

**Draft Report on the  
Institutional Accreditation of  
The Madura College (Autonomous),  
Madurai – 625 011, Tamil Nadu**

**Section 1: Introduction**

The history of the Madura College spreads through three centuries. Started as a Zilla School in 1856, the College was established in 1889 with about 120 students. With the timely support and funding of several great individuals the college attained First Grade status in 1946. The T.V. Sundram Iyengar hostel came up in 1947, and the Harvey Library in 1949. Several courses were introduced in later years and the progress of the college had been steady.

The College has got UGC recognition and the autonomy was conferred in 1978 as a result of the persistent visionary zeal. During the centenary celebrations in 1989 the management decided to suspend undergraduate programmes in arts and commence postgraduate studies. The college became co-educational from the academic year 1997-98.

The college offers B.Sc. (Six), M.A., (Five), M.Sc., (Four), M.Phil (One) and Ph.D (two) courses under the grant-in-aid autonomy scheme; 11 courses in B.Sc., B.Com., M.Com. under affiliated self-finance scheme; and two diploma courses and twelve certificate courses of its own.

The Management runs Madura College Higher Secondary School, Sethupathi Higher Secondary School and a Town Primary School besides the college.

The temporal plan of academic work in the college is semester system both for the autonomous courses and self-financing courses. The unit cost of the college education is Rs. 23,500/-. The college has linkages with national institutions.



With a commitment to the cause of higher education and to offer for assessment and accreditation by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore, a self-study report was submitted to the Council in October 2002. A peer team was constituted by NAAC to visit the college and validate the Self-study report. The team consisted of **Prof. N. Natarajan**, Vice-Chancellor of Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar-Garhwal, Uttaranchal as Chairman, **Prof. Vijayakumari Jeyasingh**, Principal, University College, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, and **Prof. N. Sundararajan**, Principal, Sri Baghavan Mahavir Jain College, Bangalore, Karnataka as members. **Mr. B. S. Ponmudiraj**, Academic Professional, NAAC facilitated the Peer Team visit. The team visited The Madura College (Autonomous) during January 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

The peer team had extensive interaction and discussions with Board Members, Principal, Faculty members, parents, students, alumni and non-teaching staff members. To get an insight into the functioning of the college, its aspirations, accomplishments, potentials and constraints, all the relevant documents and files including the perspective plans were examined. The peer team visited all the departments and support facilities and scrutinized the relevant documents.

The detailed report of the peer team as per the criteria laid down by NAAC is presented below.

## **Section 2: Criterion-wise Analysis**

### **Criterion I: Curricular Aspects**

The Madura College (Autonomous), Madurai functions with a motto "Learning shines with Righteousness". The goal of the college is to impart quality education to all at affordable cost and to shape & mould individuals as worthy citizens. The college provides greater options and facilities for equipping the students to face the competitive world. The college is tuned and equipped to face the challenges of the task without sacrificing quality.

The college offers Ph.D. in Tamil and Zoology; M.Phil in English; M.A. in Tamil, Philosophy, English, Sociology and Economics, M.Sc. in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Botany, Computer Science, Zoology and Micro-Biology, M.Com., MFC; B.Sc. in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Computer Science, Zoology, and B.Com. Besides,



there are a few diploma/certificate courses. The syllabus of most of the courses are career orientated. Semester system is followed, in a successful manner.

It is suggested that proper feed back mechanism should be devised to collect feed back from academic peers and employers and it should be utilized for enriching the various vocational courses.

The existing curriculum is reviewed and updated in 3 to 4 years. It may take 2 years to implement a programme of study after it has been conceptualized.

There are regular Board of Studies, Expert Committees and National Curriculum Sources, for formulating the Curricular Content of new programmes. Planning forum is used to collect the reviews from various sections of the College regarding the academic programmes and compile them for validating. The Board of Studies in each department reviews the academic programmes depending on the need-based situations. Under the self-financing arrangement many career oriented courses are offered.

Project work is done at the UG level in the Department of Computer Science and at PG level in English, Philosophy, Computer Science and Physics. In some cases it is surprising to note that the present academic programme is not compatible with the expertise available.

