

Dear Sir/Madam :

We enclose herewith the reports of the Autonomy committee set up in April 2002 by the Vice Chancellor for University Departments and Colleges. Enclosed are two reports the first - the report of the Autonomy Committee which includes suggestions for Colleges and University Department and the second - specifically related to the University Departments. Both these reports make suggestions in relation to statutory provisions for autonomy. Below we explain the model that we have elaborated in context to the statutory provisions so that it helps you to understand the structure proposed in these reports.

We would appreciate if you consider these reports when you fill up the performa regarding academic vision of your department.

The Committee proposed to establish the Institute of Autonomous Departments (IAD), University of Pune consisting of all departments having teaching and/or research programmes. The committee visualises that these departments be organised in four schools - Schools of Life Sciences, Material Sciences, Social Sciences & Humanities in order to promote both foundational learning capacities and interdisciplinary research and teaching programmes. All departments would have its own BoS's with each faculty member as member of BoS. Each department and its faculty will do the governance of all their academic programmes, including research programmes. Each School will have its own Faculty and an administrative office under the Dean. The Departmental faculty would be represented in the School Faculty in order to promote interdisciplinary across departments. There will be an Academic Board of the entire Professors/Heads and Directors encourage interdisciplinary across Schools and to ensure standardization and uniformization of rules and regulations within the IAD. The particular provisions regarding representation in Academic Board is enclosed in the report point 4. In addition to these bodies, four other bodies have been proposed in the report with representation from across teaching community, University and State government. It has been envisaged that the administrative and finance staff of each Department will be separate from the University and under the governance structure of Departments and Academic Boards.

Academic Subcommittee
Pune University Master Plan

Combined minutes of the meetings of the Committee appointed by the Vice-Chancellor to consider the issue of grant of autonomous status to the Affiliated Colleges/Recognised Institutions/University Departments/University Institutions, which were held on April 9, (12 noon) and April 16 and 19, 2002 at 2.30 p.m. in the office of the University of Pune, Ganeshkhind, Pune – 411 007.

The following members were present:

1. Dr. S.R.Gadre - Chairman
2. Dr.A.R.Thorat - Member
3. Dr.S.B.Nimse - Member
4. Prof. P.V.Wani - Member
5. Dr.Sujata Patel - Member (absent on April 19)

The various issues regarding Autonomy were discussed and the following recommendations are made:

1. The University may urgently send a letter to all the Affiliated Colleges/Recognised Institutions requesting them to apply for autonomous in the format, which is enclosed as Appendix VI, to the statutes.
2. The University may make an extra provision as per S.595 of Rs.25000/- for the fee to be paid by the University departments from its own budget.
3. The committee recommends the following schedule for the grant of autonomy.
 - 3a. Committee has prepared a format for the grant of autonomy for the University Departments/University Institutions. The proforma for grant of autonomy to colleges has been made available by the University (cf Appendix-IV). These suggested formats would be made available to the University Departments/Institutions by the Deputy Registrar (Academic Section) by April 19, 2002.
 - 3b. The Affiliated Colleges/University Departments desirous of getting autonomous status from the academic year 2002-2003 are requested to submit in the Academic Section the duly filled proforma on or before May 7, 2002.
Only those University Departments/Schools which run a Master's level degree program may be considered for granting autonomy.
 - 3c. The BCUD would get these applications scrutinized on or before May 10, 2002.
 - 3d. The Academic Council would appoint the LIC's in its meeting scheduled to be held on May 13 and 14,2002.
 - 3e. These LIC's would visit the Affiliated Colleges/Recognised/Institutions/ University Departments University Institutions and submit their reports by May 25, 2002. It is recommended that a single LIC be constituted for the grant of autonomy to the University Departments/Schools.
 - 3f. The BCUD may consider the LIC reports and place them before the Academic Council and Management Council with its recommendations as expeditiously as possible.
 - 3g. It was felt by the Committee that above schedule does not clash with the various LIC and peer team visits. However, it was suggested that BCUD should take appropriate measures to minimize such clashes.

4. The Affiliated Colleges/University Departments/University Institutions desirous of obtaining autonomous status from the academic year 2003-2004 may be asked to submit their applications in the prescribed performance on or before July 31, 2002.

