

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

REPORT OF THE UGC EXPERT COMMITTEE ON INSPECTION OF AMITY UNIVERSITY, UTTAR PRADESH AT NOIDA (UP) DURING 15th – 18th JULY, 2009

I. INTRODUCTION :

The Chairman, UGC had constituted the following Expert Committee to assess the physical and academic infrastructure facilities of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh located at Sector-125, NOIDA-201303, District Gautam Buddha Nagar (UP), in accordance with the provisions of the UGC Act 1956 as also the UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 vide D.O.No.F.9-9/2005(CPP-I)/Director dated 5th September, 2007.

Composition of the Expert Committee:

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Prof. B.S. Sonde
(Former Vice-Chancellor, Goa University)
274, 18 Cross Road, Shree Ananth Nagar,
Electronics City PO Hosur Road
Bangalore-560100
bssonde@vsnl.net 098453 83029 | Chairman |
| 2. | Prof. S. Jayarama Reddy
(Former Vice-Chancellor,
Sri Venkateswara University)
201 Ameya Towers, Street No.12
Tarnaka, Hyderabad 500017
profsjr@gmail.com 099490 27118 | Member |
| 3. | Prof. V.K. Grover
Department of Mathematics
Panjab University.
Chandigarh – 160014
vk_gvr@yahoo.com 09888486387 | Member |
| 4. | Dr. Satish C. Abbi
Emeritus Professor of Physics
70 Dakshinapuram
JNU Campus,
New Delhi | Member |

- | | | |
|-----|--|-------------------------|
| 5. | Prof. P. Kaliraj
Centre for Biotechnology
Anna University,
Chennai – 600025
pkaliraj@annauniv.edu pkaliraj@gmail.com
09444078778 | Member |
| 6. | Prof. A.R. Dangwal
Department of Journalism & Mass Communication
H.N. Bahuguna Garhwal Univesity
Srinagar 246174
ardangwal@yahoo.com | Member |
| 7. | Prof. Nesar Ahmad
Department of Computer Engg.
Aligarh Muslim University
Aligarh - 202002
nesar.ahmad@gmail.com 094118 78942 | Member |
| 8. | Prof. R.K. Dixit
Former Head, Deptt. of Economic
Admn. & Financial Management
University of Rajasthan,
Jaipur – 302004
mdixit17@yahoo.com
098282 39101, 0141-2501378® | Member |
| 9. | Prof. G.D. Yadav
Director
Instt. Of Chemical Technology
Nathalal Parekh Marg,
Matunga (East), Mumbai 400019
gdyadav@yahoo.com director@udct.org
(022) 2414 0865 | Member |
| 10. | Prof. K.N. Chandrasekharan Pillai
(Former Director, Indian Law Institute),
H.No.31, Maveli Nagar, Trikkakara
Cochin University of Science & Technology P.O.,
Koch 682022
kncpillai@indiatimes.com 098953 19378 | Member |
| 11. | Dr. K. Gunasekaran
Additional Secretary, UGC
gunakarthic@gmail.com | Member Secretary |

The proposal of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh for inclusion of its name in the list of recognized Universities being maintained by the UGC u/s 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956, was received in June 2005. After receiving the proposal, the Chairman UGC constituted a Committee in June, 2005 itself for assessing the aforesaid proposal of the Amity University, Uttar Pradesh. Subsequently, the Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, vide its letter dated 25th

September, 2007 informed the UGC raising certain issues regarding the information sought for the purpose of inspection. The University also questioned the legality of constituting the above Expert Committee. In the circumstances, the UGC vide its letter dated 5th December, 2007 informed the Registrar, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh clarifying the various issues raised by it. Subsequently, the Registrar, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh vide his letter dated 15th January, 2008 informed the UGC regarding their stand and response to the clarification given by UGC in its earlier letter, indicating that it is not obliged to send all the information. Subsequently, the UGC vide its letter dated 5th August, 2008 informed the Registrar, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh that the proforma was in accordance with the provisions of Section 13 of the UGC Act, 1956 read with the UGC (Return of Information by Universities) Rules 1979, while keeping in view the principles laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India "in the matter of Prof. Yash Pal". Further reminders were also sent by the UGC to the Registrar, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, on 22nd October, 2008 and 13th January, 2009 to furnish the required information immediately.

After receiving concurrence from the Registrar, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh on the above issue, the inspection by the Expert Committee of the University was fixed for the 16th and the 17th April, 2009 and this was intimated to all the concerned by the UGC on 26th March, 2009. However, as the representatives of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh met the Chairman, UGC and pleaded for postponement of the visit due to the ongoing examinations, it was decided by the UGC to postpone the visit. Finally, the UGC fixed 16th & 17th July, 2009 as the dates for the inspection of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh preceded and followed by 15th July, 2009 and 18th July, 2009 as the dates for preliminary meeting and Report preparation by the Committee respectively. The schedule of the visit of the Committee to Amity University, Uttar Pradesh is given in **APPENDIX-I**.

