

**Peer Team Assessment Report
for Institutional Accreditation of**

SREE NARAYANA TRAINING COLLEGE

Nedunganda, Varkala, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala State

Visit Dates: April 17-18, 2004

**NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL
BANGALORE**

Report on Institutional Accreditation of Sree Narayana Training College, Nedunganda, Kerala

SECTION – 1: INTRODUCTION

Sree Narayana Training College, Nedunganda, Kerala was established in 1958 in Nedunganda and is one of the earliest institutions founded in the name of Sree Narayana Guru, by the Sree Narayana Trusts, Qulion. The college was started by the late. R. Sankar, the former Chief Minister of Kerala, who was inspired by the Guru's Teachings. In order to realize the Guru's ambition, ie., to awaken the down trodden masses of Kerala through education, Mr. Sankar started several educational institutions in Kerala of which S.N. Training College, Nedunganda is the only college of education.

The Managing Committee of S.N. Trusts together with the Principal as ex-officio member, is the Managing Committee of the college. This is one of the fifteen post – matriculation institutions founded under the S.N. Trusts. The Sree Narayana Trust runs fifteen colleges (institutions of higher education) in different parts of Kerala, of which this training college is one.

The Sree Narayana Training College has submitted the Self Study Report for Assessment and Accreditation, to the National Assessment and Accreditation council, Bangalore, NAAC has constituted a Peer Team, with Prof. Dr. S. LAKSHMI, Former Vice Chancellor, Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodaikanal as Chairperson, and Dr. Pugazhendi, Principal, Thiagarajar College of Education, Murichalai, Madurai as Member and Dr. Madhusudhanan Pillai, Academic Consultant, co-ordinator, from NAAC. The Team visited the college on 17-18, April 2004. The Peer Team interacted extensively with the Management, the Principal the Teaching Faculty, Non-Teaching Staff, students, (Present and past) and parents. To validate the information, provided by the Self Study

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Records. The Team visited the departments, classrooms, library and laboratories and other facilities, based on which the Assessment Report is prepared

Sree Narayana Training College is a grant-in-aid college affiliated to the University of Kerala. The college offers B.Ed., Degree Course and the student - intake is 150 (M+F). Special methods of teaching, English, Social Studies, Malayalam, Physical Science, Natural Science and Mathematics are offered under the B.Ed., Course.

The college has got conditional recognition from NCTE (F/SRO/NCTE/ 1999-2000 / 8055 dated 9-6-99). The Institution is located in a rural area with a campus area of 5 acres. The strength of the teaching faculty including the Principal is 10 and the strength of the supporting staff is 9 (Technical staff-2, and Administrative Staff-7.)

"Mission of spreading the spiritual power all over the world for the service of society by dedicated teachers is the mission and goal of the institution". Different activities are organised in this institution to acquire moral and spiritual power in collaboration with Gandhian Study centre, University of Kerala and Sree Narayana Study Centre.

The Unit cost (unit cost = total recurring expenditure divided by the number of students enrolled) is Rs. 15928.

The college follows the plan of work, given below .

1.	Total number of working days	-	215
2.	Total number of teaching days	-	185
3.	Total pre practice preparation days	-	93
4.	Total practice teaching days	-	28

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The college adopts the annual system of examination. The institution gets UGC funding and is recognized under clause 12B & 2f of UGC Act.

SECTION – 2 : CRITERION-WISE ANALYSIS

CRITERION – I : CURRICULUM DESIGN AND PLANNING

The mission of Sree Narayana Training College, Nedunganda is spreading the spiritual power all over the world for the service of society by dedicated teachers. The College admits 150 students at B.Ed., level on the basis of academic records of the applicants in accordance with the rules of the Kerala University and the Government. The College provides remedial courses to the educationally disadvantaged after assessing the students' knowledge, interests and aptitudes. Advanced learners are encouraged to take part in seminars, projects and various competitions.

The college works for 215 days with the actual teaching days of 185 and teaching practice programme of 28 days. Course outlines are prepared by the faculty at the beginning of the academic session and discussed in staff-meeting.

The student teachers enjoy freedom of choosing SUPW, child study techniques, methodology and others. Even though the college follows curriculum designed by the Kerala University, students gain experiences from the curricular activities organized by the Gandhi Study Centre, University of Kerala, Sree Narayana Study Centre, East-West University, Varkala Unit, Nature Club, Women's Welfare Forum, Women's Study Unit and Health Club of the University of Kerala. The feedback about the curriculum is obtained from the Practical Examination Board of Kerala University and through staff council meeting.

