



S. No. 202/04  
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UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION, NEW DELHI

Report of the Inspection Committee on its visit to Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology, Gandhinagar, Gujarat (a private University) on August 21, 2004.

1. INTRODUCTION

The University Grants Commission had constituted an Inspection Committee as per the following composition to visit Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology, a private University established at Gandhinagar (Gujarat) for the purpose of ascertaining the availability of physical and academic infrastructure at the University (Ref. F No. 1/2004 (DS-Admn) of 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2004)

Prof. B.S. Sonde Former VC, Goa University.	Convenor
Prof., JV Prabhakara Rao Dept. of Management Andhra University, Visakhapatnam	Member
Prof. Kapil Kapoor Dept. of English, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	Member
Dr. Tilak R. Kem Additional Secretary, University Grants Commission, New Delhi.	Member Secretary

The Committee visited Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication (DA-IICT) Gandhinagar on August 21, 2004, as per the program suggested by UGC. All the members of the Committee were present during the day long visit, which commenced at the University campus at 1000 hrs. Prior to proceeding to the University Campus, the Committee had its internal meeting at the place of stay to discuss the procedure to be followed, identify the items to be specifically looked into and consider the steps necessary for validation of the UGC-Proforma filled in and submitted by DA-IICT.

On arrival at the campus, the Committee was received by Prof. Arvind Kudchadker, Director, Shri Anil Dua, Executive Registrar, Prof. V.P. Sinha, Dean (Academic Programs) and other senior faculty members of the Institute. The

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Committee visited the infrastructure built-up by DA-IICT in the University campus including Library, Computer Center, Faculty Offices, Laboratories, Class-rooms, Students' hostels, cafeteria, Cultural Center and other support facilities and also had brief interaction with the faculty members. This was followed by a formal meeting with the Director, Registrar, Dean, Coordinators of UG PG/Special programmes at the Institute, at which Shri K.V. Subramaniam, Sr. Executive Vice President, Reliance Industries (Member, Governing Board) was also present. After a brief introduction, the Director welcomed the Committee. This was followed by detailed presentations on DA-IICT by Shri Subramaniam and Prof. Kudehadker. In the discussion session that followed, the Convener and Members of Committee sought and obtained clarifications on many items from the Proforma submitted, the presentations made and the visits to various facilities conducted earlier. The Committee also had its final internal meeting at the end. This has enabled the committee to prepare this Report.

The Report is divided into Five Sections. Following this introduction, major provisions in the Act of DA-IICT (Gujarat Act No.6 of 2003, notified in the Gujarat Government Gazette Extraordinary on April 23, 2003) are compared with those in the UGC (Establishment and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2002 which came later. This is followed by the inspection Report in Section 3. An Overall Analysis is then presented in Section 4, followed by the Recommendations of the Committee in the last Section. The Proforma submitted by DA-IICT is appended to this Report.

## 2. DA-IICT ACT COMPARED WITH UGC REGULATIONS

The DA-IICT was established w.e.f. May, 2003 under on the DA-IICT Act, referred to above. This Act has many features similar to other well-established Universities in the country, and also those in the UGC Regulations referred to earlier. In particular, this Act has:

- i) clear laid down 'Objects';
- ii) 'Powers and Functions' well defined;
- iii) 'Authorities', 'Officers', as per established practice;
- iv) Some provision for associating with the State Government, UGC and other Statutory Authorities;
- v) Powers for framing 'Regulations'.

However, there are a few differences between the provisions of this Act and the UGC Regulations (2002) relating to Private Universities, as follows:

- a) As per the Act (Clause 4(i)), the Objects of the University include : "To develop patterns of teaching and training at various levels of educational accomplishment, so as to set a high standard of Information and Communication Technology education and its applications". But, as per UGC Regulations (Clause 3.6), the programmes of study leading to a Degree and/or

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PG Degree/Diploma offered by a private University shall conform to the relevant regulations/norms of the UGC or the concerned Statutory Body as amended from time to time.

The Institute offers some Degrees with nomenclatures not in conformity with UGC specifications, viz. PG Degrees like MS (IT), MS (IT in Agriculture) and M.Des, which do not figure in UGC approved list. Further, the curricula of some programmes are somewhat different from the standard curricula of AICTE. This has been brought to the attention of the functionaries of the Institute, for being given due consideration, though the DA-IICT did have a rationale for the differences.

