



SRI Y. N. COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

(Affiliated to Adikavi Nannaya University, Rajamahendravaram)

Thrice Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade

Narsapur - 534275, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh

Evaluation Report by External Peer Team on Institutional Autonomous Status Performance and Academic Attainments for the Academic Year 2021-22

Institution Background: Established in 1949, Sri Y N College stands as a distinguished hub for higher education in the West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh. Nestled on a sprawling 14-acre campus along the picturesque banks of the Vasista Godavari river, the college boasts a rich academic tapestry, offering a diverse array of 18 UG Programmes, 5 PG Programmes, and currently hosting 10 Ph.D. scholars in Management Studies.

In its illustrious 73-year odyssey, the college has undergone transformative phases, evolving from an Intermediate to a Degree College in 1956 and further advancing to a PG College in 1990. The institution attained Research Centre status from Andhra University in 2005, gaining recognition from Adikavi Nannaya University in 2017. Garnering accreditation thrice from NAAC with an 'A' Grade in 2004, 2010, and 2017, Sri Y N College is a paragon of academic excellence.

The college embraced Autonomous status for its UG Programmes in 2007, extending this autonomy to its PG Programmes in 2020. Acknowledged as a 'College with Potential for Excellence' by the UGC in 2010, it has consistently upheld rigorous academic standards. The attainment of the ISO 9001 Certificate in 2019 and the prestigious designation as a potential "Mentor College" in the Paramarsh Scheme by the UGC in 2019 further underscore the institution's commitment to educational brilliance and innovation.

Scope of Visit: In its quest for continuous improvement and commitment to academic autonomy, Sri Y N College (Autonomous), Narsapur, underwent a comprehensive External Peer Review on May 20, 2022, at 10 am. A diligent peer team conducted a thorough evaluation, actively

interacting with the leadership, faculty, and administrative staff. The primary focus was to assess the institution's autonomy and its effectiveness during the academic year 2021-22.

The peer team extensively examined the operational facets of essential bodies and meticulously reviewed relevant documents. This encompassed a detailed assessment of distinctive initiatives and a meticulous examination of the transparent systems instituted by the college. The overarching goal of the review was to gain a holistic understanding of the institution's unwavering dedication to autonomy and its endeavors to uphold elevated standards in the academic domain

Composition of the Peer Team:

| S. No. | Name | Designation | Position |
|---------------|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1 | Dr. S Sankar | Retired Principal, Advisor, ANR College (Autonomous), Gudivada, Andhra Pradesh & IQAC Cluster India | Chairperson |
| 2 | Sri R V Subba Rao | Academic and Research Advisor, Sri Y N College (Autonomous), Narsapur | Member |
| 3 | Dr. A P V Apparao | Principal, Sri Y N College (Autonomous), Narsapur | Member |

Having scrutinized the activities undertaken throughout the academic year 2021-22, the peer team has discerned the following key observations:

| Key Elements | Observations |
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| 1. Curricular Aspects | ➤ The college demonstrates a proactive approach by developing and revising curricula based on feedback from various stakeholders. This ensures alignment with the institution's vision and mission, fostering relevance and responsiveness to educational needs. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Programme Outcomes (POs) are transparently uploaded on the college website, reflecting a commitment to openness and accessibility. ➤ As an autonomous college, the approval process involves the Board of Studies (BoS) and Academic Council. This adherence to established norms enhances the credibility and autonomy of the curriculum development process. ➤ The offering of B.Voc. programmes showcases a significant commitment to vocational skill development. This strategic initiative aligns the educational framework with the evolving needs of the job market, enhancing students' employability. ➤ Integration of value education, environmental studies, and cultural heritage fosters moral and social values. ➤ Offering 24 Certificate/Add-on courses for transferable and life skills is commendable. The popularity of these courses, with 2534 student enrollments, underscores their relevance and acceptance among students. ➤ The ongoing commitment to syllabus enrichment and enhancement demonstrates an understanding of the dynamic educational landscape. |
| 2. Teaching-learning and Evaluation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Students are admitted through the Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education (APSCHE) OAMDC for UG programmes. PG programmes admissions consider merit based on the Common Entrance Test results, aligning with State and Central Government policies on reservations. ➤ The institution embraces a student-centric approach with a commendable student-teacher ratio of 20:1. At the outset of the academic year, teachers identify both slow |

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| | <p>and advanced learners, designing specific programmes to cater to individual needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Innovative teaching methods, including ICT-enabled teaching in blended mode, contribute to a dynamic and interactive learning environment, ensuring a comprehensive educational experience. ➤ With a total of 107 qualified teachers, including 20 Ph.D. holders and 7 M.Phils, the institution boasts a competent teaching faculty. The ongoing pursuit of Ph.D. by 5 faculty members reflects a commitment to continuous professional development. ➤ The institution's transparent evaluation system is evident through well-defined examination procedures and processes detailed in the college handbook. While the evaluation is conducted by internal and external examiners, there's a recognition of the need for more technology adoption in the examination section. ➤ The academic calendar is meticulously prepared and shared with students and faculty members. Extra-curricular and co-curricular activities are conducted periodically, contributing to a holistic educational experience. |
| 3. Research, Innovations and Extension | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Demonstrating a forward-thinking vision, the college has embarked on a comprehensive initiative to elevate its research capabilities. ➤ Beyond traditional academic activities, the college's emphasis on activities like Entrepreneurs Training Programmes, Motivational Talks from successful entrepreneurs, and Idea generation programmes underscores a commitment to fostering an |