### **Criterion II: Teaching-Learning and Evaluation**

Admission of students to various courses are through interviews and based on academic records. Around 30% of the total budget is allocated directly to the academic programmes. Remedial courses are conducted in Sociology, Chemistry and Economics to provide extra coaching for those students who need additional help in academic pursuit. Bridge course is conducted in Sociology.

The evaluation is based on both Continuous Internal Assessment and on the end-of-the Semester examination. Some of the components of CIA are Tests, Seminars, Assignments and Quiz. Both central valuation and door valuation are followed. Double valuation and re-valuation are practiced in the valuation process.



The faculty keeps abreast of recent developments in their discipline by attending refresher courses, seminars and workshops. Nearly forty-three teachers have attended seminars/conferences/workshops either as participants or as resource persons. The department of Zoology had an interaction with Florida A & M University, Tallahassee, Florida, Michigan State University and University of California (Berkeley) USA on aspects of taxonomy and bio-diversity of some hill stream insects, bio-control and bio-monitoring potential of aquatic insects.

At the national level there has been interaction with Centre for Ecological studies IISc, Department of Physics had interaction with IAPT; Department of Philosophy with ICPR. The Department of Economics had interaction with DHAN foundation and provides assistance to villages in the uplift of rural economy.

A faculty from the Zoology Department has received Dr. Radhakrishna Tamil Nadu Best Teacher Award. The same faculty has also received the Fulbright grant for senior researchers – U.C. Berkeley (1994-95) besides being honoured by Australian Development Bureau for his research work. In addition the Department of Botany conducts special training for NET / SLET candidates.

Good planning and systematic implementation of the schedule through semester schemes ensure the coverage of the syllabus. The conventional lecture method is supplemented by the innovative teaching technique using modern teaching aids like multimedia, CDs, LCD and advanced gadgets.

It is suggested that the college follows self-appraisal method to evaluate the performance of the faculty in teaching. More systematic methods like well framed feed back from students can be introduced for reaching the pinnacles of glory and improvement of the staff. Though a few departments have established national/international linkages, it would be good if all the other departments try for the same.

The pass percentage is rather low in Chemistry, Botany and Zoology. The concerned departments may take more initiatives and plan new strategies to improve upon the results.



### **Criterion III: Research, Consultancy and Extension**

Two departments of the college viz., Department of Zoology and Tamil, have been recognized as research centres.

Out of the 103 teachers, 29 hold Ph.D. degrees. There are two research projects with the Departments of Physics and Zoology (one each). No specific Committee is available to facilitate or monitor research activities.

Around 15 papers have been published from the college in the last 3 years. There are no Ph.D. degree awarded during the last 3 years. The members of the faculty need to be motivated to apply for awards/recognition for research work.

The institution has neither publicized the expertise available for consultancy services nor provided any consultancy during the last 5 years. The staff may be encouraged to take active part in consultancy. The benefits of this will enhance the image of the college and the educational standards of the students. Most of the departments are to focus on research projects also in addition to teaching task. Research facilities available from funding agencies have not been tapped by most of the departments. In this direction the departments can create a strong research culture in the institution.

The college has taken keen interest in the extension activities and has a part time designated person to look after it. The broad areas of extension activities include:

- Certificate programmes and two diploma courses to students and general public.
- Creating health and hygiene awareness to the rural mass.
- Free coaching class on personality development for the economically weaker section of the society.
- Conducting rural economy and small saving awareness programmes by forming a self help group for women entrepreneurship.
- NCC, NSS, AEEP / physical education, community service camps, team spirit, special responsibility, leadership skill, nature club, etc.

### **Criterion IV: Infrastructure and Learning Resources**

On the whole the infrastructure facilities available in the college are very good and are shared by all the departments. Self-financing courses are conducted in the afternoon shift, utilizing



the existing class rooms and laboratories. The facilities available in one department are used by staff and research scholars of other departments. The college maintains infrastructure through the funds from the management.