- b) The University Act is silent on the jurisdiction of the University. But, UGC Regulations clearly spell out (clause 3.3) that a private University established under a State Act shall operate ordinarily within the State boundary. However, DA-IICT is presently working within the boundaries of the State of Gujarat only, as clarified by the Institute.
- c) There is a requirement as per UGC regulations (Clause 3.4), that a private University shall fulfill the minimum criteria in terms of programmes, faculty, infrastructural facilities financial viability etc, as laid down by the UGC, AICTE and other Statutory Bodies. But, in the DA-IICT Act, there does not seem to be any provision for this. However, the DA-IICT Act (Clause 29) has provision for furnishing Returns and Information to UGC and other Statutory Authorities, when called for. The Institute is aware of this and has agreed to take suitable steps to correct this.
- d) The UGC regulations (clause 3.6) require that the programmes of study offered by private University shall conform to the relevant regulations of UGC or the concerned Statutory Body. But, there is no provision for this in the DA-IICT Act.
- e) The admission of students and fixation of fees shall be as per the norms/guidelines prescribed by UGC and concerned Statutory Body (Clause 3.9 UGC Guidelines). But, there is no provision for this. The Institute is also aware of this and is prepared to go along with the UGC guidelines.

### INSPECTION REPORT

The following Inspection Report has been prepared by the Institution, Committee after carefully perusing the filled-in proforma submitted by DA-IICT, UGC Regulations (2003) relating to private Universities, DA-IICT Act 2003) and on-site visit to DA-IICT campus for validation of the Proforma by discussing with a cross section of its stake holders.



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- 1. **Name of the University**  
Dhruvhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology, Gandhinagar 382 017 (Gujarat)
- 2. **Date of Visit:**  
August 21, 2004
- 3. **Registered Office**  
Near Indroda Circle Gandhinagar 382 017 (Gujarat)
- 4.a. **Name and Headquarters of the Society Promoting Agency:**  
Dhruvhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology Society, same address as above
- 4.b. **Whether the agency is involved in promoting/running and other University/ institution? If yes, details :**  
No
- 5. **Claimed Territorial Jurisdiction**  
The State of Gujarat
- 6. **Programme permitted to be offered by gazette notification of Govt. of Gujarat and its reference:**  
UG, PG and Research Programmes in Information and Communication Technology, as per Govt. Order No. 112/93, Gazetted on March 6, 2003
- 7.a. **Whether all documents requested by the inspection team provided:**  
Yes
- 7.b. **If no, what are the deficit documents (List to be enclosed):**  
Not applicable
- 8. **Physical verification of administrative infrastructure:**

*[Handwritten signature]*

Satisfactory, as per the details given under item 16 of the UGC Proforma Submitted by DA-IICT

8.a Whether administrative authorities like Governing Council, Academic Council and BOS formed and minutes of their meeting produced?

Yes: details provided under Item 13, of the UGC Proforma submitted by DA-IICT: Minutes of meeting of BOG, AC and FC shown' BOS yet being formalized.

8.b Whether V.C, Registrar, FO and Administrative Officers appointed? If yes, whether they were physically present during inspection?

Yes: Director (=VC) Executive Registrar, Dean were present

8.c List of authorized University Officers present during the UGC Committee Inspection

Yes: as above

8.d Administrative Office details like approx. total plinth area, separate offices for V.C., Registrar, Administrative Office, Committee Room, Reception cum students waiting room, etc.

Plinth areas of all buildings given in detail under item 16 of UGC Proforma submitted by DA-IICT: All buildings planned aesthetically/elegantly and well constructed; All the facilities required for the smooth functioning of the Institution provided on the campus;

8.e Whether office equipments like Computer(s), Telephone/Fax, Xerox machines available.

Yes, in adequate numbers:

9. Physical verification of Academic Infrastructure:

The Committee is satisfied at the adequacy, quality and standard of this infrastructure

9.a Corpus of the society shown to the inspection team.

Yes

(i) Land documents, if shown, extent of land registered in the name of the University and its location in Gujarat.

Yes, 50 acres; copy of land allotment documents and registration document enclosed to the UGC Proforma submitted; verified and found satisfactory.

