

University Grants Commission
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg
New Delhi – 110 002

Report of the Inspection Committee on its visit to Jaypee University of
Information Technology, Wagnaghat, Himachal Pradesh (a private university)
on June 2, 2004

1. INTRODUCTION

The University Grants Commission had constituted an Inspection Committee as per the following composition to visit Jaypee University of Information Technology, Wagnaghat, Himachal Pradesh for the purpose of ascertaining the availability of physical and academic infrastructure at the University (Ref. F.No. 1-1/2004 (DS-Admn) of May 19, 2004) :

1. Dr. B S Sonde Convener
Former Vice-Chancellor,
Goa University, Goa
2. Dr. J V Prabhakar Rao Member
Department of Management
Andhra University
Waltair, Vishakhapatnam –530 003
3. Dr. Kapil Kapoor, Member
(Formerly Rector, JNU)
Department of English
Jawaharlal Nehru University
New Delhi – 110 067
4. Dr. Dev Swarup, Member Secretary
Deputy Secretary
University Grants Commission
New Delhi

The Committee visited Jaypee University of Information Technology, Wagnaghat, established in Himachal Pradesh on June 02, 2004, as per the programme suggested by UGC. All the members of the Committee were present during the visit. 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 filled-in-questionnaire (in UGC format) submitted by the University.

On arrival at the campus at 1500 hrs, the Committee was received and welcomed by Dr. Y. Medury, Vice-Chancellor and Brig. (Retd.) Balbir Singh, Registrar. The Convenor and the Member Secretary in their opening remarks explained the purpose of the Committee visit and the procedure for inspection.

This was followed by brief presentations by Dr. Medury on Jaypee University of Information Technology, Waknaghat, established in Himachal Pradesh. In the discussion that followed, the Convenor and the members of the committee sought clarifications from the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Head of Departments and Members of the permanent supervisory Board of the University on some items which came up in their presentations and also referring to the filled-in questionnaire submitted by the University, which were provided satisfactorily. The Committee then visited major parts of the campus, various infrastructure facilities, library computer centre, laboratories, students hostels, gym and other facilities and also had useful interaction with representative groups of faculty members and students on the campus. The Committee had its second internal meeting in the evening to discuss the day's proceedings and to take steps for preparing the Report of the Inspection Committee for Submission to UGC.

This Report is divided into five sections. Following this Introduction, major provisions in the Act of Jaypee University of Information Technology, Waknaghat, established in Himachal Pradesh are compared with those in the UGC (Establishment and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003. This is followed by the Inspection Report in section 3. An Overall Analysis is then presented in section 4, followed by concluding remarks at the end. The filled-in-questionnaire submitted by the University is appended to this Report.

2. Jaypee University Act Versus UGC Regulations

The Jaypee University of Information Technology, Waknaghat, established in Himachal Pradesh Act 2002 (Himachal Pradesh Government Gazette Notification dated May 22, 2002) is the basis for the establishment of this non-affiliating, unitary university. This has many features similar to other well-established universities and also following the UGC Regulations in the country, like :

- ⇒ clearly laid down "Object";
- ⇒ "powers and functions" well defined;
- ⇒ authorities, officers as per established practice;
- ⇒ some provision for association with the State Government;
- ⇒ powers for framing statutes and ordinances.

The main areas of differences in the Act and actual situation vis-à-vis UGC are given below:-

- (a) As per clause 7 of the Act of the university, the jurisdiction of the university shall be as follows:-

"Save as otherwise provided by or under this Act, the powers conferred on the University shall be exercisable in the area comprising Himachal Pradesh."

However, it has been noticed that the university has opened one institute in Noida (U.P.) and one institute at Guna (M.P.) which seems to be against the above provision. However, para 5(p) of the Act which defines powers and functions of the university states as under:-

"to affiliate any other centre / institution established and run by the Trust as a constituent body of the University for the purpose of its academic programme and admitting it for the award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates on fulfillment of the prescribed requirements by the recipients."