UGC had written letters to the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the Bar Council of India (BCI), the Medical Council of India (MCI), Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) and the Nursing Council of India (NCI) to send their nominees to be on the Expert Committee. The BCI has indicated in their letter that they are not in a position to send their nominee. The MCI has also indicated that they have not approved any course in Medicine and no course in Medicine approved by MCI is being offered by Amity University, Uttar Pradesh and therefore, there is no need to send their nominee. There was no reply from NCI till the finalization of this Report. The PCI nominated its nominee after the visit, vide its letter No.32-1(11)/2005-PCI/12242-43 dated 21st July, 2009. The AICTE nominated a team of experts along with the Director and Adviser as their nominee vide their letter no.F.501-

65/Pvt. Univ./AICTE/2009 dated 15.07.2009. Subsequently, the AICTE was informed that they need to send only one nominee to serve on the Committee and hence it was intimated by them on the telephone that Prof. R.P. Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra-136119 (vc.kuk@rediffmail.com; r_p_bajpai@hotmail.com;). was the AICTE nominee to serve on the Committee. Accordingly Prof. R.P. Bajpai served on the Committee.

The Committee met during 15th – 18th July, 2009 for the purpose of inspection of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, NOIDA. All the Members, except those mentioned at Sl.No.4 (Prof. Satish C. Abbi) and Sl.No.6 (Prof. A.R. Dangwal) attended the meeting and carried out inspection during the above period.

On the 15th July, 2009 – the Expert Committee had its preliminary meeting at 1500 hrs. at UGC Office, New Delhi to consider the various issues involved in the inspection of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh as per the provisions of the UGC Act, 1956 and also the UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003. The division of work and assigning responsibilities among members of the Committee for smooth conduct of inspection and finalization of detailed time schedule were taken up at this meeting. The Committee also decided to form itself into three teams for the purpose of visiting the various schools/institutes/centres on the campus of the University. On the second and third days i.e. 16th & 17th July, 2009, the Committee visited the Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, NOIDA campus (Dist. Gautam Buddha Nagar) for inspection. On the 18th July, 2009, the Committee prepared its Report on Inspection of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh for submission to the UGC.

On arrival at Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, NOIDA campus on the forenoon of 16th July 2009 the Committee was received by the President, Ritnand Balved Education Foundation (Dr. Ashok C Chauhan), Chancellor of the University (Mr. Atul Chauhan), Vice-Chancellor (Maj. Gen. K. Jai Singh), Pro-Vice-Chancellors (Prof. Gurinder Singh and Prof. B. Shukla) and other functionaries including the Heads of Amity Schools/Institutes/Centres.. After introduction and welcome by the Vice-Chancellor, the Committee had its first meeting on the campus, at which Prof. B. Shukla gave a power point presentation on the Amity University, Uttar Pradesh highlighting its development and progress from the beginning and explaining its present programmes and activities at the NOIDA Campus. This was followed by a power point presentation on the Lucknow campus of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh by Maj. Gen. K. K. Ohri, Director General, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow Campus. In the interaction session that followed, the Chairman and Members of the Committee sought clarifications on several items that came up in the presentations made and

also in the information provided by the University in the filled-in proforma submitted to the UGC. After this, the Committee visited the Amity Innovation Incubator set up on the campus with the support of DST (Govt. of India). In the afternoon, the Committee visited the various Schools/Institutes/Centres on the campus in three teams, as per the detailed programme mentioned above. At the end of the day, on return to the place of stay, the Committee had informal discussions on the proceedings of the day and the schedule for the following day.

On the 17th July 2009, the Committee visited the Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, NOIDA Campus again to inspect the remaining Schools/Institutes/Centres and other on-campus infrastructure and facilities. The Committee also had meetings with representative groups of faculty members, students and non-teaching staff separately. The Committee had occasion to verify the documents required for inspection and had its final meeting with the University functionaries seeking further information and/or clarifications, before leaving the campus. The Committee had its internal meeting in the evening to review its findings and observations and to take steps to prepare the Report of the Committee. The Committee prepared its draft Report for submission to the UGC on the 18th July, 2009. However, as Amity University, Uttar Pradesh could not provide some of the documents required for the purpose of inspection in time and made them available only on the 22nd July 2009, it was decided to have a final meeting of the Committee at the UGC Office, on the 31st July 2009 at 1000 hrs. All the Members who visited the University were present at this meeting, at which the additional documents received from the University were considered and the Committee finalized its Report for submission to the UGC.

II. PROFILE OF THE UNIVERSITY

1. The Amity University Uttar Pradesh, a Private University has been established by Ritnand Balved Education Foundation, New Delhi (a non-profit trust, registered in 1986 under the Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860), under the Amity University Uttar Pradesh Act No.11 of 2005, notified by the Government of Uttar Pradesh on the 24th March 2005.
2. The University has been operating from two locations in the State of Uttar Pradesh, Gautam Buddha Nagar NOIDA and Lucknow. The Main Headquarters are at NOIDA, Gautam Buddha Nagar and its Schools/Institutes/Centres are located at NOIDA and Lucknow. The total land area in Gautam Buddha Nagar is ~ 60 acres. There are 08 Hostel Blocks in Gautam Buddha Nagar. **Thus, as defined in the UGC Regulations, 2003**

referred to earlier, the Main Campus of the University is at Gautam Buddha Nagar, NOIDA and the Lucknow campus is an Off-campus Centre (vide section 2.2 and 3.2 of UGC Regulation, 2003)

