



Academic Audit Report (Session 2019-20)

The modalities framed for the purpose of academic audit of session 2019-20 are mainly based on points such as academic performance of the students, teaching learning pedagogy, curriculum-extension interface, support services including the library facilities, leadership quality of the principal, on the performance of the IQAC, counseling for students, measures taken for betterment of slow learners, remedial classes, programmes for promoting research interest among the students etc. The feedback received from the departments and other support units has remained the basis of this report. However, the auditor along with the IQAC coordinator (Debita Kemprai) had visited the departments for an interactive session with the HODs and other faculty members expecting a close scrutiny of academic proceedings, activities of the departments and an intimate understanding of their expertise for a practical assessment of strength and weakness. There has been a total disruption of normal academic activities in all the institutions of the country since the announcement of a nationwide lockdown by the central government on 24th march, 2020. The teaching fraternity of Dr. B. K. B. College also has coped up with the emerging situation by accommodating the students in online mode of teaching albeit with difficulties and constraints due to lack of digital facilities in the families of rural locations. Thus, the students have faced tremendous mental stress and health related trauma during the last quarter of the academic session. Taking note of the offline and online modes of functioning in the departments and other support services the overall performance of the college in academic issues are found to be fairly good.

As per existing records the departments are found to have rendered their basic services in terms of regularity in classes and participation in extracurricular and co curricular activities and maintaining an overall healthy academic environment in the college up to the last part of the session though there have been some setbacks for obvious reasons during the pandemic situation. There is a fairly good record of maintaining classes, conducting internal assessment (external examinations couldn't be held in time), being accessible to the students, providing study materials to the students, of personal counseling, maintaining a departmental library with limited resources for the benefit of the students. Most of the departments have been organizing seminar, webinar, academic talk or interaction with some subject experts and academic personalities. The normal co-curricular and extra-curricular activities normally conducted in the college had got slowed down as the students couldn't participate in cultural activities, youth festival, and various national events due to pandemic crisis. Some departments (Geography, Assamese, Education, Economics, History) have conducted field trips as a part of their educational pedagogy, encourage students with cash money who have excelled in cultural, literary and sports activities, have organized seminars, popular talks, workshop for promotion of skill, knowledge and competency. The department of English designed a syllabus on creative and critical thinking for



the students aspiring for a career in literature and started imparting instruction under **Dr. B. K. Barua Study Centre** and has proposed to initiate a certificate course on the **Art of Speaking and Writing in English**. The department of Economics has initiated a certificate course on **“Statistical Data Analysis for Project Report Preparation”**. The computer resource Centre also has continued to offer skill enhancement course in computer application. The best practices introduced in the college (such as Birinchi Kumar Barooah College Award biennially conferred upon a renowned person contributing to the promotion of Art and culture, historical studies and Dr. B.K.Barua memorial lecture) have been executed by the faculty through coordinated efforts. The three departments teaching three new subjects i.e. Performing Arts, (from the session 2014-15) Sociology and Psychology (from the session 2013-14) have got sufficient strength of enrollment and with limited infrastructure the departments concerned have been able to motivate the students towards greater goals. Of all the three departments the auditor is impressed by the sincerity and commitment with which the performing arts department has been able to create an environment in the department while engaging the aspiring students in constant practice, workshop and learning new art forms. The principal, faculty members and some of the office staff have regularly contributed to the corpus fund dedicated to the service and welfare of the students in distress. The NCC and NSS units have been continuously involved in the field for which they have been trained. It is worth mentioning here that the NCC unit of Dr. B K B College under Mr. Ghanashyam Taid has been able to retain the good name and dignity through the decades. The IQAC under coordination of Debita Kempriai has initiated the process for the third cycle accreditation by NAAC. All the departments appreciated the steps taken and guidance provided by the IQAC. The college magazine and Khabarnama (institutional news letter) have been published regularly along with some other books synchronizing special events.

These findings, though quite inspiring in certain aspects, do not however, point to this that the institution has created a milestone in its continuous efforts at promoting higher education in a purely rural setup. Keeping in mind the perspective of rapid changes and emerging new challenges in the field of higher education, the institution has yet a greater destiny to achieve. Based on the findings, the undersigned would like to point out certain specific areas that the authority needs to pay serious attention to and take appropriate steps for rectification and rejuvenation.