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The College adopts various inter-disciplinary strategies. Various activities assigned to students such as Reflective Practices, Programmed Learning, Modular approach, Projects and Paper presentation promoted self-learning.

CRITERION – II : CURRICULAR TRANSACTION AND EVALUATION

The College take conscious effort to create an effective and motivating environment for transaction of curriculum in theory and practical within an overall umbrella of value inculcation and work-culture. Academic calendar is strictly followed. Theory classes are held from 09.30 a.m. to 04.30 p.m. The College adopts various methods of teaching like reflective practice, lecture method, co-operative learning methods in which group of students prepare and present papers on selected topics. The College prepares and uses audio-visual aids, which includes audio-cassettes, video cassettes transparencies, slides and educational CDs.

Skills in teaching are developed through the use of micro-teaching skills, practiced, demonstration classes by the experienced teachers of schools and the teacher educators and through teaching practice programme. Pedagogic – content analysis, lesson planning, developing teaching skills in simulated settings and observation classes are the various activities related to the preparation for practice teaching.

Practice teaching in schools includes classroom teaching, observation of peer teaching, peer feedback, feed back from the mentors and the teacher educators. A schedule developed by the college is used by the mentors and teacher educators to observe and rate the classes of student teachers. The student teachers are made to learn maintenance of records and registers, method of conducting assembly and other co-curricular activities during the teaching practice. The quality of teaching practice can be improved by providing rigorous feedback with the help of structured observation schedule and maintaining systematic record of improvements based on the feedback.

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Training should be given to the student teachers in the field of information technology. This can be done by providing sufficient practice time on computer and training in the use of different software and making Powerpoint Presentation. The College should purchase more computers. The teachers of the College should also be trained and encouraged to use information technology in their classrooms.

The continuous and comprehensive evaluation is done for each activity. The system of evaluation and its details are informed to the students in the beginning of the academic year. Teachers have participated as participants and also as resource persons in regional, state, national and international seminars. The Sree Narayana Training College evaluates the performance of the faculty through self-appraisal, peer evaluation and student evaluation.

Teachers are encouraged to take part in orientation and refresher courses. Three teachers have completed their Ph.D by availing UGC's Faculty Improvement Programme. Four teachers possess M.Phil Degree. SNTC maintains linkage with East-West University, World Wide Fund for Native India and Prajapathy Brahma Kumaris.

The college has established linkage with SCERT. Many of the teachers participated in the work-shop conducted by the SCERT for the preparation of new curriculum and text-books.

Value education is imparted with the assistance of Sree Narayana Gurukulam, Varkala Sivagiri mutt, Varkala, Gandhi Study Centre, Kerala University and Prejapathy Brahma Kumaris. The Sree Narayana Training Centre inculcates civic responsibilities through seminars and group activities.

Evaluation of students is done in accordance with the Kerala University examination pattern with the maximum of 1000 marks. The marks allotted to theory courses are 600 with 20% weightage to internal assessment in each paper. Four-hundred

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marks are allotted for practicals. Performance of student teachers in assignments and project work are the basis for internal assessment.

CRITERION – III : RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND EXTENSION

The Sree Narayana Training College encourages the teachers and students to undertake action research for remedial teaching and to develop research attitudes. There are ten teachers including Principal. Three teachers have completed their Ph.D, and four members possess the M.Phil degree. Two teachers have submitted their Ph.D thesis after the completion of their research work. Five teachers have registered for their Ph.D and they are in different stages of completion. Teachers should take interest in doing research projects with the financial assistance of various funding agencies. Many teachers have participated in the seminars and other forms of discussions at various levels. Many teachers have published their articles in various journals. It is suggested that the teachers should take more interest in publishing papers in journals of national and international reputation. Teachers are represented in the Board of Studies and other bodies of the Kerala University.

The Sree Narayana Training College does not have separate extension centre, but extensive work has been undertaken by the College in an effort to help the community. Teachers and students organise extra curricular activities. The following are various activities organised by the SNTC:

- Women study unit
- Sree Narayana study centre
- Gandhi study centre
- Nature club
- Literary club and
- Health club

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The Sree Narayana Training College is trying its best to work in close association with the Governmental and Non-governmental organization like Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad for the upliftment of the society around the institution. Community survey to study the life styles of the people of the locality is undertaken. Adult education, awareness programmes about the evils of pan parag and others are undertaken by the student teachers to educate the community around.