3. The University is now offering UG, PG, M..Phil. and Doctoral Programmes in the following areas/disciplines of higher education.
Engineering, Management, Information & Communication Technology, Telecom Technology, Law, Education, Journalism & Mass Communication, Biotechnology, Microbial Technology, Nanotechnology, Forensic Sciences, Insurance, Actuarial Sciences, Avionics, Organic Agriculture, Competitive Intelligence & Corporate Warfare, Entrepreneurship, Retail, Behavioural Science, Business & English Communication, Foreign Languages and others..
4. The statutory body like the BCI appear to have accorded approval to the Amity University, Uttar Pradesh to start the courses.
5. The Amity University, Uttar Pradesh has been encouraging its faculty members to undertake research work for their professional development and for the enrichment of courses / teaching. The thrust areas of research at present, are: Biotechnology, Management, Microbial Technology, Nano-Technology, Engineering/ Information Technology, Behavioural Health and Allied Sciences. The faculty members are encouraged and also financially assisted to attend and present papers in national/International Conferences/Seminars/Workshops.
6. The Amity University, Uttar Pradesh has a good focus on research. It has a number of well equipped modern laboratories and is recognized by the Department of Science and Technology of the Government of India as a Scientific & Industrial Research Organization (SIRO). And, the University is now having a number of research projects funded by the various Government of India agencies like DST, DBT, CSIR, DRDO. The University has some well qualified/experienced scientists as faculty members, who have already filed a number of patents based on their R&D work at the University.. Two of these patents have been published by the Patents Office recently.

7. The University has set up ICT infrastructure for providing wireless broadband internet connectivity with over 75 km.. of fiber optic/ LAN cable backbone. . It has 50 MB Internet bandwidth from multiple ISPs to maintain redundancy and hassle free internet connectivity. There are 30 Servers supporting the IT Network. There are also 2 Firewall boxes in redundant mode with high level of content/URL filtering and bandwidth management. The University is covered with Wi-Fi Access point by using Omni and Sectoral Antenna. This is a good facility of considerable benefit to the faculty and students of the University.
8. The University lays emphasis on industrial training and placement of students through its Centres, like Amity Technical Placement Cell, Corporate Resource Centre and Industrial Interaction Cell. Besides this, most of the Schools/ Institutes/ Centres also have training and placement facilities for their students. In all, the placement services seem to be good.
9. The University has taken initiatives to organize a few regional, national and international workshops, conferences, symposia and seminars to facilitate interaction with the top scientists, corporate, academicians, eminent researchers and world renowned personalities. This is quite commendable, as it encourages the faculty and students to meet and interact with the professionals from the scientific and the corporate sectors in these forums.
10. The Libraries of the University are well equipped; but, they are located at the Schools/Institutes/Centres (equivalent to Departmental Library) and there is no Central Library system as yet. This is unlike the practice at leading Universities in the country and abroad. This is certainly a major hurdle to in taking up inter-disciplinary courses and/or research work. The University has subscribed to a variety of online journals which include INDEST – AICTE Consortium, Digital Library Consortium, DELNET and ISI EMERGING MARKETS – Asia Service which provide on access to more than 17,000 journals. This is a good facility.
11. The University has a set-up for Quality Management. It seems to be committed to Quality Assurance and Enhancement. The University has been certified for ISO 9001: 2000 (Quality Management System) and ISO 14001: 2004 (Environmental Management

System). However, the University as yet is not accredited by NAAC/NBA, whose assessment methods are outcome-based and important for a University.

12. In short, the University has reported some progress but its programmes and activities are too broad. This needs to be given due attention by the University immediately so that it gains the confidence and respect of its stake holders.

III. INSPECTION REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY

The following Inspection Report of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh has been prepared by the Committee in the UGC prescribed format based on its visit to the NOIDA campus of the University, meetings and discussions with the various functionaries and stake holders of the University and taking into account the details provided in the Proforma filled in by the University to the Committee along with its Annexures and other documentary evidences, as required. The Information/Data obtained by the Committee along with its Remarks are presented here item-wise in a tabular form and a set of Annexures A-R, as referred to in the Table, has been enclosed at the end of the Report.

S.No.	Item	Information/Data Obtained and Remarks
1.	Name of the University with notification No. and date of issue by the State Government.	Amity University Uttar Pradesh Amity Campus, Sector – 125, NOIDA– 201 303, Distt. Gautam Buddha Nagar (Uttar Pradesh) No.403/VII-V-1-1(Ka) 1/2005 dated Lucknow, 24 th March 2005 (copy of the Act is at Annexure-A)
2.	Registered Office of the University	Administrative Headquarters of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh: Amity Campus, Sector-125 NOIDA-201 303, Dist. Gautam Buddha Nagar (Uttar Pradesh)
3.	Name & Headquarters of the Society Promoting Agency	Ritnand Balved Education Foundation E-27, Defence Colony, New Delhi – 110 024 (Copy of MOA is enclosed at Annexure – B)
4.	Whether the Society/Agency is involved in promoting/running any other University/Institution? If yes, give details:	Ritnand Balved Education Foundtion (RBEF), the sponsoring body of the Amity University Uttar Pradesh is presently promoting/running the following: 1. Amity University Rajasthan, Jaipur established under Govt. of Rajasthan Act No.8 of 2008. 2. Amity School of Computer Science, NOIDA, affiliated to UP Technical University.

