



SELF STUDY REPORT

FOR

3rd CYCLE OF ACCREDITATION

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Government College, Sundargarh, a non-autonomous institution affiliated with Sambalpur University, is a distinguished academic establishment with a rich history. Founded on February 7, 1958, by the visionary Collector and District Magistrate A.L. Nair, the college began as a science institution with 64 students in the ISC class. Initially housed in a rented building at Nari Kalyan Kendra, it later moved to its current location near the Bank of the river IB, about two kilometers from Sundargarh town. The college was taken over by the Government of Odisha in 1962, marking the beginning of its significant growth and development.

Over the decades, Government College, Sundargarh has evolved into a key educational hub serving students from Sundargarh district and beyond. The institution offers 18 undergraduate and 14 postgraduate courses across Science, Arts, and Commerce streams, including subjects like Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Botany, Zoology, History, Economics, Political Science, Education, English, Odia, Sanskrit, Computer Science and Commerce. Additionally, self-financing course in Teacher Education was introduced in 2017-18. The college also provides distance education through an IGNOU study centre and an Odisha State Open University unit.

Accredited with a B+ grade by NAAC in 2016, the college has recently received approval to offer new courses in Sociology, Anthropology, Geography, and Computer Science, enhancing its academic scope. The 154-acre campus is noted for its green cover due to ongoing plantation drives. The college is equipped with modern infrastructure, including classrooms, computer labs, science laboratories, hostels, a language lab, smart and virtual classrooms, a gymnasium, a canteen, and staff quarters. Extension activities are supported by NCC, NSS, and YRC units. A robust mentoring system and regular Parent-Teacher meetings ensure comprehensive student support. Government College, Sundargarh, is a preferred choice for both local and out-of-district students seeking quality education.

Vision

To empower the youth of this tribal dominated region through inclusive quality education with ethical and philanthropic values in conformity with the motto of the institution *‘Enter Here to Learn, Go Forth to Serve’*.

Mission

- Nurturing research and innovation to stimulate the young minds towards critical thinking by imbibing a scientific temper and the spirit of inquiry.
- Dissemination of knowledge and soft skills with a harmonious blend of tradition and modernity.
- Inculcating moral, social and humanistic values in the students through extension and outreach activities.
- Promoting environmental sensitivity and conservation for a sustainable existence.

1.2 Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Challenges(SWOC)

Institutional Strength

1. An institution with a rich legacy of over 65 years.
2. Good physical infrastructure spreading over more than 154 acres of land.
3. This institution attracts students from nearby states due to its locational advantages.
4. Competent and well-qualified faculty with 16 nos. (Nearly 35%) of Ph.D degree holders.
5. Use of ICT in Classroom teaching in most of the departments.
6. Well maintained library, laboratories and sports facilities.
7. Consistent academic performance of students with good ranks in University and 67 nos of JAM qualifiers.
8. Socially sensitive extension and outreach initiatives for inculcation of ethical and societal values.
9. Its students have brought accolades to the institution in NCC and sports activities.

Institutional Weakness

1. Shortage of adequate regular teaching and non-teaching staff.
2. Industry-academia collaboration.
3. Resource mobilization.
4. Weak communication skills of the students in general.

Institutional Opportunity

1. A vast campus spread over an area of 154 acres which can be utilized for expansion of the institution.
2. Introduction of value-added courses for enhancing employability of the students.
3. Introduction of new subjects to cater to the diverse needs of the students.
4. Greater thrust on sports and games to spot and nurture sporting talent among the students.
5. More emphasis on research work by the teachers as well as students.
6. Scope for promotion of indigenous art and culture.
7. Resource mobilization through involvement of the Alumni Association.
8. Potential to be upgraded into a tribal university by virtue of the fact that this institution is over 65 years old apart from its location in a tribal belt.

Institutional Challenge

1. Keeping up with the changing technology and growing digitalization in every sphere of life including the education sector.
2. Limited freedom in academic, finance and administrative issues pertaining to the institution.
3. Updating the curriculum and syllabi to the needs of emerging times and enhancing the employment potential of students in the intensely competitive job market.

1.3 CRITERIA WISE SUMMARY

Curricular Aspects

Government College, Sundargarh, affiliated with Sambalpur University, has adopted the Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS) at the undergraduate level, as mandated by the university's Board of Studies. This system, effective since the 2016-17 academic year, standardizes the curriculum across affiliated institutions, though senior faculty from the college contribute to designing and developing curricula for postgraduate programs. The scope for modifying undergraduate curricula under CBCS is limited, focusing on maintaining uniformity across colleges.