The Sree Narayana Training Centre has also developed a number of self-instructional Print materials, audio-video cassettes and question-banks.

CRITERION – IV : INFRASTRUCTURE AND LEARNING RESOURCES

Sree Narayana Training College has its own buildings comprising of two general lecture halls, six laboratories and nine rooms in 5 acres of land in the interior rural part of Kerala near the Arabian Sea with a clear view of the sea from the college. Each department has spacious class room with a separate room for the teacher and the laboratory of the department. Besides these, a common well-furnished staff-room is provided to the faculty. All the laboratories are adequately equipped. A seminar hall with multi-media facilities helps the teachers to organise various types of discussion whenever they need. The College library functions from 09.30 a.m. to 04.30 p.m. on all working days. The library has more than 7000 books. Library facilities are provided for research scholars and former students of the College. Lending of books, purchase of books and stock verification are computerized. The library is equipped with facilities like the internet, resource material on digital media such as CD ROMS, micro films and others.

The College has laboratories for Computer-education, Psychology, Physical Science, Natural Science, Social Studies, Mathematics, English, Malayalam and Educational technology. There are three computers with the required accessories and printers. A few teachers utilise computers as an instructional aid. Other teachers should also be motivated to make use of computers in their classroom teaching.

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Sree Narayana Training College has a separate work-shop for preparing teaching aids. Sports materials provided are kept in a separate room meant for physical education and sports. A multi purpose ground is another facility available for physical education. The College shares the play-ground of S.N.V Higher Secondary School which is the model school of the college. The college has a full-fledged ladies hostel near the college campus.

CRITERION – V : STUDENT SUPPORT AND PROGRESSION

The college consistently maintains excellent record of pass percentage of 98% to 100% in the past 10 years. Majority of the students have got distinction and first classes in the University Examinations. The college collects and uses the feedback through students' evaluation of teachers. Students get financial assistance in the form of SC/ST Scholarship, OBC scholarship and merit scholarship. The college also provides financial assistance to the poor and needy students through the college co-operative society.

Various recreational activities are available in the college for the students. They are Indoor games; outdoor games; Nature clubs; Debate clubs; literary activities; Cultural activities; Student magazines and Audio-video facilities. Placement is one of the important support services which needs to be provided to the students. Placement cell can be established by arranging campus interviews in the college.

CRITERION – VI : ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

The College is administered by the Sree Narayana Trusts. More than 1,50,000 members of the Trusts elect about 950 General body members. Those general body members elect executive committee and other office bearers who administrate all the institutions and other organisations coming under the Trusts. The College has well a built internal co-ordinating and monitoring mechanism.

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The Principal takes care of the academic and other routine administrative matters with the help of a committee constituted for the purpose. Appointments are made in accordance with the Government rules, Kerala University and UGC norms. Management appoints additional staff for maintaining standard whenever staff take long leave.

Accounts are maintained properly and audited by the Management, Director of collegiate education, University and also by the Accountant General. There is a good rapport among teachers, students, administrative staff and management. A grievance redressal committee under the leadership of the Principal with a management nominee functions in the college. So far no complaints are reported.

Staff and students of the College are the members of the college co-operative society. The college co-operative society which functions from 1958 is one of the welfare measures of the Management. The SNTC also offers free medical facility to its staffs through the Trusts Mission Hospitals. The SNTC adopts the modern managerial concepts such as strategic planning, team work, co-operative decision making, computerisation for the Total Quality Management.

SECTION – III : OVER ALL ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Sree Narayana Training College has ample infrastructural facilities for promoting teacher education at the B.Ed level. The campus is pollution-free, clear and beautiful in a rural setting.

The central library, which is used by the B.Eds and the faculty, is linked with other libraries. The college has computerized certain sections of the library, such as lending of books and the purchase of books. IT facilities are available for CAI and for office use, thanks to the support given by the management.

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The conditional recognition, issued by the NCTE, has provided the college, with Method Lab, Psychology Lab and Educational Technology Lab and other facilities.

This college of education offers co-education at the B.Ed., level. The total number of teaching days are 210 as per the Kerala University and the college works for the stipulated number of days.

Promotion of Research needs to be encouraged by the college. Three faculty members have completed their Ph.D and the others are in the various stages of completing their Ph.D. studies. Individual projects of research and institutional research work, need to be undertaken.

The college conducts the practical and theory examination as per the University regulations. The college assigns to each student-teacher a minimum number of 28 practice teaching lessons. The examination conducted by the Kerala University is both internal and external. The results of the examinations are good.