- (iii) **Deposits made in the name of Society/University, separately or jointly with State authorities:**

Rs. 5 Crore, as required in the DA-ICT Act; Receipt shown to the Committee;

- 9.b **Buildings shown to house the University and their plinth area :**

(i) **Permanent**

Satisfactory, as per the details given under item 16. All buildings permanent and located in the campus

(ii) **Temporary/Leased Property:**

NIL

- 9.c **Whether Library available? If available, details:**

Yes, well furnished in adequate space. Books, Journals provided, as per details given under item 16 (iii) in Proforma

9.d. **Whether Classrooms and Laboratories available? If available, details:**

Yes, well furnished; adequate size, details under Item 16(i) in Proforma

9.e. **Whether Teaching Staff appointed? If yes, details to be enclosed.**

Yes, well qualified faculty and teaching assistants; details given under item 18 of Proforma

- 9.f. **Whether technical and non-teaching staff appointed? If yes, details to be enclosed.**

Yes, in adequate number; Details given under 19 of Proforma

- 10.a. **Whether students already admitted?**

Yes



- 10.b. If yes, break-up details of Courses as against the number of students admitted in each course.

Admission for B.Tech made in 2001-02; for M.Tech, Ph.D and other programmes since 2002. Details under item 20 of Proforma

- 10.c. Any Off-Campus or Study Center or admission center established outside Gujarat State?

No

11. Overall remarks / Observations:

The Institution has built-up an excellent physical infrastructure in a short time and already set up all the academic facilities required for a well focused field, viz. ICT. Competent and well qualified Faculty members have been appointed and they are supported by Teaching Assistants and technological facilities to enhance the teaching-learning process. Students from all over India have been admitted through national level test of EdCIL MHRD (AIEEE) and the quality of students admitted is of a high order. The Institute has been emphasizing high quality in all its work, particularly in imparting technical education and research and is working hard to reach a leadership position in the field of ICT not only in India, but also globally.

#### 4. OVERALL ANALYSIS

The Inspection Committee has noted that DA-ICT has developed well in a short time about three years. While the University has been recognized by the State Government only in May 2003, the Institute was set up in the year 2001 and students admissions were made for B.Tech from the same year and for M.Tech/MS(IT)/Ph.D from 2002 onwards. But the Institute does not seem to have obtained AICTE approval or affiliation of Gujarat University until the grant of private University status. However, DA-ICT seems to have organized its academic programmes and examination as per the prevailing practice in AICTE approved/affiliated institutions from the beginning and firmed up the same after receiving the University status in May 2003.

The Institute has been managed well and its physical infrastructure has been keeping pace with the expectations of the growing students' strength, which is now about 1200. The first batches of M.Tech (ICT), MS(IT) and MS (IT-A) have now completed their academic requirements for the award of respective Degrees by the Institute. The Institute is well equipped, staffed by well-qualified forward looking faculty members (although their number is rather low, students: faculty ratio being 27:1). And they are well supported by Teaching Assistants and educational aids. The Institute lays considerable emphasis on industrial





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interaction, consultancy and R&D among its Faculty members. As a result, talented, merited students are keen to join the programmes at DA-IICT.

However, the Institute has a few differences between its Act and the UGC Regulations 2003, as brought out in Sections 2 and 3. The Committee has brought these to the attention of the Director and other Functionaries of the Institute, for which they have agreed to give due consideration at an early date. The Institute has also agreed to comply with the UGC Regulations and communicate the same to UGC soon.

#### 5. RECOMMENDATIONS


It has been a pleasure for the Inspection Committee to visit DA-IICT and familiarize itself with its programmes and activities. In a short time, DA-IICT has developed into a fine institution and already attracting talented students and is competent faculty members as well as respect and admiration of the society.

The Committee is pleased to recommend that DA-IICT be considered for recognition under Section 21 of the UGC Act (1956). The Committee also wishes the Institute all success in the future endeavour.

Gandhinagar  
August 21, 2004.

  
(Prof. B.S. Sonde)  
Convener

  
(Prof. Kapil Kapoor)  
Member

  
(Prof. J.V. Prabhakara Rao)  
Member

  
(Dr. Tilak R. Kem)  
Member Secretary