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Amity Law School, New Delhi affiliated to GGSIP University. 4. Amity School of Engineering & Technology, New Delhi affiliated to GGSIP University. 5. Amity Institute of Education, New Delhi affiliated to GGSIP University. 6. Amity Business School Manesar, Gurgaon affiliated to MD University Rohtak. 7. Various Amity International Schools (Primary & Secondary education affiliated to CBSE) in Delhi, NOIDA, Ghaziabad and Gurgaon. (vide letter dated 22.7.09 from Registrar, Amity University enclosed at Annexure-C.)
5.	Territorial Jurisdiction	<p>As per the Amity University UP Act, 2005, the University is to be established only at Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP. However, the University has established a Campus at Lucknow also at the same time and has provided details about it. This was discussed with the University authorities. The University took the stand that as per the first Statutes framed by the University, its territorial jurisdiction is the State of UP and the Lucknow Campus is part of the University. As per the first Statutes of the University the following is indicated under Section 3(1). // “to establish Gautam Buddha Nagar and its campus/Institutions/Schools/Colleges/Centres within the State of Uttar Pradesh to run academic programmes leading to degrees, diplomas, certificates and other recognition”. However, the Committee is of the opinion that Statutes framed by the University cannot go beyond the scope of the original Act. Therefore, the Committee is of the view that the University has to be only unitary located only at Gautam Buddha Nagar. This view is also in line with the provisions of the UGC Regulations-2003 referred to earlier in the Report, which require the UGC approval to set up any additional campuses and that too after the first five years of the University are completed. Therefore, the details of the University at Gautam Buddha Nagar are only taken into account and adverted to here. The Committee also did not visit Lucknow Campus. It is also pertinent to point out that the University in its 2008 and 2009 brochure has shown not only Lucknow Campus but also Jaipur Campus (vide Annexure –D). It is also to be noted that Jaipur Campus became a full fledge private University through an Act of Rajasthan Government on 29th March, 2008.</p>
6.	Dates of Visit	16 th & 17 th July, 2009 (only NOIDA Campus)
7.	Programmes permitted to be offered by Gazette Notification of State Government	“The objects of the University shall be to disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional, research and extension facilities in such branches of

		learning as it may deem fit and the University shall endeavor to provide to students and teachers the necessary atmosphere and facilities for the promotion of :- (a) innovations in educations leading to restructuring of courses, new methods of teaching and learning and integral development of personality, (b) studies in various disciplines; (c) inter-disciplinary studies; (d) national integration, secularism, international understanding and ethics” - (Reproduced from Amity University UP Act, 2005)
8.	Whether all documents requested by the Inspection Team were provided.	Yes
9.	If no, what are the deficit documents (List to be enclosed)	Not applicable
10.	Whether administrative authorities like Governing Council, Academic Council & BOS formed and minutes of their meeting produced?	Yes; Court, Executive Council, Academic Council, Finance Committee, Boards of Studies etc., formed; Agenda/Papers and Minutes of meetings verified; Frequency of meetings found to be low; Minutes are also in too abridged form with details lacking; BOS comprising mostly internal members, with very little external participation, unlike in other Universities.
11.	Source of Finance and quantum of funds available: From Fees: From Security Deposit From Research & Development From other source(interest on FD) Total	Provisional figures for the year 2008-09 (Rs. in Crores) 327.43 8.05 0.62 <u>NIL</u> <u>336.10</u>
12.	Corpus Fund of the Society/Trust Shown to the Inspection Team	In compliance with the requirements under Section 40(1)of the Act, the University has created a permanent Endowment Fund of Rs.2.25 crore vide Fixed Deposit Receipt Nos. 3405385 dated 28.3.05 and 8967149 dated 14 March 2009 issued by Bank of India. (Copies of the FDRs are enclosed at Annexures–E).
13.	Statement of Income & Expenditure for the last 3 years(year-wise)	Income & Expenditure Statements for the last 3 years (2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08) are enclosed at Annexure F .
14.	(i) Land documents, if shown, area of land registered in the name of the University and its location in the State. (ii) Deposits made in the name of the Society/University, separately or joint with state authorities.	No land is in the name of the University. However, the total land area of Gautam Buddha Nagar is 60 acres and it is in the name of Ritnand Balved Education Foundation Society , vide Annexure - G . As at Sl.No.12 above.