The college has a good central library named after Mr. Harvey which is partly computerized having about 70000 books with book bank facility and subscribing for about 52 journals and periodicals including 6 international. Though the library has a library automation package for computerising the various functions like book purchase, book issue, purchase and processing of journals, library accounts, library stock, etc. the computerisation is yet to be completed. There is an advisory committee for the library with the Principal as Chairman, with five senior staff members and four students as its members.

Apart from this, all the departments except English and Commerce have their own libraries. Postgraduates can take books on all working days and the undergraduates on specific days of the week. There are reference, lending and reading sections. A qualified librarian heads the library assisted by 2 technical assistants and 2 library assistants. The departmental libraries are managed by the respective department teachers on rotation basis.

The Computer Science Department has 38 computers and 4 servers working for 6 days a week from 9AM to 6PM. Many departments in the College have their own computers. Computers and accessories are maintained by the teachers themselves.

Though compulsory general medical check up is ensured for all, there is no separate health center. The college has very good sports facilities. There are two grounds for outdoor games, special cricket pitch, basket ball court, lawn tennis court, besides yoga and meditation training programmes, First Aid programmes and summer coaching camps are some of the other high lights of the sports department. To encourage more girls to participate in physical education activities, a female physical education instructor may be appointed.

There is a canteen and vehicle parking shed facility available, besides a counseling center, cultural academy, youth red cross, AEEP, planning forum and a spiritual study center.

Students seeking hostel facilities are very low. Though 300 rooms which can accommodate 900 students are available in different blocks of the hostel, at present there are only 20 post



graduate students staying in the hostel. Moreover hostel facility is open only for postgraduate students and there is no mess facility for the students. The hostels were closed for the last 20 years without occupancy due to management decision.

There is a student grievance redressal cell which has been constituted recently.

#### **Criterion V: Student Support and Progression**

The college collects, common feed back from students on various aspects of the college particularly with regard to the facilities available. The pass percentage after the minimum period of study is 68% at the UG level and 79.6% at the PG level and the drop out rate is 8.6% and 6.8% respectively. About 10% of the students have passed in competitive exams and no other data as to employment and further study is available. It is suggested that all departments keep track of students progression to higher studies and employment which will help the college in deciding the success of its teaching learning process. A few students have passed NET/SLET examinations last year.

Academic and personal counseling is done by the teachers at a personal and informal level. There is a regular counseling center which also performs the role of the employment cell. Eighteen students have got placement through the placement cell during last academic year.

Various financial aids are available to students from central government, state government, institution and others. Nearly 387 students have been benefited financially. A good number of alumni are in eminent positions now. The Alumni association of the college helps the college financially to provide better infrastructure and also conducts its annual meetings. If its activities are further enhanced, it can be useful to establish national/international linkages with industry for research and also help as a link between the industry and college for employment to the students.

The college publishes its annual magazine and updated prospectus annually. The college can think of setting up a health center at the campus for the benefit of staff and students.

#### **Criterion VI: Organisation and Management**

The college is run by the Madura College Board formed by 63 members, from among whom 12 are elected as Directors. The directors elect three among themselves as the President,



Secretary and Treasurer. The Principal of the college with the help of all the Heads of the Department looks after day-to-day administration and teaching in the college. For smooth management and efficient working, various committees like admission committee, time table committee, academic calendar committee, examination committee, academic council, college council etc. are formed.

The College Committee is constituted on the guidelines of Private Colleges Regulation Act of Tamil Nadu. Besides the directors, 2 senior professors and one University nominee are the members. The College Committee is in charge of policy decision and implementation.

The College Council consists of the Principal, all Heads of Department, Physical Education Director, NCC Officer, Senior NSS Programme Officer, the Controller of Examinations, College representative of the University Academic Council and Office Superintendent as members.

All academic matters including working days, declaration of holidays, dates of closing and opening of the college, Students disciplinary measures, dates of examinations, budget approval and other decisions are made by the college council.