The University, it seems, has established these Institutes at Noida and Guna under this clause. However, there seems to be a contradiction between clause 5(p) and clause 7.

- b) 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 liability etc as laid done by UGC, AICTE and other Statutory Bodies. But in the Jaypee University Act, there does not seem to be any provision for this.

- c) The UGC Regulations (clause 3.6) require that the programmes of study offered by a private University shall conform to the relevant Regulations of UGC or the concerned Statutory Body. There is no such provision in the University Act.
- d) The admission of students and fixation of fees, shall be as per the norms/guidelines prescribed by UGC and concerned Statutory Bodies (UGC guidelines, clause 3.9). But there is no provision for this in the University Act.

However, the university functionaries have agreed to comply with the UGC Regulations at an early date.

3. INSPECTION REPORT

The following Inspection Report has been prepared by the Inspection Committee after carefully perusing the filled-in-questionnaire submitted by the University and on-site validation of this through visits to various infrastructural facilities on the campus and discussions with a cross section of stake holders of the University.

1	Name of the University	:	Jaypee University of Information Technology, Wagnaghat, established in Himachal Pradesh
2	Date of Visit	:	June 02, 2004
3	Registered Office	:	Wagnaghat District- Solan, Himachal Pradesh
4.a	Name & Headquarters of the Society/Promoting Agency	:	Jai Prakash Sewa Sansthan JA House, 03, Basant Lok, Vasant Vihar New Delhi – 110057.
4.b	Whether the agency is involved in promoting/running any other University/Institution? If yes, details	:	Yes, JIIT, Noida and JIET, Guna

5.	Claimed Territorial Jurisdiction	:	India; But, clause 7 of the Act restricts to the State of Himachal Pradesh only.
6.	Programmes permitted to be offered by gazetted notification of Govt. & its reference	:	As per Section 4 of the university Act, the object of the university shall be to disseminate, create and advance knowledge, wisdom and understanding, and to offer technical education of the high standards by teaching, research, training and extension activities. As per these provisions, the university is running B.Tech. and M.Tech. courses in the main campus at Solan and B.Tech., M.Tech. and MCA in the off campus centre at Noida and B.Tech. at off campus in Guna.
7.a	Whether all documents requested by the inspection team provided	:	Yes
7.b	If not, what are the deficit documents (list to be enclosed)	:	Not applicable
8.	Physical verification of administrative infrastructure.	:	Satisfactory, as per the details given under items 14,16 of the questionnaire filled-in and submitted to UGC.
8.a	Whether administrative authorities like Governing Council, Academic Council & BOS formed & minutes of their meetings produced?	:	Yes, details provided under item 13 of the Questionnaire filled in.
8.b	Whether VC, Registrar, FO & Administrative Officers appointed? If yes, whether they were physically present during inspection?	:	Yes, VC, Registrar, Members of the permanent supervisory Board and Heads of Departments were present.
8.c	List of authorized University Officers present during the UGC Committee Inspection.	:	As listed above.
8.d	Administrative Office details like approx. total plinth area, separate offices for VC, Registrar Administrative Office, Committee Room, Reception cum students waiting room etc.	:	The university has land area of 114.01 bighas. Plinth areas of all buildings are given in details under item 16 in the questionnaire filled in. All buildings have been planned aesthetically and are being constructed in phases, about 50% being now ready. All facilities required for faculty/students/others are 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 with the adequacy, quality and standard of the infrastructure.
9.a	Corpus of the society shown to the inspection team (i) Land documents, if shown, extent of land registered in the name of the University & its location. (ii) Deposits made in the name of Society/University, separately or jointly with State authorities.	:	Yes – A corpus of Rs.2.5 crores has been created; A second installment of Rs. 2.5 crores as required by the Act seems to be under process now. Yes, Details given under item 14 in Questionnaire filled in 114.01 bighas already in possession. The University is already functional on this site. Yes, Rs.2.5 crores as fixed deposit with Indus Ind. Bank, New Delhi and State Bank of Patiala, Noida.
9.b	Buildings shown to house the University & their plinth are details (i) Permanent (ii) Temporary/Leased Property	:	Buildings are permanent (item 16) and located in the main campus. Nil
9.c	Whether Library available? If available, details	:	Yes Details given under item 16(iii) in the questionnaire. The university has 1432 titles, valued at Rs.23.00 lakhs.
9.d	Whether Classrooms & Laboratories available? If available, details	:	Yes Class-room of various sizes, well equipped.