15.	Administrative Office details: i) Total Plinth Area ii) Built Up Area Separate offices for Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Financial Officer, Controller of Examinations. Administrative Office, Committee Room, Students Waiting Room etc.	30,136 sq.ft. 50,340 sq.ft. Yes, separate offices for Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Finance Officer, Controller of Examinations, Administrative Office, Committee Room, Students Waiting Room etc. vide Annexure-B.																																				
16.	Building Details etc.																																					
	i) Permanent	All Permanent only																																				
	ii) Temporary/Leased property	NIL																																				
17.	Give details of Library	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Books</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Journals</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Management</td> <td style="text-align: right;">: 1,04,617 *</td> <td style="text-align: right;">318</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Engg. & Tech.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">: 68,345</td> <td style="text-align: right;">90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Biotechnology</td> <td style="text-align: right;">: 52,212</td> <td style="text-align: right;">30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inf. & Communication Technology</td> <td style="text-align: right;">: 21,504</td> <td style="text-align: right;">24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Journalism & Comm.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">: 6,493</td> <td style="text-align: right;">27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Behavioural & Allied Sc.:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5,504</td> <td style="text-align: right;">21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Humanities, Social Sc. & Liberal Arts</td> <td style="text-align: right;">: 6,001</td> <td style="text-align: right;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education</td> <td style="text-align: right;">: 15,107</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hospitality & Tourism</td> <td style="text-align: right;">: 4,501</td> <td style="text-align: right;">22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Law</td> <td style="text-align: right;">: 5,092</td> <td style="text-align: right;">39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medical & Allied Sc.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">: 2,608</td> <td style="text-align: right;">34</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(*) includes Book Bank All libraries at Schoole/Institutes/Centres; No Central Library established, as yet.</p>		<u>Books</u>	<u>Journals</u>	Management	: 1,04,617 *	318	Engg. & Tech.	: 68,345	90	Biotechnology	: 52,212	30	Inf. & Communication Technology	: 21,504	24	Journalism & Comm.	: 6,493	27	Behavioural & Allied Sc.:	5,504	21	Humanities, Social Sc. & Liberal Arts	: 6,001	8	Education	: 15,107	25	Hospitality & Tourism	: 4,501	22	Law	: 5,092	39	Medical & Allied Sc.	: 2,608	34
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18.	No. of Class rooms, give details	465, vide Annexure – B No attempt seems to have been made to optimize the utilization of class rooms.																																				
19.	Number of Laboratories, give details	216, vide Annexure – B No attempt seems to have been made to optimize the utilization of laboratories. Besides, the University do not have Plan & Non-Plan Budget for Equipment.																																				

20.	Whether students already admitted? If yes, details of courses and the number of students admitted in each course during the last three years.	Yes, the details are given at Annexure - H But, the reservation policy is not implemented in the admission of students, although required as per the University Act and the UGC Regulations-2003. However, the University claims that this is not required as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment in P.A. Inamder Vs. State of Maharashtra.
21.	Whether any off-campus or study/off shore centre or admission centre/established outside the state/abroad	The University has indicated "NO" for both off-campus centre and off-shore campus. But the Committee has learnt that off-campus centre is functioning at Lucknow. Moreover, there was an off-campus centre at Jaipur since the beginning of the University, which has now become Amity University, Rajasthan since 2008, as notified by the State of Rajasthan. Moreover, there seem to be off-campus and/or study centres of the University at Madras, Bangalore, etc . and off-shore campuses at UK and Singapore, as seen in newspaper advertisements.(A sample advertisement copy is enclosed at Annexure-I.)
22.	Whether functioning of the University has been Computerized? If yes, to what extent?	Yes, the functioning of the University has been computerized. Technology has been leveraged for the automation of various systems and processes at Amity. These have helped all the concerned by bringing speed, accuracy and transparency in the administrative system. But, the Committee noted that the library collections of the University are not yet fully computerized and they are yet to introduce automation in handling library work.
23.	a) Research and Extension Facility	The University encourages the faculty members to undertake research work for their professional development and enrichment of courses/teaching. The University is also offering M.Phil, Doctoral Research programmes. The thrust areas of research are Biotechnology, Management, Microbial Technology, Nano-Technology, Engineering/ Information Technology, Behavioural Health and Allied Sciences. - Amity University Uttar Pradesh is recognized as a Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation (SIRO) by DST, Govt. of India - A number of Schools/Institutes/Centres of the University have undertaken Sponsored Research projects. - Faculty members are encouraged and also financially assisted to attend and present papers in National/ International Conferences/Seminars/Workshops. Many Patents applications have been filed by the various faculty members of the University with the