Principal is the Chairman of the Academic council and all faculty members are members. One student representative, 3 University nominees, 4 members nominated by the Management, one state Government nominee and two Office bearers of the Board are members. It discusses and approves all the new syllabi, changes in syllabi and course contents passed by the Board of Studies of each department. Academic decisions pertaining to evaluation methods, starting of new courses etc are also taken by the Academic Council.

All the vacancies for teaching staff are filled by following prescribed procedure laid down by the Government of Tamil Nadu including the reservation policy of the Government. The college has an inbuilt mechanism to monitor the work efficiency of the teaching and non teaching staff. Financial position of the college seems to be sound. The college has an internal audit mechanism. The college needs to further activate the Grievance Redressal Cell which can resolve the grievances, if any, of the staff and the students at the college level.





### **Criterion VII: Healthy Practices**

The college has over the years set in motion the following healthy practices.

- ✓ Some of the departments have established linkage with other institutions to undertake Projects in college level.
- ✓ The students of PG (Physics) are deputed to undertake projects in industries – IIA at Kodaikanal, Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, Nellai and at MKU. Further, Physics and English departments provide necessary training for higher secondary school teachers.
- ✓ The offering of training through Certificate and Diploma programmes provide additional scope to students and public as well.
- ✓ The college has to a limited extent, some arrangements with a local Computer organization to impart practical training in e-Commerce.
- ✓ NSS and NCC are functioning very well and most of the students take up responsibilities such as traffic regulation, crowd control in festivals, hospital maintenance services, blood donation on specific calls, etc. In addition there is also a very active blood donors club.
- ✓ The Centre for Ecological Sciences of the premier I.I.Sc Bangalore has accorded the Zoology department, the status of a nodal centre for the inventoring of the bio-diversity of the Western and the Eastern Ghats, from 1994.
- ✓ One teacher has won the Dr. Radhakrishnan award for the best teacher in the College from Govt. of Tamil Nadu and a senior Fullbright Fellowship of the University of California,USA.
- ✓ The Institution bases itself on traditional approaches to learning including imparting values to the wards. But as an institution, it offers avenues for Public speaking and technical sessions also. The college offers a Diploma programme exclusively for Personality Development.
- ✓ The admission procedures are based on the State Government stipulations protecting the reservation policy and admitting the eligible purely on merit-basis.

### **Section 3: Overall Analysis**

The College, has a proud history of over hundred and thirteen years of existence with commitment towards the cause of higher education providing affordable, liberal, democratic and secular education to all sections of the society, especially to the downtrodden. The institution has gained high appreciation in their chosen mission from the alumni, parents and the public at large leading to a high level of social status. They have succeeded in cultivating



a sharp, clear, analytical mind and heightened critical awareness of the social aspects among their students. They have also inculcated a sense of morality, overall personality, commitment, justice and in general good citizenship in the students.

The peer team is pleased to note that there are a number of commendable features as listed below in the functioning and management of the college signifying a positive involvement in higher education.

- ❖ The curriculum design as at present, its periodical upgradation and implementation is satisfactory.
- ❖ The fee structure is very nominal and meets the vision of the founder fathers of the college till this date. In spite of this fee structure, the college does not resort to levy any other fee like capitation fee etc. This is noteworthy.
- ❖ The examination system is commendable. The Controller of Examination and her team is performing an excellent job.
- ❖ The student discipline is good.
- ❖ The rapport amongst the management, teaching and non-teaching staff is praiseworthy.
- ❖ In spite of the limited resources at their command a few departments like Economics, Sociology etc. have made a breakthrough in the extension activities generating good and healthy response.
- ❖ It is a credit for the college to have full-fledged cricket, hockey grounds etc., with facilities for other out-door games.
- ❖ The college has an established practice of well organized Board of Directors and Management with a positive and meaningful control for the functioning of the college.
- ❖ The college has a proud tradition of the “Institution of a **Rector**” on annual basis. High luminaries, academicians and statesmen are chosen to adorn this honour like **Sir. C. V. Raman, Sri. C. Rajagopalachari, Rev. Fr. Dr. Jerome D’Souza, Justice M. C. Chagla, Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer, Prof. K. Aludiapillai, etc.** This healthy practice guarantees the conduct and commitment on the Board of Directors and other bodies.
- ❖ The college boasts of a remarkable line up of alumni ensuring a vast resource for moral and material support.



