



**MARIS STELLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), VIJAYAWADA**  
**A College with Potential for Excellence**  
**NAAC Accredited & ISO 9001:2015 Certified**

**IQAC External Peer Team Report: 2022-23**

The IQAC External Peer Team conducted a comprehensive evaluation visit to Maris Stella College on April 13, 2023. During their visit, the team interacted with the college management and faculty members, while thoroughly reviewing the functioning of both statutory and non-statutory bodies of the institution.

The scope of their assessment was extensive. The team meticulously reviewed documents, including the Annual Report for the academic year 2022-23, the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR):2021-22, minutes from various governing bodies such as the Governing Body, Academic Council, Boards of Studies, IQAC and Finance Committee, as well as the audited statement of expenditure. Additionally, the team conducted a thorough examination of the IQAC's documentation, along with documents from various departments, committees, and cells.

It was noted by the visiting team that Maris Stella College has held autonomous status since 2003 and has successfully completed four cycles of assessment and accreditation by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The college's commitment to excellence has led to it being conferred the status of a 'College with Potential for Excellence' by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and ISO 9001:2015 certification. Further recognition came from HYM International Certifications Pvt. Ltd. for Good Hygiene Practices, Green Initiatives, and Providing Quality Education.

**Observations:**

In line with the importance of English proficiency, Maris Stella College, in collaboration with the U.S. Consulate, launched an 'English Access Microscholarship Programme', aimed at enhancing students' language skills and overall communication abilities.

In the academic realm, the PG Department of Business Administration achieved recognition as a 'Research Centre' by Krishna University, with three faculty members gaining recognition as

research supervisors. This recognition speaks to the college's commitment to promoting research and contributing to academic advancements. Moreover, the institution signed two new and renewed some of the existing Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to foster collaborative activities.

An impactful emphasis on Service-Learning, where the college promotes 'Learning through Community Engagement' and 'Community Service through Learning', was evident. The college actively sought inspiration from other institutions' Service-Learning initiatives and best practices, reflecting its commitment to holistic education and research. This approach not only enriches the students' educational experience but also strengthens their connection with society.

The college's emphasis on research is evident through a substantial number of research publications in reputed journals and books. The institution also demonstrates dedication to nurturing students' leadership and professional skills through various training and leadership programmes.

Maris Stella College's dedication to student growth is evident through comprehensive career guidance, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, cultural and literary activities, certificate courses, internships, and effective placement initiatives. Faculty Development Programmes and training programmes, as well as research activities, underscored the institution's commitment towards faculty and student development.

The institution's fully automated library, well-equipped classrooms, smart, virtual and digital classrooms and laboratories, and resources such as e-learning and skill development centers and WiFi connectivity, all contribute to a conducive learning environment.

The institution's holistic support system encompassed various facets, including hands-on training, capacity development and skill enhancement programmes, an efficient mentoring system, professional counseling services, mid-day meals, book bank, scholarships, gymnasium, stationery and photocopy center facilities, free internet access, hostel provision, clean drinking water via RO plants, a canteen, and banking facilities. With a well-structured career guidance and placement cell, active participation in NCC and NSS, well-maintained sports facilities, outreach programmes via STARS, and green initiatives reflecting environmental responsibility, the college aimed to provide comprehensive support for its students.

As a minority institution, the college exercises its right to make its own admissions, adhering to prescribed norms. The college adeptly managed the transition to a revised curriculum introduced in 2020, seamlessly adapting to a blended mode of teaching and learning.

The IQAC plays a pivotal role in sustaining and promoting quality in both academics and administration. The IQAC initiatives have contributed significantly to the college's ongoing pursuit of academic excellence and holistic development.

Notably, the institutional focus extended beyond academic preparation, actively promoting ethical values and life skills through regular training programmes and adherence to a defined vision and mission. The college's effective governance model, marked by decentralization, transparency, and effective leadership, has played a pivotal role in maintaining a trajectory of growth.

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