

Report on the Visit of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor to Palli Samgathana Vibhaga, Visva-Bharati(Institute of Rural Reconstruction)-Faculty & Non-Teaching Staffs

Member

Date of visit: 28-03-2025

Venue: Social Work Conference Room

Time: 2:30 PM

1. Introduction and Welcome:

The meeting commenced with a warm welcome to the newly appointed Vice Chancellor of Visva-bharati, Dr. Probir Kumar Ghosh, by the Principal of PSV, Prof. Santanu Rakshit. Hon'ble VC expressed his eagerness to learn about the Bhavana's ongoing efforts in rural development and its alignment with Visva-Bharati's educational vision.

Principal, Prof. Rakshit gave an introductory overview of Palli Samgathana Vibhaga and its Departments' Academic, Research, Extension, and Field work related activities in uplifting the rural communities through sustainable development, education and community driven initiatives.

• **Overview of Palli Samgathana Vibhaga:**

The Principal Prof. Santanu Rakshit presented an in-depth overview of the departments and units under PSV namely: Lifelong Learning & Extension(REC), Silpa Sadana, Rural Studies(PCK), Social Work and the Principal Office and its two units a) PSV Library b) Music Unit.

Hon'ble VC, besides admiring the efforts of the Bhavana in Rural Reconstruction and its alignment with Rabindranath Tagore's vision of Rural Revitalisation through Education, gave some valuable insights for further development and progress.

• **Presentation, Key Discussion & Suggestions of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor:**

- While going through the Presentation Hon'ble VC wanted to know about four to five most important thrust areas of the Bhavana at a glance and the Principal replied to his satisfaction.
- Hon'ble VC expressed his interest in the journals published by the Dept. of Social Work and his queries were answered accordingly by the HOD, Dr. Paramita Roy .
- **Thereafter an interactive session with the staffs (Teaching and Non-Teaching) started.**
- Queries were raised regarding the reimbursement of expenditure by a Faculty for defending/presenting project Proposals. There was a fruitful discussion on it and Hon'ble VC assured that the matter will be taken care of. The respective officials assured the three day deadline of settling the reimbursement Proposals.

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- On the query of Dr. Tanima Bhattacharya the issue that all the faculties should get the reimbursement of Expenditure incurred for Presenting/Attending at the national/international seminars at least once in a year, was discussed.
- On the query of Dr. Sankar Roy Maulik, discussions took place on the reimbursement of the charge of Patent and Hon'ble VC assured that it would also be taken care of.
- The issue of Medical Bill Reimbursement of Staff was raised and addressed.
- An important concern was raised by Prof. Subhrangsu Santra about the immediate recruitment of the technical staffs at REC for continuing extension services and also enhancement of revenue budget.
- The issue of the immediate requirement of technical staffs at Silpa Sadana for reviving the possibilities of revenue generation was also raised.
- A Non teaching staff, performing Academic Activities, had some leave related doubts on which Hon'ble VC suggested that UGC Rule will be followed in that regard.
- Discussions were also made on the benefit of using E-Journal and its role in reducing the use of paper. Hon'ble VC assured that after discussing this matter with other bhavanas, steps will be taken to make the accessibility of E-Journal even smoother.
- Senior Faculties of the Bhavana raised the issue of the Promotion from Professor to the post of Senior Professor (Sr. Scale).
- Regarding the Newly Recruited MTS staffs, questions were placed before the Hon'ble VC about the time within which the confirmation process will be completed. Hon'ble VC took the update from the Registrar who informed that already the formalities of confirmation for 185+ MTS have been completed while for the remaining staffs the Police Verification and/or Certificate Verification process are/is pending. Hon'ble VC asked the registrar to expedite the procedure so that the Confirmation formalities get completed as soon as possible.
- The question regarding the possibilities of holding Departmental exams for promotion for the MTS and about the status of pending NTA exam of non teaching posts were raised. Hon'ble VC assured that he will have a separate meeting with the respective officials in this regard.
- On the query of Mr. Ashish Ghosh (Slipa Sadana), Discussions took place regarding the- In-Service Ph.D. NOC not provided yet.
- The Hon'ble VC suggested that all the Data of the faculties, Students & Staffs should be available with Principal Office.
- Hon'ble VC during the presentation suggested that instead of a combined vision for the next 5 years of the Bhavana, there should be an explicit, year-wise projection of the future planning. The Principal should check the feasibility of it. Based on that Vision, he would have an idea of

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the requirement of fund to implement those visions in reality and this input could help him in the forthcoming Financial Planning Meeting.