The peer team has also identified certain areas of concern for which the following suggestions are offered.

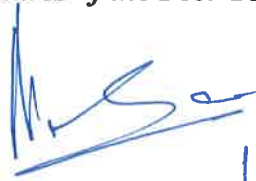
- There is a two-pronged system of academic activities in the college. i) Regular college is under autonomy and ii) Evening college is affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University. This system may prove to be unhealthy in the long run. This requires reconsideration.
- There is no justification for running PG Courses without the corresponding UG courses, even though there is ample infrastructure facilities like hostel, class-rooms etc., This can be reviewed.
- Attempts can be initiated to enhance the intake of students in all the courses under autonomy since this will benefit a large section of the student community.
- Measures to improve the communication skills (in English) for a large number of students are to be adopted. Even though there are a few selected number of vocational courses, they are to be redesigned to be career specific and to cater to the regional need. In addition, bridge and remedial courses may also be made more effective and result oriented.
- The college is gearing itself to establish a wide network of Internet and cyber cafe facilities. Efforts in this direction may be hastened.
- The indoor stadium with appropriate sports facilities need to be activated. It is preferable to have a full time lady Physical Instructor also. The existing sports facilities may be utilized more for regional/state level and other organized sports events. The sports promotional activities need an impetus by the college.
- Welfare schemes for the management staff like PF can be planned for implementation.
- The Library facilities are sufficient in respect of accommodation, storage and other allied facilities. The library also has a good collection of books dating from last century and requires proper preservation and maintenance along with adequate computerization for wider use.
- The Induction of latest version of equipment and furniture in a phased manner, will benefit the college.
- Though there is a good NCC Boys division, there is a need for a girls wing also. Efforts can also be initiated to introduce Air Wing and Naval Wing of NCC.
- Even though NSS is functioning on a sound basis, it needs a review in terms of fund allotment by the appropriate authorities.
- There is a conspicuous absence of consultancy activities by the faculty even though expertise is readily available on hand.



- The cultural activities in general among the staff and students requires a face lift.

The peer team wishes to record its appreciation for the excellent cooperation and courtesy extended by the college authorities in carrying out the task entrusted to us by NAAC. The team is hopeful that the college authorities will take care of the recommendations included in the report and will succeed in their efforts in becoming one of the best institutions in the country. The peer team extends a hearty thanks and wishes them all success.

*Names and Signatures of the Peer Team*



  
10 Jan 03

1. Prof. N. Natarajan (Chairman)

  
10-1-03

2. Prof. Vijayakumari Jeysingh (Member)

3. Prof. N. Sundararajan (Member)

 10/1/03   
10.1.03

Name and Signature of the Head of the Institution

K. RAMAN

I agree with the proposal,

PRINCIPAL  
THE MADURA COLLEGE [Autonomous]  
MADURAI - 625 011.





राष्ट्रीय मूल्यांकन एवं प्रत्यायन परिषद्

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग का स्वायत्त संस्थान

**NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL**

*An Autonomous Institution of the University Grants Commission*

# *Certificate of Accreditation*

*The Executive Committee of the  
National Assessment and Accreditation Council*

*on the recommendation of the duly appointed*

*Peer Team is pleased to declare the*

*The Madura College (Autonomous)*

*Madurai, affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamil Nadu as*

***Accredited<sup>1</sup>***

*at the B<sup>++</sup> level<sup>2</sup>.*

*(among the Autonomous Colleges)*

*Date : March 21, 2003*



*Indira*

*Director*

*EC-27-100*

1. This certification is valid for a period of *Five* years with effect from the academic year 2002 - 2003.
2. An institutional score (%) in the range of 55-60 denotes C grade, 60-65 -C\*grade, 65-70 - C\*\*grade, 70-75 - B grade, 75-80 -B\* grade, 80-85 - B\*\* grade, 85-90 - A grade, 90-95 - A\* grade, 95-100 - A\*\* grade (upper limits exclusive).