

NAAC NEWS

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Navigating beyond the horizons: NAAC in the next decade



NAAC 30++

Established in 1994, NAAC has been striving to spread the culture of quality across the HEIs pan India, conduct assessment and accreditation of institutions and provide policy inputs to state and central governments through state-wise analysis of accreditation reports. Over the past 30 years, NAAC has made several progressive steps to improve the quality of higher education and gained a good reputation at the national and international levels.....

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30th Foundation Day Celebration @ NAAC

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Workshop on Skill Integrated Curriculum for Higher Education



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From the Editor's Desk... 

Navigating beyond the horizons: NAAC in the next decade

Established in 1994, NAAC has been striving to spread the culture of quality across the HEIs pan India, conduct assessment and accreditation of institutions and provide policy inputs to state and central governments through state-wise analysis of accreditation reports. Over the past 30 years, NAAC has made several progressive steps to improve the quality of higher education and gained a good reputation at the national and international levels. The role of NAAC in Indian higher education system is getting redefined since the beginning of the current decade. The Indian higher education system is transforming rapidly through implementation of National Education Policy (NEP 2020). While the target of 50% GER in higher education by 2035 has been set to leverage the potential of the growing young population of India, the need for enhancing the quality of higher education is paramount importance to the nation.

The next decade, symbolized as NAAC 30++ is the new direction set for the NAAC to be a partner of change in higher education. NAAC is set to take up the role of promoting a quality assurance system aligned with national priorities and also create best practices for the rest of the world. It involves systematically rolling out reforms to create a transformation in quality assurance, bringing all the institutions under accreditation, expanding into related areas of higher education quality and also being an organization known for credibility, integrity and transparency.

The first + focuses on Core Areas:

- Effective implementation of proposed reforms through a **"light but tight"** accreditation

methodology to assure a threshold level of quality at the National Level & **Basic (Binary) Accreditation.**

- A guided path for HEIs to gradually improve their quality to International Level through Maturity Based Graded Levels (MBGL).
- **Handholding of institutions** who are coming for accreditation for the first time and **mentoring** the rural and remote location institutions, including those located in Aspirational districts.
- Transition to **programme accreditation** in to support higher education institutions globally.



NAAC 30++

The Second + Focuses on Extended Areas:

Centre for Research in Quality of Higher Education: The need for systematic and sustained research for providing insights for policy making in higher education was recognized. It requires enormous secondary and primary data for bringing out meaningful outcomes. NAAC holds enormous data collected SSRs, AQARs, students' satisfaction surveys (SSS), and other sources. With reforms in place, NAAC shall have access to huge institutional data, particularly with reference to implementation of NEP 2020. In addition, there will be ample primary data getting generated in the higher education system due to expansion. Given the background of need for research for policy making and NAAC's positioning, it was proposed to set up a research center, called "Centre for Research in Quality of

Higher Education” to focus on providing insights for policy making in higher education. This center shall fund multidisciplinary and multi-institutional research teams to take up for projects on priority themes of higher education policy making. The academic staff of NAAC shall be an internal coordinator for such funded projects for continuous monitoring and support.

It is proposed to constitute a committee of researchers and experts including members of General Council and Standing Committee of NAAC to administer the activities, including themes of research, selection of projects, review and monitoring and ensuring provision of reports to the Ministry of Higher Education and other relevant higher education related agencies. It was also proposed to allocate Rs. 200 Lakhs (from the internal accruals of NAAC) initially for funding a few projects in the priority areas of higher education as part of the first cohort. Further allocation shall be based on the progress of the projects and outcomes.

NAAC Social Responsibility Initiative: NAAC has been serving the higher education sector for over 30 years with thousands of higher educational institutions. Being a nodal agency, it is proposed to leverage the network of institutions by taking up some extended activities. Accordingly, NAAC propose to take up certain initiatives focusing on development of children and youth from the under-privileged sections and to mainstream them with the society by inculcating a bharathiya way of life characterized by the cultural and heritage of our nation. To start with, this initiative shall involve the engagement of school and college students and a large number of youths working in the IT and other leading sectors in Bengaluru and Karnataka. It is proposed to collaborate with students and faculty of neighbouring institutions. The activities may include helping school and college students in studies, skill development, employability, sports and other areas.

The college students and employed youth will help the school children in basic areas like STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) through conceptual understanding and practical experiences. The college students will be trained on various aspects to create employability and entrepreneurship

through short training programmes and mentorship. In the case of employed youth, organizing events to promote Bharatiya culture through focused events and including short camps. The year-long activities shall culminate to a major 3-day Conclave coinciding the **National Youth Day** (12 January) for a major conclave every year. These activities will be carried out through volunteerism and support from collaborating institutions. NAAC shall play an enabling role of connecting the institutions and beneficiaries. The initiative will create NAAC Social Responsibility Clusters (NSRC) by linking related schools, colleges and employed- youth specific areas of Bengaluru and Karnataka.