The examination pattern has been significantly revised with the introduction of the CBCS model syllabus, impacting all undergraduate programs. The college is committed to structuring its curriculum to provide holistic education aligned with its vision and mission. It offers a diverse range of programs across four streams—Arts, Science, Commerce, and Teacher Education—with 18 undergraduate programs and teaching facilities in 14 postgraduate subjects.

An academic calendar is prepared annually, adhering to the Department of Higher Education's 'Common Minimum Standard.' This calendar, circulated among faculty and students, outlines scheduled academic and co-curricular activities. The OIC, Time Table, in collaboration with the Academic Bursar, prepares a Master Time Table, which is shared with all Heads of Departments for implementation. Faculty members then create Lesson Plans and Progress Registers based on the syllabus and timetable.

The curriculum integrates various cross-cutting issues, including ethics, human values, gender, Indian Society and Culture, environmental sustainability, disaster management, and constitutional values. Courses in English proficiency, quantitative and logical thinking (QLT), and project work in undergraduate programs, along with fieldwork in Geology, Botany, Zoology, and internships in Education and Teacher Education, enhance practical learning.

Program outcomes, specific outcomes, and course outcomes are defined for all programs and analyzed at the departmental level. The institution employs a robust mentoring system, with each mentor guiding approximately 35 students, offering counseling and support. Feedback from stakeholders is regularly collected, analyzed, and utilized to improve academic outcomes, ensuring a responsive and effective educational environment.

Teaching-learning and Evaluation

The students are admitted to this institution through a transparent, merit-based and centralized e-admission process. A student-induction programme is organized for the freshers to enable a smooth transition for them from the school to the college environment.

This institution practises a teaching methodology that emphasizes on a learner-centric approach that encompasses a shift of focus from the teacher to the students. The teachers in their respective departments facilitate learning by allowing each individual to actively participate at their personal level so as to grasp the lessons at their own pace. The teachers make use of PPT presentation, LCD projectors, language lab, project work, field tours, industrial visits and internship programmes for experiential and participative learning. Some of the departments use problem solving methodologies for enhancing the learning experience. Departmental seminars and project work are conducted regularly as a measure of participative learning.

The Institute has adopted a mechanism for promoting the application of Information and Communication Technology for effective curriculum delivery. To support ICT based learning, some ICT compatible rooms

have been developed. The College has a well-equipped computer lab for imparting practical teaching in Mathematics. It also has a functional Language Lab for the students enrolled for language programmes. The Library of the College has a stock of nearly 67,000 books to cater to the needs of the students and the teachers. Some of the departments are provided laptops, desktops, printers and LCD projectors. Some of the classrooms are equipped with wall-mounted LCD projectors and smart boards. The faculty members of the institution use various ICT tools such as PPT, video clippings and sharing links on e-content to expose the students to advanced knowledge. Value-added courses in the form of 'Ethics and Values' are included in all semesters. Further, MOOCs courses have been made mandatory in the curriculum of PG students from the academic session 2022-23 for skill inculcation.

The institution follows an internal assessment mechanism which is fair and transparent in the conduct of examinations and evaluation. The institution strictly follows the guidelines of the affiliating University. As per the CBCS pattern of syllabus, the institution conducts Continuous Internal Assessment for the academic evaluation of the students. The time schedule of the internal assessment is guided by the affiliating University which is reflected in the academic calendar of the institution. The institution takes care of slow learners as well as advanced learners through separate classes meant for them.

In the wake of the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic, online classes were introduced and the classes were engaged through Zoom/Google platforms with the formation of WhatsApp groups by each department. Online examinations were also conducted during this period.

Currently, the teacher-student ratio is 1:35.

Research, Innovations and Extension

This institution strives to create a research eco-system for its faculty and the students. The institution has been encouraging its faculty members to carry out research activities which are facilitated by the existing infrastructure including laboratories, computer lab and the library. Some of the faculty members are engaged in active research as a result of which three of the faculty members have acquired Ph.D. and two of the members are pursuing their Ph.D during the last five years. Twenty two numbers of the teaching staff have been awarded with Ph. D degree so far. Some teachers have contributed papers to various national and international journals.

