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INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWS ASSOCIATION'S
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**DEVELOPMENT OF
QUALITY CULTURE
IN HEIS**

- GUEST EDITOR -
Prin. Dr. S. Y. Hongekar

- CHIEF EDITOR -
Dr. Dhanraj T. Dhangar

- EXECUTIVE EDITOR OF THE ISSUE -
Dr. Shruti M. Joshi
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Role of Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) In Quality Enhancement of Higher Education Institutes In India

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Abstract-

Higher education system plays a significant role in the overall development of country which include social, cultural, economical, industrial etc.aspects. Higher education system of India is the third largest in the world. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) have brought so many substantial changes in the Colleges, Universities and Institutes of higher education in India. It is pursuant of its activity for performance evaluation, assessment, Accreditation and quality up-gradation of colleges, universities and institutions of higher education. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore proposes that every accredited institution should establish an Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) for measuring the quality substance post- accreditation. This paper tries to understand the role of Internal Quality Assurance Cell in creation and operation of quality enhancement of higher education institutions in India. It is a conceptual paper that outlines the new methodology and identifies the areas in which colleges, universities and institutions of higher education should focus on so as to improve the quality of their performance and to score better gradation during the accreditation. It should encourage the teachers to promote the use of innovative practices in teaching learning process, new techniques of continuous evaluation, improve research consultancy activity and evolve strong feedback and record system in higher education system.

Keywords – NAAC, IQAC, ICT, Quality Enhancement, Higher Education.

Introduction

Quality education has become an important need in the recent past years. Higher education system of India is the 3rd biggest in the world. Generally higher education is understood to comprehend teaching activities, research activities and extension activities. The report of the UNESCO International Commission on Education in the 21st Century titled “Learning: The Treasure Within” (popularly known as Delors Commission) emphasized four pillars of education: learning to know, learning to do, learning to live together and to be. Higher education is expected to inculcate all these four in individuals and the society. The British Standard Institution (BSI) defines quality as : “the totality of character of a commodity or service that carry on its capacity to satisfy stated or implicit needs.” Quality improvement is a continues process. The Internal Quality Assurance Cell is a part of the colleges, universities and institutions system. It works for the fulfillment of the goal of improvement and maintainance of the quality. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has been always undertaking implementation of new teaching and assessing concepts, various directing fundamentals and some determinants of improving quality in higher education, it’s teaching learning systems.

It pursues its purpose to evaluate the performance, implement new assessment techniques, accreditation and quality up-gradation of colleges, universities and institutions of higher education. National Assessment and Accreditation

Council (NAAC), Bangalore enforces establishment of an Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) for measuring quality substance post- accreditation.

Quality movement in Indian Higher Education

University Grants Commission (UGC) was formed with its constitutional power to preserve quality in colleges, universities and higher education institutions. As per UGC Act, 1956 under Section 12, it requires to be responsible for maintaining and determining the standard of teaching methods, evaluation systems and innovative research tools in higher education system. Various commissions and committees on education over the periods have underlined directly or indirectly the obligation for development in higher education system in India. Kothari commission (1964-66) recommended the concept of Autonomous colleges for the quality improvement. The New Education Policy (1986) highlighted on the acknowledgement and reward of distinction in accomplishment of institutions and scrutiny of the sub-standard of institutions. UGC established NAAC at Bangalore as a registered self-governing body on 16th September 1994 under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 after 8 years of constant and discerning disputation.

Objectives of NAAC are:

1. Encourage the educational environment, innovative research and quality of teaching in HEIs.
2. Help HEIs in expounding their educational aims.

3. Establish fundamental changes, innovations and rectification in all viewpoints of the HEIs working for the above purpose.
4. Encourage innovations, accountability and self-evaluation in higher education institutes.

About IQAC

The NAAC, Bangalore for pursuant of its Action scheme for performance evaluation, quality up-gradation, assessment and accreditation of colleges, universities and of higher education institutions, established IQAC as a post-accreditation quality measure. The IQAC has to become an essential part towards fulfillment of the goals of institutions.

