other facilities available, if any.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Award of scholarships for academic excellence. b. Student Benevolent Fund. c. Excellent infrastructure and living conditions. d. Awards / Incentives for all extra and co-curricular activities. e. Opportunity to attend national and international conferences/seminars/workshops. f. Encouragement for inter collegiate / university competitions. g. Excellent placements. h. Branch of choice for first ten students of 1st year. i. Fee waiver for meritorious students. j. Shopping complex with banks, ATM facility, Post office, Stationary shop, Barber shop, Lamination &

		Photocopying facility etc.
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Report of the Expert committee may pl. be seen at Appendix

V. Points under consideration

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

All in all, it is a commendable endeavor that the Sikkim Manipal University of Health, Medical and Technological Sciences (SMUHMTS) was established as the first University in the State. This was indeed a dream of the people of the State of Sikkim and a long overdue expectation.

As mentioned at the introduction section of the report, the University is distributed over two campuses. The Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology (SMIT) campus which accommodates engineering, sciences and business administration/management, where as the Sikkim Manipal Institutes of Medical Sciences (SMIMS) houses medical and allied subjects including the referral Hospital.

A. Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology (SMIT)

a. Observations

- i. In so far as the infrastructure at SMIT is concerned, the civil structures (buildings) appear to be good both for academic departments including laboratories, hostels, and the quarters. However, laboratories and engineering workshops are generally under equipped.
- ii. Hostels for boys and girls including their kitchen and dining facilities have been found to be quite good.
- iii. Staff quarters appear to be Inadequate.
- iv. SMIT library requires more of text and reference books. Students' accessibility to books should be more in terms of the number of titles, multiples of copies of text books in particular.

- v. The committee did not find any students amenity centers for buying routine stationeries, toiletries, cosmetics etc.
- vi. Faculty retention is not satisfactory although the University tries to arrange for replacement.
- vii. Although health security of the student has been taken care of, facility for the games and sports is inadequate.
- viii. The old nomenclature of designation is still being followed in the institute and the sixth cpc recommendations are yet to be implemented.
- ix. Overall arrangement of the security in the campus is good.
- x. Students have been found to be disciplined. The students have been drawn from different parts of the country with 20% reservation for Sikkim.

b. Suggestion

Deficiencies as pointed out above under observations, especially labs, workshop, equipment maintenance, library, faculty designations, sixth cpc recommendations, retention of faculty members and recruitment of more quality faculties are suggested to be made up.

B. Sikkim Manipal Institutes of Medical Sciences (SMIMS) including Nursing College and Physiotherapy

a. Observations

- i. The SMIMS conducts MBBS course with 50 students per year which is recognize by MCI.
- ii. The Dean's office, library, Anatomy, Physiology, Pharmacology, Microbiology and Community Medicine are situated in one building.
- iii. Forensic Medicine is situated adjacent to main building.
- iv. Pathology and Biochemistry are situated in hospital building.
- v. The library is open from 9am to 9pm and having eight staffs working in two shifts. Number of text books are 9610 which are for MBBS, BPT, MPT and

Nursing students. Seating capacity for students are 171 and for faculties 24. There are 21 computers with internet facilities. Number of copies of each text books for the BPT and MPT students is not sufficient.

- vi. Clinical, pre- and para-clinical departments have infrastructure as per 50 MBBS students intake per year. However, the clinical materials for educating the students of both medical and nursing colleges, like patients (outdoor and indoor), are grossly inadequate. Also the equipments for M.Sc. are not adequate in the department.
- vii. The capacity of examination hall, lecture halls, patient demonstration rooms and auditorium are adequate.
- viii. The central laboratory is situated in the hospital building where pathology, biochemistry and microbiology investigation for the patients done.
- ix. Biomedical waste disposal is not followed properly by the teaching laboratories and also by the clinical laboratories.
- x. There is no computer lab for MPT students.
- xi. The blood bank and CSSD facility in the medical college are satisfactory.
- xii. Radiological services provided to the students were of average nature. Emergency services and intensive care (Surgical, Medical and Neo-natal ICU) are of substandard.
- xiii. Operation Theaters are adequate in number and satisfactory.
- xiv. Medical record department is stingy and not properly lit.
- xv. Nursing and Physiotherapy Colleges are situated in the Central Referral Hospital (CRH) building.
- xvi. Most of the faculty members of all the departments are dissatisfied with the working conditions, promotional avenues, accommodation, medical benefits and post retirement benefits.
- xvii. During interaction with the faculty members, it was also brought to the notice of the committee that the most of the faculty members were appointed in last one year and there is very high rate of faculty exodus.
- xviii. The committee also interacted with the students of medical college including Nursing and Physiotherapy Colleges and observed as under:

1. There is only one LIFT in nine storied boys' hostel building which is not functioning most of the time.
 2. Very inadequate facility for the sports and outdoor activities.
 3. Teaching is monotonous.
 4. Inadequate Community posting/interaction.
- xix. Paramedical staffs do not seem to be happy with the salary structures.
- xx. Designation of some of the faculty in Nursing and Medical is not in conformity with UGC rules.

b. Suggestions

Deficiencies as observed above may be rectified at the earliest.

C. Directorate of Distance Education (DDE)

a. Observations

There was a detailed discussion with the University authorities on the distance education programmes being run by the University particularly because the Committee had some serious concern about the functioning of the DDE. The DDE with its head office being located on the SMIT campus of the University is running its programmes through 845 Study Centers spread throughout the country. The strategy of functioning of the DDE is not in line with the UGC guidelines in this regard as the study centers are located outside the territorial jurisdiction of the University and without the approval of the UGC as required under UGC Regulations 2003, and also without the approval of UGC-AICTE-DEC Joint Committee. Although, this was made amply clear to the University Authorities during the meeting, the University Authorities did not appear to be comfortable in accepting the UGC mandate in this regard. The committee was also not very sure about the standards being maintained at all these study centers.

b. Suggestions

The Committee sincerely suggests that the University must strictly adhere to the UGC guidelines regarding the territorial jurisdiction and procedure for approval of courses under distance education mode so that the graduating students are not at peril.

I. Recommendations for A and B above

Considering the location of the University, locational dynamics, connectivity and immediate economic viability of a private University, the establishment of the SMUHMTS is praiseworthy endeavor. However, the University Grants Commission may consider advising the SMUHMTS for improving in line with the observations and the suggestions made by the committee for better maintenance of the standard and, in turn, to benefit the students.

II. Recommendation regarding Distance Education

The committee recommends that the discordance in the matter be settled before the commencement of the next academic session.

III. Overall recommendation

The UGC may consider giving appropriate time to the University for making up the deficiencies pointed out by the expert committee. The compliance report of the University may be verified by an expert committee at an appropriate time, as decided by the Commission.

VI. PREVIOUS DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission has been considering the recommendations of the Visiting Committee .

The matter is placed before the Commission for consideration.

9-7/1996(CPP-I)

JS (CPP-I)