	<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>Controller of Patents in the last few years in the areas of Biotechnology, Microbial technology, Nano technology, Information technology, Herbal Medicines & Allied Sciences.</p> <p>Details are given at Annexure – J</p> <p>Details are given at Annexure - K</p>
24.	Future plans for starting new courses	<p>The University plans to introduce innovative courses in emerging disciplines in the various Schools/ Institutes/Centres Some of the courses which are proposed to be introduced include:</p> <p>M Arch, M Pharm, M. Tech – Solar & Alternative Energy, M. Tech- Avionics, B. Tech/M. Tech Nuclear Science & Technology, B. Tech + M. Tech.(Dual Degree), B. Tech + MBA (Dual Degree), M. Tech – Power System, M. Tech – Control System, MBA Telecom. Sales, MBA-Telecom HR, MBA-Urban Management, MBA-Media Management, MBA-Natural Resource Management, M Sc. Visual Communication, MA-Fashion Retail Management, Integrated B Com, LLB (Hons) Integrated BBA LLB (Hons.) and Post Doctoral Programmes in emerging areas.</p>
25.	Whether courses in emerging areas introduced/proposed to be introduced	Yes, The University is offering a range of innovative professional & technical programmes in the emerging areas.
26.	Whether approval of relevant statutory bodies obtained for starting professional/courses/increased	<p>No; None of the programmes has received the approval of relevant professional councils.</p> <p>BCI approval is for the School of Law before the University was born. The no. of students admitted seemed to be too large.</p>
27.	Admission procedure	<p>a. <u>Admission Intranet</u></p> <p>The admission process of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh is fully automated right from the candidates obtaining the application form to enrolment of students. The facilities under admission system are:</p> <p>Candidates can download the form online and pay the form cost online by credit card. Every candidate is allotted with a form number and password</p> <p>With the form number and password, candidates can access their admission micro site where they can:</p> <p>Check their registration status</p> <p>Choose selection process date and download admit card for selection process</p>

		<p>Check their selection status</p> <p>Print Pay-in slips for Axis Bank</p> <p>Check their admission/hostel payment details</p> <p>Register for enrolment/ download documents for</p> <p>Form processing by admission office is completely automated. The following are the facilities available in admissions office:</p> <p>Application entry online</p> <p>Photo scanning</p> <p>Admission Registration</p> <p>Interview dates release</p> <p>Manage interview/GD process</p> <p>Enter results.</p> <p>The selection procedure is completely automated and confidential. Every Chairperson of the interview board is given a key for the interview process which is valid only for the day to enter the interview results for his / her board. This has been helpful in avoiding outside pressure in the admissions.</p>								
28.	Fee structure for the different courses run by the University	<p>The fee structure details are given in Annexure – L But, the Committee has noted that the fixation of admission intake and fee structure are not in accordance with any policy speed out for clarity and transparent.</p>								
29.	Examination System	<p>See the details at Annexure – M</p> <p>However, there is a good case to introduce examination reforms, which is so necessary in the University system in the country.</p>								
30.	Number of sanctioned Posts – Professors – Readers – Lecturers	<p>The University does not seem to have the pattern of sanctioning faculty positions. However, the present strength is as follows.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Professor</td> <td>135</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reader/Asstt Professor</td> <td>275</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sr.Lecturer/Lecturer</td> <td><u>841</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td><u>1251</u></td> </tr> </table> <p>But, the reservation policy is not implemented in the recruitment of faculty members, although required as per the University Act and the UGC Regulations, 2003. However, the University claims that this is not required as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment in the P.A. Inamdar V/s Maharashtra case.</p>	Professor	135	Reader/Asstt Professor	275	Sr.Lecturer/Lecturer	<u>841</u>	Total	<u>1251</u>
Professor	135									
Reader/Asstt Professor	275									
Sr.Lecturer/Lecturer	<u>841</u>									
Total	<u>1251</u>									

31.	Names, designations, qualifications and publications of the existing teaching staff (department-wise)	Details are enclosed at Annexure - N
32.	Whether the faculty members organized or attended international/national conferences, workshops, if so, give details	Yes, the details are at Annexure – O
33.	Linkages with other Institutions (National & International, give details)	<p>Amity University, Uttar Pradesh has developed linkages and interaction with prestigious National/International Institutions with a view to continuously upgrade the programmes, course syllabi, pedagogy, exchange of knowledge and faculty sharing by scientists and faculty for collaborative research. Some of the important on-going collaborations are as under:</p> <p><u>National</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Defence Research Development Organisation ○ Council for Scientific and Industrial Research ○ Jawahar Lal Nehru University ○ University of Delhi ○ National Institute of Immunology ○ Amity University, Uttar Pradesh has signed MoUs' with the various CSIR Research Institutes namely Advanced Materials and Processes Research Institute, Bhopal; Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu; Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology, Bhubaneswar and Shiram Institute for Industrial Research, Delhi. <p><u>International</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Purdue University, Calumet (USA), ○ Gannon University, Erie, USA, ○ University of Abertay Dundee (Scotland), ○ University of Central Lancashire, UK ○ Leeds Metropolitan University, UK, ○ Queen's University, Belfast, UK ○ CISCO Regional Network Academy, USA ○ CINVESTAV MEXICO ○ Korea University ○ Kangwon National University, Korea ○ Deakin University, Australia and several others.
34.	Whether Non-teaching staff appointed, if yes, give details	Details are given at Annexure – P But, the reservation policy is not implemented in the recruitment of non-teaching staff, although required as per the University Act and the UGC Regulations-2003. However, the University claims that this is not required as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment in P.A. Inamdar Vs. Maharashtra case.