9.e	Whether teaching staff appointed? If yes, details to be enclosed	:	Yes Details given under item 18 consist of 30 faculty members.
9.f	Whether technical & non-teaching staff appointed? If yes, details to be enclosed.	:	Yes, Details given under item 19 consist of 22 non-teaching staff.
10.a	Whether students already admitted?	:	Yes. A total of 1872 UG students, 71 PG students and few Ph.D. students enrolled in three centres collectively.
10.b	If yes, breakup details of Courses as against the number of students admitted in each course.	:	Details given under item 17
10.c	Any Off-Campus or Study Centre or admission Centre established outside State?	:	Yes. Two. One in Noida (U.P.) and other in Guna (M.P.).
11.	Overall remarks / observations		<p>a) The University is well planned and organized and is functioning since May 22, 2002 when its Act was gazetted.</p> <p>b) The University functioning has been computerized – administrative, academic, evaluative, and financial functions. Right from the point a student is admitted to the University, all records pertaining to the students are held in the University Server.</p> <p>c) Future plans for new courses include starting new UG and PG programmes.</p>

4. OVERALL ANALYSIS

The University has been managed well in terms of physical infrastructure and has good students strength, which is now in the range of 2000. They make use of state of the art educational aids in students' laboratories/class rooms. They are giving considerable emphasis to industrial interaction, placement facilities for students, etc. with satisfactory results already being demonstrated. Moreover, a wide range of programme options upto Doctorate level are now available at the university. As a result, talented /merited students from all over India are always keen to join the programmes at this university.

However, the University has a few differences between the Act and the UGC Regulations 2003, which were brought to the attention of the Vice-Chancellor and other functionaries. They have agreed to take up compliance of UGC Regulations at an early date. The University functionaries have also be informed of the need (i) to make the B.Tech (Civil Construction Infrastructure) to be IT driven so as to truly qualify for a programme at JUIT, (ii) to add external members to BOS-both from academics and industry, so as to make the programmes more up to date and relevant, and (iii) make the library books more adequate in numbers. They have agreed to take early steps in all these cases.

5. CONCLUDING REMARKS

It has been a great pleasure for the Inspection Committee to visit Jaypee University of Information Technology and familiarize with its programmes and activities. In a short time, this University has developed into a fine institution and is already attracting attention and admiration of the society. Its physical infrastructure and educational facilities are comparable with those of well established/reputed Universities in the country. Besides the management of the university appears to be keen to go along with the expectations of UGC in maintaining the norms and standards necessary for higher education in India, and also fulfilling the requirements of UGC Regulations 2003. The Committee has noted that UGC has already included Jaypee University of Information Technology under section 2(f) of UGC Act, 1956. The Committee recommends that this inclusion may be continued. The

Committee wishes the University all the best in its endeavour of providing high quality technical education in the relatively backward State of Himachal Pradesh. However, the university must take UGC's approval for running the study centers at Noida and Guna to comply with UGC regulations on establishment and maintenance of private universities.



Prof. B S Sonde
(Convenor)



Prof. J V Prabhakar Rao
(Member)



Prof. Kapil Kapoor
(Member)



Dr. Dev Swarup 03/06/04
(Member Secretary)

New Delhi
June 03, 2004