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| | <p>entrepreneurial mindset among students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Involvement in NSS, NCC, and Sports ensures a multi-faceted approach to extension activities, allowing every student to participate in activities that align with their interests and contribute to holistic personal development. ➤ The college's initiative to forge 30 MoUs with external entities highlights a proactive stance in collaborative efforts. ➤ The engagement in collaborative activities for faculty exchange, student exchange, internships, and on-the-job training not only fosters academic collaboration but also provides students and faculty with diverse global perspectives, enhancing the overall learning experience. |
| 4. Infrastructure and Learning Resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The college boasts a robust infrastructure, providing ample support not only for academic pursuits but also for co-curricular and extracurricular activities. ➤ With specialized facilities such as an English language lab and two libraries for UG & PG, the college ensures that students have access to diverse learning environments tailored to their academic needs. ➤ The incorporation of technology, including 539 computers, 10 Smart Boards, and 10 LCD projectors, highlights a commitment to modernizing education. ➤ The college's libraries, housing a significant collection of 86,840 books and subscriptions to 165 journals, showcase a commitment to academic resources. The use of barcoding and classification systems, along with access to INFLIBNET and DELNET, signifies a modern and efficient approach to library management. ➤ The partial reliance on solar power and the campus-wide |

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| | <p>Wi-Fi access demonstrate an eco-conscious and technologically advanced approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The provision of a spacious playground, multi gymnasiums, and various sporting equipment caters to the holistic development of students. ➤ The presence of facilities for football, cricket, tennis, and hockey, along with an indoor court, indicates a commitment to promoting physical well-being. ➤ While the reading room in the library is highlighted, there is a need to systematize and secure the footfall measurement process, ensuring accurate data for better planning and resource allocation. |
| 5. Student Support and Progression | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The college offers diverse student support services, including the HRD Centre, NCC, NSS wings, Yoga and Health Centre, Gandhian Studies Centre, Women Empowerment Cell, and Grievance Redressal Cell. This reflects a commitment to holistic student development. ➤ An effective mentoring system maximizes academic benefits. ➤ A detailed handbook issued at the academic year start informs students about programmes, courses, scholarships, and support services, empowering them. ➤ Annual publications, like the magazine and newsletter, serve as communication tools, showcasing student vibrancy and achievements. ➤ The SYNCAA alumni association supports academic, placement, and financial aspects. ➤ An effective Grievance Redressal Cell and Anti-Ragging Committee ensure a safe and supportive environment, promptly addressing concerns. ➤ The Cultural Committee organizes events, highlighting |

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| | <p>the college's commitment to cultural activities and student achievements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Active student involvement in academic and extension activities emphasizes a participatory approach, fostering ownership and responsibility. ➤ A periodically meeting Student Council demonstrates a responsive mechanism for addressing student welfare and concerns, ensuring their voices are heard and acted upon. |
| 6. Governance, Leadership and Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Led by the Secretary and Correspondent, the Governing Body designs and monitors strategic plans, coordinating through committees for an organized approach. ➤ The college prioritizes a culture of excellence in academics and research, emphasizing a strategic focus on achievements. ➤ Senior faculty actively contribute to decision-making, fostering a participative management style. ➤ A focused strategy involving the Academic Council, IQAC, and Board of Studies effectively manages and disseminates knowledge resources. ➤ Actively seeks feedback from all stakeholders for continuous improvement in academic and administrative functions. ➤ Supports faculty through research and Orientation Programmes, enhancing overall academic quality. ➤ Demonstrates care through welfare initiatives like EPF, medical assistance, paid maternity leave, and employment opportunities. ➤ IQAC plays a crucial role in setting and achieving academic objectives through collaboration with teaching departments. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All financial dealings undergo transparent auditing, ensuring financial accountability and compliance. |
| 7. Institutional Values and Best Practices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The college boasts a 14-acre lush green campus adorned with age-old Banyan trees, demonstrating a commitment to environmental aesthetics. Notably, the campus initiatives strive to enhance eco-friendliness, with a focus on sustainability and green practices. ➤ To ensure energy conservation, the institution has implemented initiatives such as the use of CFLs, LED bulbs, and LCD monitors throughout the campus. This reflects a conscious effort to reduce energy consumption and promote eco-friendly practices. ➤ The college has a well-established system for harvesting rainwater, showcasing a responsible approach towards water conservation. This sustainable practice contributes to the efficient use of water resources on the campus. ➤ Emphasizing a commitment to a plastic-free environment, the institution disposes of e-waste through a tender-based process. This responsible approach aligns with environmental protection efforts and contributes to waste reduction. ➤ The inclusion of "Environmental Studies" in the UG curriculum demonstrates a proactive approach to raising awareness about eco-friendly practices, energy conservation, and environmental protection. This academic initiative reflects the college's dedication to instilling a sense of environmental responsibility in students. ➤ Integrating 'yoga' into the college curriculum emphasizes the importance of holistic well-being. This |