Internationalize NAAC: The Indian higher education system is the largest in the world. While India becomes the 3rd largest economy of the world in the next decade or before, many of our HEIs are also expected to figure in the top 100 universities of the world. This requires intensive learning of best practices from leading countries, leveraged through their accrediting agencies. During this decade we may also create many unique best practices to benefit the rest of the world. The proposed internationalization shall be achieved through the following initiatives:

- Sponsor delegations of 4-6 members consisting of GC/EC members, NAAC staff and Heads of leading institutions to major international conferences.
- Collaborate with leading accrediting agencies through formal MoUs for exchanging best practices and mutual support.
- Organize international conferences/workshops involving quality experts from other countries for the benefit of our higher education institutions.
- Explore opportunities to take up accreditation in other countries starting with SAARC and the African region or providing technical assistance to set up accreditation agency.
- Explore publishing a practitioner Journal on Quality of Higher Education to enable best practice sharing and brand building.

Prof. Ganesan Kannabiran
Director, NAAC

30th Foundation Day Celebration @ NAAC, Bengaluru

National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bengaluru organized 30th Foundation Day Celebrations on 16 September, 2024 at its campus in Bengaluru. Shri. Thaawarchand Gehlot, Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka was the Chief Guest on the occasion and delivered the Foundation Day address. Prof. Anil D Sahasrabudhe, Chairman (NAAC, NETF & NBA), Padma Shri M. K. Sridhar, founder Chancellor, Chanakya University and President, CESS, Dr. H.R. Nagendra, founder Chancellor, S-VYASA University were present on the occasion. Prof. Ganesan Kannabiran, Director, NAAC presided over the function.

In his presidential address, Shri. Thaawarchand Gehlot touched upon the announcement of NAAC's Social Responsibility initiative, whilst noting that NAAC has been serving the cause of quality in Higher Education in the country for more than three decades and as a nodal agency, it is proposed to leverage the network of institutions by taking up some extended activities.

Emphasising that NAAC shall take up certain initiatives focusing on development of children and youth from the under-privileged sections and to mainstream them with the society by inculcating a *Bharathiya way* of life characterized by the cultural heritage of our nation. "To start with, this initiative shall involve the engagement of school and college students and a large number of youths working in the IT and other leading sectors in Bengaluru and Karnataka", he said.

"It was proposed to collaborate with students and faculty of neighbouring institutions such as Bangalore University, National Law School of India University, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar School of Economics University, etc. for specific initiatives. The activities may include helping school and college students in studies, skill development, employability, sports and other areas. The college students and employed youth will help the school children in basic areas like STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) through conceptual understanding and practical experiences. The college students will be trained on various aspects to create employability and



entrepreneurship through short training programmes and mentorship. In case of employed youth, organizing events to promote Bharatiya culture through focused events and including short camps will be the order.

The year-long activities shall culminate to a major 3-day Conclave coinciding in the **National Youth Day** (12 January) for a major conclave every year. These activities will be carried out through volunteerism and support from collaborating institutions. NAAC shall play an enabling role of connecting the institutions and beneficiaries.

The initiative will create NAAC Social Responsibility Clusters (NSRC) by linking related schools, colleges and employed youth from specific areas of Bengaluru and Karnataka. The initiative will be taken to other parts of the country over the next few years.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Ganesan Kannabiran, Director, NAAC, said, "30th Foundation Day, symbolized as NAAC 30++ is the new direction set for the NAAC to be a partner of change in higher education. NAAC is set to take up the role of promoting a quality assurance system aligned with national priorities and also create best practices for the rest of the world. It involves systematically rolling out reforms to create a transformation in quality assurance, bringing all the institutions under accreditation, expanding into related areas of higher education quality and also being an organization known for credibility, integrity and transparency."



Emphasizing the importance of the need to focus on two broad areas, i.e. Core Areas and Extended Areas, Prof. Kannabiran said, "Effective implementation of proposed reforms through a "light but tight" accreditation methodology to assure a threshold level of quality at the national level; we are almost ready to launch the Binary Accreditation. A guided path to HEIs for gradually improving their quality to international levels through a maturity-based framework, we may launch the MBGL in the next few months."

'Handholding of institutions, mentoring the rural and remote location institutions, including those located in aspirational districts would be the priority. Transition to program Internationalization of Indian best practices in quality assurance through networking and collaboration would be the forte', he added.

Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, Executive Committee, NAAC graced the occasion.

