

MENTOR'S REPORT FORM-3

Name of Mentor: Prof. B.K. Raghu Prasad

Dates of Mentoring Visit: 25/11/2015 to 27/11/2015

Name of the Institution with Location: Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Technological University, Lonere

S.N.	Record of Key Points (discussed with head of the governing body)	Institutional Response	Note of any Follow-up Needed by Mentors, SPFU, NPIU
1	Placement of students needs to be improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I was told that it would not be possible to spare a faculty member as a full-time Training & Placement Officer (TPO) at present due to shortage of faculty. However, efforts will be made to strengthen the existing T&P Cell by involving PG students (TAs).• Since most of the students in the university are from rural background, they lack software skills . Therefore, the T&P Cell has started organizing training programs/workshops on soft skills for final year. Three such programmes have been conducted so far and some more programmes are in the pipeline. The TPO informed that the students from 3rd year will also be covered in these programmes.	The State Govt. should sanction a post of full-time Training & Placement Officer.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mock aptitude tests, mock interviews and mock group discussion sessions are going to be conducted. • The Vice-Chancellor informed that website will be improved by making it more attractive and an impressive and T&P brochure will be uploaded on the website. Help of MTech students from Computer Engg. department will be taken for improving and maintaining the university website. 	
2	Infrastructure (PCs, internet, on-line journals, lab space, building maintenance) needs to be improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The university has procured computers and made them available to various labs. I was told that some more computers are going to be procured and will be made available to a few labs/departments which are remaining. • The internet service from the BSNL is giving frequent problems now-a-days. The university will pursue the matter with BSNL so as to restore the service. In addition, possibility of enhancing the 'Railtel' bandwidth, which is used as back-up, will be explored. • The Registrar told that the construction of an additional shed for heavy-duty laboratories is being taken up shortly. 	Review will be taken up during the next round of mentoring tentatively scheduled during April 2016.
3	Pedagogical training of faculty should be arranged.	The Institute Training Coordinator informed that a few pedagogical training programmes have already been conducted. Some more pedagogical training with the help of IIT Bombay is being planned.	Review will be taken up during the next round of mentoring tentatively scheduled during April 2016.

4	University website needs to be further upgraded.	The Vice-Chancellor informed that the website will be improved by making it more attractive and an impressive. Help of MTech students from Computer Engg. department will be taken for improving and maintaining the university website.	Review will be taken up during the next round of mentoring.
5	Faculty for MTech programmes: There should be separate faculty positions for MTech programs for enhancing PG education and research.	I was told that the university's proposal for grant-in-aid of MTech programs is already pending with the State Govt. for the last 10 years and the university has been pursuing this matter with State Govt. on a regular basis. The Vice-Chancellor told that he will personally look into the matter.	The State Govt. should sanction faculty positions for MTech programs for this university. SPFU may please look into this and help in pursuing it with the State Govt.
6	Study tours/visits to reputed universities abroad should be organized so as to establish linkages for faculty training, faculty exchange, collaborative projects, etc.	I was told that the university would identify reputed institutes abroad to sign MoUs with them for the purpose of activities such as faculty training, faculty exchange, collaborative projects, etc and visits of senior faculty members will be organized to such institutes.	Review will be taken up during the next round of mentoring tentatively scheduled during April 2016.

7	The students and faculty have pointed out that procurement procedures are quite cumbersome and time-consuming. There is a dire need to simplify them	The Registrar informed that systems such as e-tendering is shortly being put in place so as to make the procurement efficient and effective.	Review will be taken up during the next round of mentoring tentatively scheduled during April 2016.
8	Preparation of Good Governance Manual	I was told that the SPFU is soon organizing a 'Good Governance Workshop' for all the TEQIP institutes in the state. TEQIP Coordinator told that the Good Governance Manual will be prepared by taking into account the guidelines in this workshop.	Review will be taken up during the next round of mentoring tentatively scheduled during April 2016.
9	No R&D Cell exists in the university. Such Cell needs to be established so as to fetch R&D/consultancy projects from industry. This is important since this cell will facilitate	I was informed that the Govt. has not yet sanctioned Dean (R&D) post. Dean (R&D) usually is the Head of R&D Cell. Efforts will be made for creating this post.	SPFU should help in getting this post sanctioned.

	in revenue generation activities; which will, in turn, help is sustaining various activities initiated under TEQIP.		
10	Air Travel facility to faculty: Depending on the situation, faculty members may be given facility to travel by air when they go on an official tour. This will enable them to save their time from the academic schedule.	The Vice-Chancellor told that the faculty members will certainly be given this facility wherever necessary on case to case basis.	Review will be taken up during the next round of mentoring tentatively scheduled during April 2016.
11	Alumni Association is totally passive. Now that the university is more than 25 years old, it is necessary to harness this vital resource for the benefit of university and	I was told that the university would take necessary steps.	Review will be taken up during the next round of mentoring tentatively scheduled during April 2016.

	students. In fact, there should be separate office equipped with staff for looking after this activity on a full-time basis.		
12	Number of publications in peer-reviewed journals have come down,	The faculty members expressed that the main cause for decrease in publications in peer-reviewed journals is shortage of faculty. The shortage is due to unfilled vacancies and non-availability of sanctioned faculty for MTech programmes. Hence, the existing faculty members have to take the MTech workload as an additional workload. Besides, they have to shoulder other administrative responsibilities as well. As a result, they cannot give adequate attention to their research work; which, in turn, has adversely affected the publication in peer-reviewed journals. Hence, the university will have to follow up with the State Govt. for creation of faculty posts for MTech programmes and filling up vacancies as soon as possible. The Vice-Chancellor told that he will personally look into the matter.	Review will be taken up during the next round of mentoring tentatively scheduled during April 2016.