- The Departments under PSV were suggested by the VC to bring their huge potentialities and achievements to the notice of organizations like NABARD, ITC, NITI Ayog etc. which in turn would help them in Funding. Hon'ble VC suggested that each Department should make its brochure(printed in Hard Copies) mentioning the mandate of the department, Best Practices, Documentation of successful events, Significant achievements, Placement Details and Publications so that External Organisations can easily follow up with the achievements of the Department.
- The Vice Chancellor also asked to prepare in Hard copy, the brief profile of the Bhavana(Not Dept. wise) in 4-5 pages with details like- Breakthrough of the Bhavana, Thrust area, Mandate, Bhavana's Citation etc. as it could help in getting prospective projects and again it will give an immediate idea of the Bhavana to an interested Party.
- Details of the Publication-Citation should be available at the Department, Bhavana/ Institute Level.
- Hon'ble VC also suggested that the Bhavana will give report on all activities to the computer section which will subsequently update the same on the Website. The report will include matters like- externally funded projects, opening and closure dates of Seminars etc.

Specific Recommendation by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor:

- Hon'ble Vice chancellor asked the Principal to submit the Vacancy details of teaching and Non-Teaching staffs of the Bhavana (Dept-wise)in a tabular format on an urgent basis. The details will be divided into three columns namely Sanctioned post, Teaching (Vacant), Non-Teaching (vacant). It will be checked and verified at the Registrar's end.
- A common problem, regarding Network and its Speed was raised and Hon'ble VC after discussing the matter with the official of Computer Centre suggested taking immediate steps to escalate the speed of the Network to 10 GBPS. Possibility of utilisation of Capital Grant in this regard was also discussed.
- ✓ Arrangement of a separate meeting was also suggested regarding Central Purchasing of Software to support research activities in the departmental and bhavana Level.
- Hon'ble VC suggested the implementation of Biometric attendance and asked the Registrar to contemplate on it and to implement it in 2 months.
- Every Student, Permanent Staff (Teaching & Non-Teaching) should wear the Identity Card during Office/ Working hours and the Principal will monitor it.

- ✓ Hon'ble VC also asked the respective official to issue an office order in this regard.

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- A fruitful discussion also took place regarding the upgradation of the University Website. Hon'ble VC suggested to have separate Domain for each Bhavana having the details of Teaching, Non-Teaching Staffs(Seniority wise) and Students with Photograph. Arrangements to update the Data on a regular basis were also proposed. Hon'ble VC also opined that the respective Nodal offices by forming Committee could play a significant role in this regard.
- Digitization of Documents (Out-sourced man power of 2 persons for each Bhavana will be provided)-to be done within first 6 months.
- Digitization of Research Documents-(by the same out-sourced man power) to be done within the next 6 months.
- The process will be quarterly monitored by the Principal and should be communicated to the Hon'ble VC.
- Implementation of E-Office, to go completely Paperless- 2nd Phase- within a year.
- Pending CAS cases- Within a week steps will be taken and the registrar will make a complete List and look after it.
- The respective Official of the Engineering department was instructed by the Hon'ble VC to resolve the building related problem like Leakage etc. of the Departments under Bhavana as soon as possible and the respective official ensured to do the same on priority basis.

• Closing Remark:

In his closing remark the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor reiterated the importance of Palli samgathana Vibhaga in Visva-Bharati. He emphasised and ensured University's commitment in supporting all such affirmative initiatives that would be taken up by PSV to achieve its Vision.

Principal, Prof. Santanu Rakshit extended heartfelt thanks to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor for his Valuable Insights and expressed optimism in further strengthening the Bhavana's initiatives under his leadership.

This Rapporteur Report summarizes Hon'ble Vice Chancellor **Dr. Probir Kumar Ghosh's** Visit to the **Palli Samgathana Vibhaga** providing insight into the Discussions, Feedback and proposed Recommendations.

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