NAAC's EC Chairman, Dr. Anil Sahasrabudhe, welcomed the distinguished guests on the occasion and commended NAAC's work over the past three decades, which has led to the establishment of quality-driven educational initiatives across the country. To advance this further, the National Education Policy 2020 has laid out a new roadmap. The contributions of NEP Chairperson Dr. Kasturirangan and member Prof. M K Sridhar in this regard are invaluable, he said. Dr. Sahasrabudhe also emphasized the expected achievements in educational quality enhancement over the next 15-20 years and underscored the need for quality improvements in colleges and universities.

Dr. Sahasrabudhe discussed the concept of Maturity-Based Graded Levels to certify the standard of accredited institutions, which range from Level 1 to Level 4 and serve as a benchmark for institutions of excellence at the national level. Additionally, Level 5 is proposed for institutions at the international level. The objective is to ensure the holistic development of young people studying in colleges and universities so that they can contribute as responsible citizens and serve the country through NAAC's platform. Dr. Sahasrabudhe expressed his best wishes for the accreditation system to become one of the finest in the world.



Prof. Nagendra emphasized the need to incorporate India's rich knowledge traditions into the educational system, moving away from a purely Western framework. He stressed on the importance of building an ideal society by integrating the vast Indian knowledge base into the educational system. Prof. Nagendra advocated for incorporating elements of yoga and Indian culture into NAAC's assessment and accreditation processes.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. M K Sridhar thanked everyone for the felicitation and opined that if laurels are conferred on him for his contribution to the NEP, then it is not just as an individual but for the team work of all the people involved in the drafting of the framework. He acknowledged the efforts of all the stakeholders, officials and the government machinery, whose unflinching support stood in good stead while preparing the National Education Policy Framework.

Prof. Sridhar further opined that the realisation of the NEP, is one of the rarest historical occasion, as the policy was evolved based on the largest consultation process in the world and that was continued with effective, successful and consistent implementation. He congratulated NAAC for having successfully completed 30 Years and wished the best as it enters the next phase of reforms. 'The foundation day gives us an occasion to recollect, reflect and to look back at what we have done and on the basis of that I think it is necessary to march forward', he said.

NAAC's 30th Foundation Day was an occasion where the speakers shared their perspectives on enhancing quality in education, integrating India's knowledge heritage, and propelling the NAAC system toward global excellence.



30th Foundation Day of NAAC – Felicitation of NAAC officers and employees having completed 25 years of Service

As part of its 30th Foundation Day Celebrations, the NAAC had organized a felicitation programme to honour officers and employees, who have put in 25 years of unblemished service. The Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka, Shri Thaawachand Gehlot, Chief Guest on the occasion of Foundation Day presented medals with certificate in recognition of the services rendered to NAAC.



Workshop on Skill Integrated Curriculum for Higher Education

A workshop on “Skill Integrated Curriculum for Higher Education” was conducted by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) on 16 October 2023 at Mahatma Gandhi Auditorium of the Institute for Social Economic Change (ISEC) campus, Bengaluru. Principals, Directors, Vice-Principals and Deans (Academic) representing about 230 higher educational institutions and the academic staff of the NAAC participated in the workshop. Professor Ganesan Kannabiran, Director, NAAC extended a cordial welcome to the participants and the guests of honour. The workshop commenced with a formal inauguration and lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries.

Professor Ganesan Kannabiran briefed the participants about the background of the workshop and said that the workshop is intended to deliberate on the key aspects of planning and implementing skill oriented curriculum.

Professor Anil D. Sahasrabudhe, Chairman-EC, NAAC delivered the inaugural address. ‘Graduates coming out of universities should have adequate knowledge with domain skills, life skills and social skills, he opined. During his address, he also mentioned that the introduction of ‘One Nation-One Data’ and ‘One Nation-One ID Card’ will be a revolutionary move, making certification authentic without any scope for forgery or the need for attestation.

Dr. Nirmaljeet Singh Kalsi, in his keynote address, said that the integration of skills into education will reduce the gap between academic knowledge and job requirements, improving graduates’ chances for job opportunities. He informed the participants that despite only 6% of individuals pursuing higher education at undergraduate level and 2% at the post-graduate level, the country has about 49.2% of the population with some digital skills that need to be effectively groomed to fill the gap in



the skill crisis faced across the globe. He spoke on the key aspects of planning and implementation of “Skill Integrated Curriculum” that focusses on promoting skill development in higher education and improve the quality of teaching at the collegiate level. He also spoke on the roadblocks in conventional education and its impact on the country’s growth. He stated that the existing system had limited mobility between vocational education and higher education before the National Credit Framework (NCrF) was implemented. He opined that if the critical skill gaps are removed, the country can improve its GDP growth rate from 6.5% to 8.8%.