35.	Whether institute is following UGC Pay Scales for teaching staff	Yes, as could be seen from the documents provided.
36.	Facilities for faculty and Staff	Details are given at Annexure – Q ; The committee has noted that campus housing has not been provided for both faculty and non-teaching staff of the University.
37.	Facilities for students	Details are given at Annexure – Q These are satisfactory.
38.	Sports and Games facilities with details	Details are given at Annexure – R These are satisfactory.
39.	Hostel facilities available, if any	Yes, Hostels for boys and girls with all modern amenities are available. Students are provided good hostel rooms, including A/C, if required. But, the annual rent for each student seems to be on the higher side: Rs. 56,000/- for non-A/C and Rs 1 Lakh for A/C.
40	Other facilities available at the Institute(s), give details.	The University has launched distance learning courses in many professional subjects and admitted several thousand students for these. But, so far, the University has not obtained the approval of the relevant Statutory Council, viz., AICTE, as required by the Distance Education Council. Moreover, it has also not received the concurrence of the UGC-AICTE-DEC joint Committee to conduct distance learning programmes and award Degrees.

IV. OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

As a result of its visit to the NOIDA campus of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh and the discussions the Committee had with various functionaries of the University, faculty members, non-teaching staff, and students, the Committee has made its observations as given in **APPENDIX-II** which covers the various schools/ institutes/centres/units visited. Based on the Inspection Report presented in the previous Section and these Observations, the strengths and deficiencies of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh as observed by the Committee are now summarized below:

(A) STRENGTH

1. Infrastructure: Well thought-out architectural plan and buildings with good facilities;
2. Hostel and cafeteria, both well equipped;
3. Wi Fi connectivity on the entire campus;
4. Admissions and counseling, entirely online and user friendly;
5. Good sports facilities, including swimming pool;
6. Good campus discipline;

7. Battery powered vehicles for transport on the campus;
8. Teachers paid salaries as per the UGC approved scales with Central D.A;
9. Merit recognition system for faculty and staff;
10. Meritorious students given scholarships in the form of partial fee waiver;
11. Educational loans for needy students arranged;
12. Students encouraged to take up project component abroad;
13. Sponsored projects from Government. Agencies at few Departments;
14. Gender distribution among students highly satisfactory;
15. Faculty and non-teaching staff given incentives to upgrade qualifications and skills;
16. Students well mentored and enthusiastic about their courses;
17. Children of faculty and staff given some tuition fee waiver;
18. Class rooms well designed and some well equipped;
19. Under Graduate laboratories also well maintained;
20. Students' Results declared within a month after examinations;
21. Proper grievance redressal system in place.
22. Examination section well organized and confidentiality maintained.

B. DEFICIENCIES

1. University Academic & Administrative structure not fully as per the University Act.:
 - No Faculties established;
 - No Deans of Faculties appointed;
 - Departmental structure missing;
 - Posts of Director General not provided in the Act;
 - Too many Amity Schools/Institutes set up mostly with narrow focus;
 - Method of designation of Schools/Institutes/Centres not rationalized.
2. Designations such as Director General is familiar in the University set up.
3. Pre-retirement positions held rather than academic achievements given weightage;
4. No upper age limit specified for personnel appointed in the University;
5. No. of students admitted to some courses too large, e.g., international business, bio-technology etc;
6. Cadre ratio as required by Statutory bodies for Professor, Assistant Professor, Lecturer not followed;.
7. Qualifications & experience requirements for faculty, not strictly followed as per University Regulations on recruitment,
8. Nomenclature of some degrees not in consonance with the UGC recognized degree nomenclature.(e.g. Bachelor of Financial Investment and Analysis);
9. Many degrees awarded in Management discipline, all being too highly specialized;
10. Not a single Unit of basic sciences set-up to cater to common subjects in various Schools/Institutes. (e.g., Chemistry, Physics, Biology and Mathematics);
11. No residential accommodation on campus, to either faculty or staff members or even the Vice-Chancellor;
12. No recreation facilities on Campus for faculty or non-teaching staff;
13. Off-Campus Centre set-up by University in the State and outside the State, does not seem to empower them;
14. Frequency of meetings of University Authorities too low(2 in a year), for a new University; besides Minutes of the meetings are not detailed;
15. Reservation Policy not followed in recruitment of faculty/non-teaching staff members and also in students' admissions;
16. Immovable property not in the name of the University; but only in the name of the Sponsoring Society;

17. Many teachers in the advanced age group appointed and given administrative responsibilities;
18. Some Statutes framed beyond the provisions made in the University Act, e.g., Statute No. 3(1) in the first Statutes based on Section 1 of the Act;
19. No notified Policy or fee structure and student intake.
20. Academic flexibility absent in the Degree programmes;
21. Distance Education Programmes conducted in professional subjects without the approval of UGC-AICTE-DEC Joint Committee;
22. Social security and related benefits including GPF/CPF not facilitated for faculty and non-teaching staff;
23. Much importance given for moderation of examination results, that may lead to doubts on the fairness of the system;

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

Taking into account the various documents provided by the Amity University, Uttar Pradesh and the above observations, the Committee now makes the following recommendations:

