

Major Action Points

While the HLC's mandate is to make recommendations, this Report has condensed certain specific action points for immediate identification and follow up which are as given below :

Visva-Bharati and its Environs

1. A Visva-Bharati Conservation and Preservation Society should be set up headed by the VC with a representative of the Sriniketan-Santiniketan Development Authority among the members to retrieve, document and restore the Ashrama's physicality. (see pages 11-14, 25-44)
2. The *Uttarayana* Complex, the Ashrama and Rabindra Bhavana should become a heritage zone to be maintained by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. This zone should be the responsibility of a new Tagore Memorial Institute, headed by the Upacharya and accessible to the faculty and students of Visva-Bharati, but distinct from the Visva-Bharati University. (see pages 180-183)
3. A retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court should preside over a Panel to go into the territorial-jurisdictional aspects of Visva-Bharati Santiniketan. (see pages 27-40)
4. International-standard accommodation for visiting scholars should be set up at Santiniketan. (see pages 42-43)
5. The Bhavanas should have their own conservancy staff and adequate infrastructure to dispose of and manage waste scientifically and in an ecologically sound manner. (see pages 13, 40-41)
6. Medical systems in Santiniketan-Sriniketan should be revamped on an urgent basis. (see pages 203-207)

Visva-Bharati's Academic Programmes

7. Visva-Bharati should be facilitated to strengthen the advantages of being part of the Central University system but, equally, should be protected from routinization, localization and from what Prime Minister Nehru had described as the danger of 'falling into a rut'. (see pages 9 and 10, 244-255)
8. Admissions to the Schools and Colleges at Visva-Bharati should be made 'open', in a phased manner. (see pages 20, 54-55, 86, 110, 113)
9. One or more Kendriya Vidyalayas or a Navodaya School should be started in the vicinity offering quality day-school education to those local students who do not enter PB after its admission procedures have been re-designed, over a phased programme. Likewise, the State Government may need to think of strengthening its college network in the vicinity, to absorb in due course, those local applicants for admission to colleges in Visva-Bharati, who are unable to clear its revised admission procedures. (see page 20, 86, 113)
10. In addition to the existing Honours and Masters Courses, new integrated 5-year courses for Vidya Bhavana and Siksha Bhavana should be urgently designed: namely, (i) an integration of studies with multiple combinations of the Physical Sciences in a 5-year course within SB, ending

in a M.Sc. Degree in the SB, (ii) an integration between multiple combinations of the Humanities and the Social Sciences in a new 5-years course ending in a MA Degree within VdB and in addition to these two integrations, a third integration between the SB *and* VdB in the shape of an integrated 5-year course leading to a M.Sc Degree with elements of the Physical Sciences, Humanities and the Social Sciences.

VB should induct new qualified faculty from various disciplines with appropriate and varied background and create necessary infrastructure. (see pages 105, 109-111)

Sriniketan

11. Sriniketan should become a true medium for creative interaction with the rural environment and population in the region and to facilitate their development. A Director should be appointed for Sriniketan to be in overall charge of this process and will consolidate and coordinate all the activities of Sriniketan which are at present disjointed. (see pages 122-123, 245-246)

12. The Agriculture College at Sriniketan should be elevated comprehensively to become a premier institution of its type. (see pages 125-133)

Visva-Bharati's Administration and Finances

13. Visva-Bharati should seek to progressively earmark 20% of its recurring budget to promote "Plan" activities. (see pages 16-19)

14. A new post of a Pro-Vice-Chancellor should be created. (see pages 195-202)

15. The office of the Proctor should be re-activated. (see pages 198, 200)

(i) Governor of West Bengal in his capacity as Chairman
Pradhana (Rector) Visva-Bharati

(ii) Professor André Béteille

Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Delhi University

- (iii) Professor Amlan Datta
Former Vice Chancellor, Visva-Bharati

- (iv) Professor Goverdhan Mehta
CSIR Bhatnagar Fellow and Honorary Professor,
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

- (v) Professor A. P. Mitra,
Honorary Scientist of Eminence,
National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi

- (vi) Professor Romila Thapar
Professor Emeritus at Jawaharlal Nehru University,
New Delhi

- (vii) Professor A. Vaidyanathan
Honorary Fellow, Centre for Development Studies,
Thiruvananthapuram.