The curriculum offers limited freedom for experimentation and innovation but the college attempts at flexibility in the form of activities and programmes, which are essential for participatory teaching – learning transaction. Some of the innovations, attempted by the College include (1) publication of college magazine and subject magazines in the special methods of teaching (2) preparation of resource unit for high school curriculum in Social studies (3) Enrichment programmes for advanced students (4) preparation of video and audio lessons for school teaching (5) study of medical plants and ornamental plants and pisci culture by the Natural science department (6) question bank for high school Mathematics and (7) courses in Gandhian study and Women study and others.

Extension work and co-curricular activities are followed by the college. These include SUPW, Community work and others. The college has linkages with the high schools and higher secondary schools, in the locality. This college is one, among the

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fifteen institutions of higher education established by SN Trusts in Kerala. Linkages with these sister-institutions will provide a great opportunity for growth.

Members of the faculty have participated in Refresher courses and Orientation courses, the beneficiaries being 7 and 2, respectively. The college has local and international linkages for teaching, such as the East-West University, World-wide Fund for Nature India and others.

The college provides Health Awareness programmes and First Aid, to students. Medical facilities are available from the sister institution, Sree Narayana Medical Mission Hospital, Varkala.

Student progress as shown by the University results is good (100% passes). Financial support to needy students is available, through scholarships, the college co-operative society and from the faculty as well as student teachers. More than 5% of B.Eds. go for M.Ed courses conducted by the University and more than 10% of Alumni have passed the NET and SET examinations and are working in colleges and schools.

The college prepares the Academic calendar, as per University rules. Teacher-recruitment is as per the Government rules, Kerala University and the UGC norms. Guest lecturers are appointed by the Management, when needed.

The college has an efficient internal coordinating and monitoring mechanism. The Management committee of the college and the Regional Development committee has taken developmental programmes in coordination with the staff council.

A Grievance Redressal Committee is functioning. The College function under an enlightened and supportive management, who are committed to the cause of Teacher-Education, in Varkala.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❖ The institution could offer teacher –education at the PG level, such as M.Ed., M.Phil., and Ph.D., to provide a broader vista, in the recent trends in teacher education.
- ❖ It is essential that the faculty members undertake minor and major research projects, in teacher-education to face the educational challenges today.
- ❖ Participatory and creative teaching-learning transactions could be attempted by the faculty.
- ❖ The college should work towards its status of Autonomy from the University for undertaking further challenges in teacher-education.
- ❖ The computer and educational technology facilities could be extended to all the students teachers. IT facilities could be optimally utilized in college administration.
- ❖ The linkages established by the college with the various organisation and NGOs should be oriented towards enhancement of teacher-education.
- ❖ To cope up with the challenges in teacher-education today, professional education of teachers, with constant updating of knowledge and wider exposure are recommended.
- ❖ Optimal utilization of library facilities and reference sections are recommended.
- ❖ The Alumni Association needs to be further strengthened, so as to provide academic, and financial support to the college.
- ❖ It is suggested that with the facilities at their command the Management could plan for the establishment of a Teacher Training Institute for primary school teachers in the near future.
- ❖ A perspective plan for the future should be prepared and implemented for the growth of the institution.
- ❖ Research and publication work, needs to be strengthened and focused, on teacher-education Professionalism in teacher-education should be emphasized through the research and publication section.

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CONCLUSION

Sree Narayana Training College has the advantage of being a member institution, among fifteen colleges, under the same Trust. With the prevailing atmosphere of ethical values and spiritual philosophy, the college could not only maintain an effective 'system' for professionalism among teachers but could also strive for system renewal, every year.

Commitment for a cause and intrinsic motivation to achieve goals of excellence are indispensable for the continuous growth of any institution in higher education and especially in professional education of teachers.

The college has the advantage of an atmosphere, imbued with the spiritual philosophy of a Great Saint of our times, Sree Narayana Guru and a Management willing to do their utmost for the cause of teacher education. Such an advantage should be fully utilised by the college. Work, worship and knowledge are the three pillars of strength of this Institution.

The Peer Team wishes Sree Narayana Training College, further Growth and Excellence in Teacher Education, which are indispensable for ensuring true education, today.

Signature of the Peer Team

Prof. (Dr.) S. Lakshmi
(Chairperson)

Dr. G. Pugazhenthir
(Member)

I have gone through the report and I accept it.

Place : Varkala
Date : 18.04.04



Dr. K.S. Anitha
(Principal in-charge)

Principal
Sree Narayana Training College
Nedunganda.