5a. It is recommended that a "University of Pune: Institute of Autonomous Departments (IAD)" be established. The Committee suggests one common Board of Management and one common Academic Board for all the University Departments and Interdisciplinary Schools.

5b. It is proposed that there will be one common Academic Board for all the University Departments. The Chairman of the Academic Board (S.624a) will be elected from amongst the Professors/Heads/Directors of the University Departments/Schools for the term of Academic Board. He/She will not have two consecutive terms.

Many issues need to be resolved in the initial phase. Considering this, it is recommended that the Director, BCUD may act as the Chairman Academic Board in this initial phase. However, this interim arrangement may not be more than six months or till the elections are held (whichever happens earlier).

5c. S.611 (a) The Management Council of the University may nominate three members to the Management Board from Education, Industry and business field. It is suggested that the Chairman, Academic Board will act as the Member Secretary of the Management Board.

5d. S. 626. The Subject Boards will be constituted Departmentwise/Schoolwise as per Statute 626.

5e. S. 627. The entire procedure from admission, teaching practices, syllabus, formal approval of topics/titles of M. Phil and Ph.D. thesis, confirmation of panels of experts till the conduct of viva-voce examination of all postgraduate courses as well as M. Phil, Ph.D. programs will be managed by the Subject Board, Examination Committee and the Academic Board. The expert panels for selection committees suggested by the Heads of Departments/Directors of Schools may be processed by the Academic Board.

5f. S.628. Examination Committee: In the University Departments/Schools the Examination Committee may be constituted subjectwise (S.628 (i) - (iv)). In Colleges, the Examination Committee will be Facultywise.

5g. S. 629. The committee feels that it would be preferable to have the assessment Departmentwise/Schoolwise through Central Assessment System. Due to the implementation of Semester and Credit system, the requirements of masking and coding can be waived.

6a. S. 631. The Committee recommends that there may be only one Finance Board for all the University Departments/Schools. Similarly there would be only one Finance Board per autonomous College.

6b. The Chairman of the Finance Board will be the Chairman of the Academic Board.

6c. The committee suggests that it will include two Senior teachers nominated by the Chairman of the Academic Board.

6d. S.632. Different ceilings currently prescribed by the University vide different rules and regulations be applicable to the Purchase committee under autonomous status.

7. In order to clarify the role of the Finance Board for IAD vis-a-vis the Finance Committee of the University, the Vice-Chancellor may set up an appropriate committee. Similarly the roles of the Purchase Committee of IAD and that of the University need to be clarified.
8. The committee noted that the Autonomous Departments of the University have to carry out several functions and need to be given adequate support in terms of human resources, infrastructure and finance. A separate administrative and financial wing be made in the IAD. This will look after academic, Administration (Teaching and Non-Teaching) financial and examination matters and would report to the Chairman of the Academic Board.
9. The Committee deliberated on prescribing some norms for grant of autonomy to Colleges.
 - i. The College should have permanent affiliation to the University.
 - ii. All the infrastructural facilities has required for the permanent affiliation should be favourable at the college.
 - iii. 20 % of the teachers in Non-Engineering colleges should be holders of M.Phil./ Ph.D. degrees. In Engineering faculty, at least 20 % teachers should possess M.Tech./ Ph.D. qualification.
 - iv. At least 50 % of the teaching staff of the respective college should in favour of getting autonomous status to the college.
 - v. It is desirable that the teachers in the college have operated minor/major research projects from funding agencies/ industries or have done extensive consultation for industries:
10. The Committee feels that some steps are desirable for sustaining autonomy granted to Colleges/ University Departments. It is hence. Suggested that a corpus fund of Rs. 5 Lakhs may be created in the initial phase by the Autonomous College/ University Department.

It is suggested that funds generated from outside sources may be handled by the Autonomous College/ University Department including the interest accrued on such funds.
11. It is recommended that the BCUD may organize one-day orientation programme for the Principals and Management representatives of the colleges desiring to apply for autonomy.
12. The Committee further recommends that a possibility may be explored to grant autonomy to a Department or a faculty of an affiliated non-autonomous college desiring to opt for and fulfilling the norms for autonomy.

Sd/-

Dr. A. R. Thorat.

Dr. S.B.Nimse

Prof.P.V.Wani.

Dr. Sujata Patel.

Deputy Registrar
(Academic)

Dr. S.D.Gadre
(Chairman)