Three research papers have been published by the staff members in last five years and four book chapters edited in books with ISBN numbers.

The college has good supportive infrastructure for research activities. The institution boasts a well stocked library with nearly 67000 text and reference books, INFLIBNET, a computer lab with 60 desktops with internet facilities, photocopy facility, audio-visual kits and other related equipment for academic improvement. The digitization of the library is underway with LMS software.

The college regularly organizes state and national level seminars, webinars and workshops for the enrichment of knowledge. The students of Teacher Education and Education Department undergo internship training while the students of Geology, Chemistry undertake field projects and industry visits for experiential learning. Every student of UG and PG undertake project work as a part of their curriculum. During the last five years, this institution has organized 15 seminars, webinars and arranged invited talks in pursuit of academic and intellectual excellence.

The institution has signed an MOU under the World Bank IDP project for the plan period 2017-22.

The students of our college actively participate in various social service activities. The college effectively runs NSS, YRC and NCC units through which various outreach activities are conducted. The NSS and YRC units of the college organize cleanliness programmes, plantation drives, Environmental awareness, AIDS awareness, Blood donation camp, Health check up camp, etc. The NCC Unit aims at developing patriotism, leadership, discipline, character building and the spirit of adventure. The college organized nearly 45 extension activities and social outreach programmes during the last five years to promote the spirit of community service by sensitizing the students towards community needs.

Infrastructure and Learning Resources

Situated near the tranquil banks of the river Ib, Government College, Sundargarh offers an idyllic setting conducive to academic excellence. The campus spans an expansive 124 acres, surrounded by lush greenery that enhances its scenic charm. The main building of the college covers 4935.41 square meters, housing ten departments, while the newly constructed annexe building, with a plinth area of 1470.71 square meters, accommodates four departments and the self-financing Teacher Education program.

The institution is well-equipped with physical infrastructure to support both academic and administrative functions. It boasts 68 well-ventilated, electrified, and spacious classrooms designed for effective teaching. The college features 13 laboratories catering to various departments with practical components in their curricula. A dedicated computer lab, equipped with 60 desktop computers, supports students in their IT needs. Additionally, 18 ICT-compatible classrooms facilitate modern, technology-driven learning. Some departments are furnished with laptops, desktops, and printers, and plans are underway to construct more smart classrooms to further integrate modern technology into the academic framework.

The college library, a cornerstone of academic resources, holds approximately 67,000 books, serving both students and faculty. The administrative office is well-furnished and computerized, ensuring efficient management of college operations. For extracurricular activities, the campus includes two expansive playgrounds, each around 8 acres, for sports and games. A gymnasium is also available to promote physical fitness among students and staff.

In addition to academic facilities, the college features a well-maintained garden and a botanical garden with a diverse range of plant species. Hostel accommodation is provided through five hostels for boys and girls, including two new 300-bedded hostels (one for men and one for women) that began operations in the 2022-23 academic session.

Overall, Government College, Sundargarh has developed extensive infrastructural facilities over the years, creating an ideal environment for a comprehensive and enriching teaching-learning experience.

Student Support and Progression

Government College, Sundargarh has established a comprehensive support system dedicated to student welfare and well-being. Admissions are centrally managed through the online Student Academic Management System (SAMS), ensuring a streamlined process.

A mentor-mentee system is in place to offer personalized guidance and counseling. Students are encouraged to participate in NSS, YRC, NCC, and Eco-Club activities to foster moral, ethical, and humanitarian values.

Financial support includes Post-Matric Scholarships (PMS) for SC, ST, SEBC/OBC, and EBC students. Additional assistance is available through UG and PG merit scholarships, Gopabandu Sikshya Sahayata, Nirmana Sramika Kalyana Yojana, and scholarships for bidi workers, ensuring that deserving students receive the necessary financial aid.

To promote holistic development, the college motivates students to engage in sports, cultural activities, co-curricular competitions, and green initiatives both on and off-campus. Seminars, webinars, and invited talks are organized to enhance students' soft and life skills. Career counseling sessions are conducted with field experts to guide students on career prospects and improve employability. Over the past five years, numerous initiatives have been undertaken to enhance career opportunities, including internships, field tours, and industry visits for experiential learning.