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| | inclusion aligns with institutional values that prioritize physical and mental health, contributing to a balanced and harmonious learning environment. |
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Institutional strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities Challenges (SWOC):

Strengths:

- The curriculum is thoughtfully designed to address local needs, ensuring relevance and practical applicability.
- Offering certificate, value-added, and add-on courses reflects the institution's commitment to providing students with a diverse and enriching educational experience.
- Well-structured Boards of Studies, with external expert members, contribute to curriculum development and academic excellence.
- The Research Centre, Community Service Centre, Gandhian Studies Centre, and Innovation & Entrepreneurship Development Centre highlight a strong commitment to research and community engagement.
- The adoption of a mentoring system, endowment prizes, and a strong alumni network globally reflects a commitment to student support and long-term engagement.
- Financial support for deserving students, a dedicated Human Resource Development(HRD) Centre, and active campus placements demonstrate a commitment to student success and employability.
- A spacious playground, indoor and outdoor sports courts, and a well-equipped gymnasium contribute to the physical well-being of students.
- The commitment to a plastic-free green campus, Botanical Garden with medicinal plants, and a Yoga and Meditation Centre emphasizes environmental consciousness and holistic health.

Weaknesses:

- The institution faces growing competition from Engineering and Corporate Colleges, potentially impacting student enrollment and overall market positioning. Strategies to navigate this competitive landscape need careful consideration.

- Increasing operational expenditure, driven by various fixed overheads, presents a challenge. Addressing this issue requires a strategic approach to optimize costs without compromising on educational quality.
- The absence of patents indicates a potential gap in intellectual property development. Fostering a culture of innovation and research that leads to patentable outcomes could enhance the institution's standing in academia and industry.
- The gradual transformation into an Unaided College signifies a significant shift in the financial model. Adequate planning and strategic measures are necessary to manage this transition smoothly and ensure sustained growth.

Opportunities:

- Leveraging existing ICT facilities provides a prime opportunity for faculty to create and utilize more e-resources, fostering a technologically advanced learning environment.
- The consistent efforts of the HRD Centre create a favorable environment to significantly boost campus placements, aligning with the institution's commitment to students' career readiness.
- The introduction of the Fourth Year degree under the New Education Policy (NEP) is a strategic opportunity to nurture a vibrant research culture among students, encouraging them to delve into scholarly pursuits.
- The prestigious 'A' grade NAAC accreditation is a powerful tool to attract high-caliber faculty and a greater number of students. The institution can capitalize on this accreditation to further enhance its academic standing.
- The Management Studies Research Centre stands as a key opportunity to foster research excellence. Active promotion of this centre can lead to impactful research contributions, establishing the college as a hub for academic innovation.

Challenges:

- Improving student diversity, locally and internationally, poses a challenge. Implementing exchange programmes and forging collaborations with institutions globally can contribute to a more diverse student community.

- The rural socioeconomic background leading to student dropouts is a pressing challenge. Tailored support programmes, scholarships, and mentorship initiatives are essential to address these barriers and enhance student retention.
- The increasing student focus on Engineering Programmes may impact demand for traditional UG Programmes. Strategizing to align existing programmes with evolving preferences and identifying niche academic areas is crucial.
- The Autonomous status demands high benchmarks. Consistent efforts are needed to meet and exceed these standards, ensuring a continuous commitment to academic excellence.
- Retaining talented staff is a common challenge. Strategies like professional development opportunities, a conducive work environment, and competitive compensation packages are crucial for staff retention.
- Encouraging students to succeed in competitive exams for roles in governmental and non-governmental agencies is challenging. Instituting targeted coaching programmes and mentorship can address this concern.

Suggestions/Recommendations for Quality Enhancement of the Institution

1. Empower the IQAC to effectively implement the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. This includes aligning curriculum, teaching methodologies, and assessment practices with the new policy.
2. Introduce personal counseling services to support students' overall well-being. Provide formal training programmes to prepare students for competitive examinations, enhancing their career prospects.
3. Strategize resource mobilization efforts to introduce new programmes requiring high investment in laboratory setups. This can diversify academic offerings and attract a broader spectrum of students.
4. Explore and establish more collaboration and linkages with industries and reputable institutions. This can lead to mutually beneficial partnerships, offering students exposure to real-world applications and enhancing employability.
5. Identify opportunities for sharing instrumental resources and expertise with other institutions. This collaborative approach can optimize resource utilization and foster a culture of knowledge exchange.

6. Introduce more skill-oriented programmes to align with industry demands. This ensures that graduates are equipped with practical skills, enhancing their readiness for the workforce.

Name & Signature of Peer Team Members:

| S. No. | Name & Designation | Position | Signature with date |
|--------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Dr. S Sankar | Chairperson | S. Sankar |
| 2 | Sri R V Subba Rao | Member | R V Subba Rao |
| 3 | Dr. A P V Apparao | Member | Apparao |

Place: Narsapur

Date: 21-05-2022