1. The University Act authorizes the establishment of a unitary University at NOIDA, Gautam Buddha Nagar District, whereas the Sponsoring Society does not seem to have taken note of this as seen from a number of off-campus centres/set-up in different States including Uttar Pradesh, almost simultaneously with the setting-up of the NOIDA Campus. This is not in order, even as per the UGC Regulations-2003 referred to earlier. The UGC may like to advise the University to take appropriate action not to contravene the provisions of its own Act and also the UGC Regulations.
2. The first Statutes framed by the University include certain provisions which authorizes the University to open off-campus Centres in other parts of Uttar Pradesh. But this contravenes the provision of its own Act and it is not in conformity with the UGC Regulations-2003. The UGC may like to advise the University to frame the Statutes only within the boundaries of the provision in the University Act and taking into account the UGC Regulations-2003 referred to earlier.
3. The brand name AMITY is used very frequently for all institutions whether they are Universities, Colleges or otherwise, causing considerable confusion in the minds of students, parents and society at large and also misleading them. The UGC may like to advise the University to refrain from using this brand name AMITY too liberally for any other University/College set up by the Society.
4. The land and related immovable assets of the University are still in the name of the Sponsoring Society. This is not in order. The UGC may like to advise the University to formally transfer all the immovable assets in the name of the University.
5. The University is not still following the provisions of its Act in respect of the constitution of University Authorities (like Faculties, Departments) and for the appointment of University Officers (like Deans of Faculties, Directors of Institutes). The UGC may like to direct the University to fall in line with the established practices in the Indian University System and also strictly follow the provisions of its Act.

6. The University conducts a number of distance learning programmes in the professional subjects (like MBA & MCA). As per UGC Regulations they are not authorized to do so. Further, they have not obtained the approval of the concerned Statutory Council, viz., AICTE. Besides they have not got the approval of UGC-AICTE-DEC Joint Committee for running these programmes. The UGC may like to advise the University to take immediate appropriate steps in this direction.
7. It is noticed that the approval of Bar Council of India was obtained by the Amity Law College when it was affiliated to Meerut University before the birth of the Amity University, Uttar Pradesh. This approval needs to be revalidated by the University now. The UGC may direct the University to take speedy action on this matter.
8. The University conducts a number of programmes in Technical Education. But the norms and standards of AICTE have not been strictly followed by it, as is evident by the very high intake capacity of students in branches like MBA (about 800 students), and B.Tech. (Bio-Tech.) (about 500 students). The UGC and AICTE may like to direct the University to correct the situation speedily.
9. The University conducts many programmes and awards many degrees, to attract large number of students in the fancy courses. This is not desirable as the curriculum is too broad and lacks depth. This situation has to be corrected as soon as possible and the academic standards improved soon. The UGC may direct the University to take appropriate steps in this regard. .
10. The nomenclatures used for some Schools on NOIDA Campus of the University are all often confusing: e.g., : Amity Business School and Amity School of Business.. This is a cause for avoidable confusion and needs to be corrected soon. The UGC may consider this and advise the University accordingly.
11. There is very little academic flexibility in the course work and innovation in the examination system at the University. Both these need to be looked into and corrected suitably so that the faculty time and University facilities are optimally utilized and students get the best of the University's academic system. Besides, the fees payable by the students could be brought down to a great extent. The University may be advised to initiate corrective steps in this direction.
12. The University requires a vibrant quality assurance activity and so also there is an urgent need for getting its programmes/activities accredited at the earliest by NAAC/NBA . The UGC may like to consider this and advise the University accordingly.
13. The service conditions of faculty and non-teaching staff do not include important items like retirement age and benefits like GPF/CPF. Moreover they do not have residential accommodation and recreational facilities on the campus. The University may be asked to take appropriate action in this respect.

14. The University does not follow the Reservation Policy for faculty and non-teaching staff recruitment and also for students' admissions. This violates the provisions in the University Act and also the requirements in the UGC Regulations-2003 referred to earlier. The UGC may like to direct the University to take corrective steps in this matter expeditiously.

15. The frequency of meetings of University Authorities, like Executive Council, Academic Council, is rather low for a young University. Besides the recording of Minutes relating to the selection of teaching/non-teaching staff requires considerable improvement and amplification. These need to be corrected at an early date, for which the UGC may advise the University.

16. The University needs to have an open and transparent operation in all its programmes and activities like student admission, fixing fees, faculty recruitment etc., so that it gains the confidence, respect and admiration of the society at large. Suitable corrective steps may be taken by the University to rectify the situation.

The Committee wishes to thank the Chairman, UGC for constituting the Committee to visit Amity University, Uttar Pradesh at NOIDA for inspection, which the Committee has enjoyed. The Committee also wishes to express its appreciation at Amity University, Uttar Pradesh at NOIDA for making arrangements for the visit.

Signatures of Experts:

Prof. B.S. Sonde
(Chairman)

Prof.S.Jayarama Reddy
(Member)

Prof. V.K. Grover
(Member)

Prof. P.Kaliraj
(Member)

Prof. G.D. Yadav
(Member)

Prof. Nesar Ahmad
(Member)

Prof. R.K. Dixit
(Member)

Prof.K.N.Chandrasekharan Pillai
(Member)

Prof. R.P. Bajpai
(AICTE Nominee)

Dr.K. Gunasekaran
(Member Secretary)