An effective grievance redressal mechanism includes the Student Grievance Committee, Anti-Ragging Committee, and Anti-Sexual Harassment Cell. Awareness about these mechanisms is spread through various meetings and published information in the college website, prospectus, and calendar. Student issues are also addressed through the Principal and Parent-Teacher-Student Interface.

The institution ensures student representation in the management of administration, curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities, with representatives in various associations and clubs acting as liaisons between students and administration. A functioning alumni association connects with former students, leveraging their knowledge and experience for current students' benefit.

Government College, Sundargarh prioritizes academic excellence, with nearly 25% of students progressing to higher education over the past five years and 69 students qualifying in national competitive exams like UGC NET/JRF and JAM. Annual sports, cultural programs, and inter-college tournaments showcase students' talents, with some receiving awards at the University and State levels.

Governance, Leadership and Management

The governance of Government College, Sundargarh is closely aligned with its mission and vision, ensuring effective academic and administrative functioning. The apex decision-making body, the Governing Body, provides strategic vision and guidance for the institution's development. The Principal, faculty, and administrative staff work collaboratively to realize the institution's goals.

As the head of the institution, the Principal oversees daily operations and administration. Regular meetings are held by the Principal to review academic and administrative activities, incorporating staff feedback to enhance the teaching-learning environment. The Principal is supported by academic, administrative, and accounts bursars, who manage their respective areas.

The Staff Council, chaired ex-officio by the Principal, plays a critical role in planning and implementing teaching, learning, and administrative programs. The office administration is managed by the Section Officer, who oversees official matters in collaboration with ministerial staff.

The institution receives funding from sources such as RUSA, OHEPEE, UGC, and DMF. Financial resources

are utilized according to the Odisha Government Financial Rules (OGFR), with periodic audits conducted by the Department of Higher Education and the Accountant General (Odisha), along with internal audits performed by the institution.

Welfare schemes for teaching and non-teaching staff include benefits such as GIS, GPF, NPS, commutation, housing loans, festival advances, RCM, gratuity, and retirement benefits, in line with state government norms.

E-governance systems are implemented across administration, finance, admissions, and examinations to streamline processes. The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) ensures the quality assurance of academic and administrative activities.

The institution emphasizes decentralization and participative management, encouraging collective decision-making through staff delegation. The annual Performance Appraisal System assesses employee performance, fostering professional development. Staff are encouraged to enhance their expertise by participating in orientation programs, refresher courses, training programs, and webinars, contributing to their professional growth and the institution's overall effectiveness.

Institutional Values and Best Practices

Guided by its motto, "Enter here to learn, go forth to serve," Government College, Sundargarh is committed to the intellectual, social, physical, and emotional development of students through holistic education. Embracing the ethos of "unity in diversity," the institution celebrates the varied socio-cultural and religious backgrounds of its students, fostering mutual respect and harmonious coexistence.

The college prioritizes sensitizing students and staff on critical issues such as gender equality, social harmony, and tolerance. To ensure the safety and security of female students, CCTV cameras are strategically installed across the campus for constant surveillance. The institution has established several committees, including the Anti-Ragging Committee, Student Grievance Committee, and Anti-Sexual Harassment Committee, to maintain a disciplined and respectful environment.

An effective mentoring system is in place to support students' academic, psychological, and emotional needs. To promote a clean and healthy campus, the college implements a comprehensive waste management plan in collaboration with Sundargarh Municipality, prohibiting plastic usage to create a plastic-free zone.

Students are encouraged to engage in social outreach through the NSS, YRC, and NCC units. The YRC organizes an annual blood donation camp with DHH, Sundargarh, motivating students to contribute to community service. Additionally, plantation programs and Vanmahotsav organized by the NSS unit raise awareness about environmental sustainability, while road safety programs emphasize the importance of traffic regulations.

The college celebrates various national and international commemorative days, including International Yoga Day, Republic Day, Independence Day, Gandhi Jayanti, National Voters' Day, Constitution Day, International Women's Day, and World AIDS Day. A distinctive cultural fest, "Khuel-Jatra," allows students to experience and appreciate the region's indigenous culture and traditions.

Physical fitness and sports are promoted through the Annual Athletic Meet, which fosters physical health, mental strength, self-confidence, and sportsmanship. Emphasizing green initiatives, the college maintains a

clean, environmentally friendly campus and conducts extension programs through YRC, NSS, and NCC to support the holistic development of students.