1. No department has been able to mobilize its expertise and human resources at optimum level to produce excellent academic performances of students that might enable them to qualify for higher academic pursuit. Only a very small number of the total passed out students are fit for higher academic career or procuring an employment while most of them are destined to be unemployed or unemployable graduates. This poor output has pushed the institution to the back foot. Besides, there has been a gradual fall in the overall standard of results of the students. This may prove a challenging area when the institution is preparing for the third cycle accreditation by NAAC. All the departments separately or the IQAC at its own can organize some **periodical orientation session** for the end



Senior students prior to their examination and after for motivating them for higher academic pursuit and bringing to their notice new areas of employment. The college management can organize **convocation** of the passed out students every year for giving away the certificates and counseling on future course of action.

2. I have noticed in some limited cases that some students have failed in internal assessment but they have passed in the external examination. Such anomalies have caused much confusion and frustration among the students. The office staff needs proper orientation to make them accountable, diligent and sincere. HODS too may be instructed in this matter to supervise the process of internal evaluation before submitting the final evaluation sheet to the office.
3. As the senior staff is retiring the number of retirement vacancies has multiplied and in the last few years the institution has not been able to recruit permanent candidates to fill up vacancies. This has caused major setback in potential execution and realization of the institutional goals and priorities. Education cannot be managed with poorly paid contractual teachers. This situation, however, is going to be resolved as the official proceedings have been undertaken for recruitment to the posts lying vacant. Besides, shortage of class rooms has been a major problem particularly when the CBCS syllabus is going to be diversified in the coming years. There has been total stagnation in introducing new areas of studies in this period. The institution has sent fresh proposals for opening courses under B. Voc.
4. The commerce stream needs further care and infrastructural support for its sustainable growth. Quite naturally the ad hoc arrangement hasn't helped the students which may stand out as a reason for poor performance along with other factors.
5. No faculty so far has been able to operate the video conferencing facility installed in the college due to lack of internet connectivity etc. A resource no longer in use is both a sheer waste of money and deprivation, because the students, the targeted beneficiaries, have been deprived of wider academic contact. So also the case with institutional e-resources and faculties getting registered in N-List.
There has been unnecessary delay in issuing library cards to the students resulting in keeping away the students from utilizing library resources for their academic pursuit. Besides, the library needs to be enriched with major titles and texts in the subjects like Sociology, Psychology, Performing arts and Commerce. There has been major breakthrough in the field of social science research and literary production which should be introduced in a library of higher education. The book bank installed long ago to help the poor students is now lying useless due to lack of relevant books and references. The available statistics suggest that only 20% of the enrolled students has been in the habit of



comparing with the library resources which is not a healthy sign. One of the achievements of higher education in our environment may be realized through our guidance and sincere efforts at inspiring at least the serious students to visit the library regularly and form the noble habit of reading books. The digital facilities if operated in the right spirit will connect a good number of students and it could be a viable alternative in a serious pandemic situation.

6. The department of Assamese has an outstanding demand for a smart class room where they can apply innovative ideas through the use of ICT. This department has potential man power with creative and critical capability that can bring new outlook and insight to their profession. It can reorient our learners towards a new direction with innovative ideas and critical perspective of studying literature. The college management through dynamic leadership should inspire our teachers for an enduring educational pedagogy. Despite great scope the entire teaching staff has not been able to connect with the peer reviewed sites, UGC recognized Journals for sharing knowledge and research based ideas. This is one of the areas our faculties have been lagging far behind,
7. The college canteen, being one of the important support services providing food needs some monitoring mechanism. A cross section of the students is of the view that quality is not always maintained. Thus, the authority is required to look into the matter and a regular monitoring system should be introduced for an overall supervision.
8. The mini museum started way back in 2004 during the first accreditation by NAAC has scope for expansion. Some initiatives undertaken by the curator in consultation with the authority have been noticed but long way to go for giving it a perfect shape. The **Gymkhana** needs a teacher- in- charge apart from the instructor and collection of fees should be done through a standard procedure.

Conclusion: The audit report is thoroughly based on facts and findings. Keeping in view the points categorically mentioned, the authority concerned may initiate a course of corrective measures which will accelerate the process of quality education

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