

# Role and Impact of NAAC on Higher Education Institutions in India

**Mr. Swapnil P. Dhattrak**

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, L VH College, Nashik-3, India

Email - swapnildhattrak45@gmail.com

**Abstract:** National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is an organization that assess and accredits Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in India. It is an autonomous body of University Grant Commission (UGC), headquartered in Bangalore, with prime agenda of to assess and accredit institutions of higher education system and improve the quality of teaching learning evaluation and research NAAC likewise provides financial assistance to the accredited HEIs for seminars, conferences and workshops. NAAC similarly encourages HEIs to adopt new policies and quality improvement in higher education institutes and encourages best practices for increasing quality in higher education.

**Key Words:** NAAC Accreditation and Assessment, HEIs, Impact of NAAC, teaching-learning evaluation.

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

Indian Higher Education System has expanded at fast pace in past three decades by adding more than 20,000 colleges and more that 8 million students. Today India has 800 universities which are divided into Central, State, and Private Universities along with many institutions and institutions of eminence such as AIIMs IITs and NIITs. India's education system is third in the world after USA and China in terms of students. Indian education emphasis is given on the science and technical education by 2004 large number of technical educational institutions was established in India. Moreover, distance learning and open universities are also at the core of Indian Higher Education framework, for instance Indira Gandhi Open University is the largest university in the world in terms of students enrollment around 5.5 million. In spite of built in regular mechanism that aim to ensure satisfactory level of quality in functioning of higher educational institutions there had been n specific modalities to assess and ensure quality of education imported by them.to address this issue. The naac after considering the institutional assessment and accreditation application of institution declared institutional eligibility for quality assessment (IEQA) status for the institution.

## 2. FUNCTIONS OF NAAC:

- ✓ Assessing and Accrediting Institutions/ Departments/ Programmes
- ✓ Evolving appropriate instruments of accreditation and fine tuning them whenever necessary.
- ✓ Preparing in-house pre-visit documents for the perusal of assessors.
- ✓ Co-coordinating the 'on-site' visit to its effective completion.
- ✓ To organize promotional activities related to quality in higher education, and Assessment & Accreditation, which include the following:
  - ✓ Develop pre- and post-accreditation strategies
  - ✓ Organize Seminars/Workshops/ Conferences to share and discuss education quality-related issues.
  - ✓ Provide guidance to institutions for preparing their Self-study Reports (SSRs)
  - ✓ Partner with stakeholders for promoting A/A
  - ✓ Promote the establishment of Quality Assurance units
    - Internal Quality Assurance Cells(IQAC)
    - State level Quality Assurance Co-ordination Committee (SLQACC)
    - State Quality Assurance Cell (SQAC)

Establish collaborations with other National and International professional Agencies of A/A

## 3. BENEFITS OF NAAC ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Helps the institution to know its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges through an informed review

- Categorizes internal areas of planning and resource allocation
- Enhances collegiality on the campus
- Outcome of the process provides the funding agencies with objective and systematic database for performance based funding
- Initiates institution into innovative and modern methods of pedagogy
- Gives the institution a new sense of direction and identity
- Provides the society with reliable information on the quality of education offered by the institution

- Gives employers access to information on standards in recruitment
- Promotes intra-institutional and inter - institutional interactions.

### 3.1. IMPACT OF NAAC ON HIGHER EDUCATION:

- Accreditation open up sound and challenging academic environment in institutions and value to overall performance of institutions and contribute to social and economic development of country by producing high quality technical manpower.
- Generated keen interest and concerns about quality assurance among stakeholders.
- Helped in creation of intuitional database of the accredited institutions
- Encouraged the institutions to get more funds from funding agencies.
- Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions Regulations (2012): All Institution of Higher Learning will have to compulsorily undergo the accreditation from an accrediting agency. Many Institutions are applying to NAAC for the purpose of Accreditation.
- More than 5000 accredited Institutions have established Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC): Quality enhancement need to be encouraged and Quality must be embedded in the institutional culture. The Academic Audit, need to be periodic process in the HEIs. IQAC has to operate as an internal mechanism of an institution which would work 365 days for qualitative improvement in all activities of the institution.
- Accreditation has become a powerful weapon in the battle for job placement, Advertising for the Colleges and Universities, draw good staff, attracting good students, management taking interest to improve the Infrastructure, support service, wi-fi campus, library automation, disabled friendly campus, motivating staff and students, Alumni hunt, meet, support, and resource mobilization, etc., are happening on the verge of Accreditation.
- Create better understanding of quality assurance among HEIs.
- The Department of Science and Technology under its scheme Faculty improvement in Science and Technology (FIST) utilizes the NAAC accreditation.
- Accreditation motivates faculty to participate actively in academic and related Institutional / departmental activities. The CAS, API schemes has been implemented by the Colleges and Universities facilitates the Improvements at the Individual level initially and further it enhances the involvement of the faculty for institutional growth.
- Accreditation promotes intra-institutional and inter institutional initiatives. Communication Channels has been established for bottom up approach in many institutions. Relationships and papers written by faculty have been increased in the recent years. Inter institutional collaborations, research work, faculty exchange, students exchange has been invented for mutual benefits.
- Many parents, students, employers, Government Agencies, funding agencies, Foreign Universities, Collaborating agencies, are looking the NAAC website for information about status of the Institutions.
- Many of the foreign Universities are looking for the NAAC accreditation before admitting the students for respective courses. A few Universities have given the fee waive, accommodation, scholarships to the students who are from India and from the accredited Institutions.

### 4. CONCLUSION:

NAAC plays an important role in institutions overall development enhancing quality of higher education with the help of NAAC accreditation we get knowledge about current situation of institutions and there merits and demerits and it motivate institute to solve the problems. It helps the institution to know its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, challenges and identifies internal areas of planning and resource allocation. It also enhances interpersonal relationships and collegiality on the campus. Many Institutions have updated the curriculum and initiated innovative and modern methods of pedagogy for the benefit of students. Accreditation gives the institution a new sense of direction and identity with greater sense of accountability and enhanced credibility continous monitoring is biggest tool of development of higher education system in India

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