Formation of IQAC

IQAC should be formed as per the guideline given by NAAC. Teacher representatives are to be selected from different faculties, considering their participation in teaching learning, evaluation, research and extension work. Local people from learned qualified persons serving society via their own work may be selected. The IQAC coordinator should be senior, non transferable teacher or full time teacher with teaching tenure more than five year.

Objectives/aims of IQAC

The primary Objectives/aims of IQAC is:-

1. To expand a method for deliberate, compatible and catalytic activity to develop the educational and administrative accomplishment of the institution.
2. To encourage for quality improvement through incorporation of quality culture and institutionalization of best practices of HEIs.

Strategies of IQAC

1. Undertake performance of academic, administrative and financial aspects.
2. Modern techniques of teaching and learning process optimization and incorporation.
3. Creation of reliable evaluation process..
4. Promise the sufficiency, continuity and appropriate allocation of support structure and services.
5. Dissemination of research findings, innovative research ideas and networking with other HEIs in India and outside India.

Functions Of IQAC

1. Develop quality benchmarks for various educational and administrative activities of the institution;
2. Create learner centric environment by using various technology and participative teaching learning process.
3. Arrangement of students, parents, stakeholders, teachers and alumni feedback to get response

on quality aspect of institution for quality enhancement.

4. Organize state, national or international level workshops, seminars, conferences on quality enhancement themes.
5. provide documentation of the various activities.
6. Acting as a nodal agency for dissemination and acceptance of best practices;
7. maintenance and improvement of organizational database by adopting Management Information System (MIS)
8. Quality Culture Development in the HEIs
9. Preparation of the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) as per the guidelines of NAAC and it's submittal

Benefits of IQAC

1. Determine concentrated level of simplicity and concentrate in institutional functioning towards quality improvement.
2. Provide internalization of the quality culture of institution.
3. Ensure about coordination among various processes of the institution.
4. For improvement of institutional functioning provide a reliable justification for decision-making.
5. Play significant role for dynamic system for quality enhancement in HEIs;

Composition of the IQAC

IQAC may be established under the Chairmanship of the Head of the institution with heads of important academic and administrative units.

Composition of the IQAC -

1. Head of the Institution : Chairperson
2. Few senior administrative officers
3. Three to eight faculty members
4. One member from the institutional management.
5. One/two nominees from students, local society and Alumni
6. One/two nominees from Employers / Industrialists/stakeholders
7. One of the senior teachers as the coordinator/ Director of the IQAC

The membership of nominated members shall be for two years. The IQAC should conduct meeting of nominated members at least once in every quarter. Two-third of the total number required for quorum for the meeting.

Role of IQAC Quality Enhancement of Higher Educational Institutes in India

The IQAC should play significant role in planning,

organizing, monitoring and evaluating the academic process of the colleges, universities and higher education institutions. The IQAC should devise an academic calendar at the starting of academic year by considering the educational plan of the institutions. Basically the academic calendar should include teaching schedule, practical schedule, internal or external examination schedule, study tours and excursion tour, industrial visits, guest lectures, seminars, conferences, workshops, day celebration, local programmes and institutional programme, various co-curricular and extra-curricular and cultural activities/programmes and research activities. To evaluate and monitor the academic plan IQAC shall also conduct regular meetings of all faculty members. It should arrange some orientation programmes for administrative staff and supportive staff of the college.

Conclusion

The role of IQAC for the quality improvement in higher education institutions is important as its works towards improvement and stabilizing the quality of higher education institutions. Thus, the role of IQAC is very important for bringing about so many positive changes in and around the academic activities of colleges, universities and higher education institutions. IQAC can create a good academic atmosphere between students and all teaching and non-teaching staff in the premises and maintain and enhance the quality of HEIs from time to time.

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