Dr. Nirmaljeet Singh Kalsi stressed on the need to significantly improve the quality of higher education, demonstrated through our graduates being able to secure gainful employment in the global markets, venture into entrepreneurship or join the government/ developmental domain. He said that there is a need to ensure that the graduates coming out of the colleges and universities definitely acquire adequate knowledge coupled with

skills (domain skills, life skills, and social skills) and shall be able to lead productive and socially responsible lives. ‘Integrating skills as part of the curriculum design and delivery is the first step that ensures our students graduating from higher educational institutions become employable and will be able to contribute to socio-economic development’, he opined.

Professor Ganesan Kannabiran, Director, NAAC facilitated the question and answer session. The workshop concluded with a formal of vote of thanks.



Report on unveiling of Swami Vivekananda Photo frame at NAAC campus

On the occasion of National Youth Day on 12 January 2024 and also to mark the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, NAAC inaugurated a photo frame of Swami Vivekananda in its corridor to honor his legacy and to highlight his contributions to youth empowerment and national development.

Hon'ble Chairman of UGC Prof. Jagadesh Kumar and Hon'ble Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, Executive committee-NAAC, officially unveiled the photo of Swami Vivekananda during the EC meeting at NAAC, emphasizing the significance of his teachings and vision for the youth. This event was aimed at inspiring young minds



by celebrating Vivekananda's teachings on strength, self-confidence, and the importance of education.



International Women's Day Celebration - 2024



International Women's Day was commemorated at NAAC on 8 March 2024. Exclusive Rangoli competition was held for housekeeping staff. For employees comprising the Personal Assistant grade, anthakshari

and quiz were conducted on the previous day. All the women staff enthusiastically participated in the competitions organized for them. On the occasion of International Women's Day at NAAC, Dr. Manju Dhoundiyal, former Director, National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, delivered a commemorative lecture as an invited guest. In an inspiring and thought provoking speech, the guest inspired all women staff at NAAC. She highlighted several challenges faced by women in the career and personal front. She also demonstrated a few postures and stretches to be practiced for relief and better health. A retiring room for women housekeeping and gardening staff was dedicated on this occasion. The day concluded with plans for a series of events for the women employees for wellness and overall well being.



Report on the Hindi Learning Workshop - 2024 at NAAC, Bengaluru



A one day 'Hindi learning' workshop was successfully organized for all officers and staff (including PAEs) at NAAC Office on 28 August 2024 from 03:00 to 05:00 PM at NAAC Conference Hall. Dr. Dheeraj Kumar Mishra, Deputy Director (Official Language) from Coffee Board, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, Bengaluru was invited as the guest speaker. As a Hindi expert, he conducted the Hindi training session. Many officers and staff participated enthusiastically in the workshop, which contributed to the overall success of the programme.

The workshop began with a welcome address by Ms. Sagarika Swain, Hindi Consultant at NAAC, who greeted all the attendees. Following this, the Chief Guest, Dr. Dheeraj Kumar Mishra, along with Dr. M. S. Shyam Sundar (Director-in-Charge and Senior Advisor, NAAC) and Dr. Wahidul Hasan (Senior Communication and Publication Officer and Vice-Chairman of the Official Language Committee, NAAC), were invited to take their seats on the stage. Dr. M. S. Shyam Sundar and Dr. Wahidul Hasan honored the guest speaker and extended the courtesies.

Dr. Shyam Singh Inda, Assistant Adviser at NAAC, initiated the program by providing a brief introduction of the chief guest, Dr. Dheeraj Kumar Mishra. Following this, Dr. M.S. Shyamasundar, in his presidential address, elaborated on the significance of Hindi and its role in the repository of knowledge. He emphasized on the

importance of integrating Hindi into office work as a natural and effective language. Dr. Shyamasundar also highlighted the need to recognize Hindi as a rich cultural heritage and encourage its use to promote deeper cultural and intellectual connections.

The chief guest, Dr. Dheeraj Kumar Mishra, introduced the topic of Hindi learning and discussed "What is Rajbhasha." He explained in detail the usefulness of Hindi in office work, its establishment, and its necessity. Dr. Mishra further educated the officers and employees of the NAAC office about the Official Language Act, outlining its rules and provisions. This enriched their understanding of the practical and constitutional importance of Hindi, encouraging its effective use in their official duties.

In the Q&A series of the workshop, the guest speaker, Dr. Dheeraj Kumar Mishra, addressed several questions from the participants, engaging all members of NAAC in an interactive discussion on the topics covered. As the session concluded, Dr. Neelesh Pandey, Member Secretary of the Official Language Committee and Assistant Adviser, NAAC, extended his heartfelt thanks to all attendees, including the chief guest speaker, Dr. Mishra. This workshop proved to be informative and inspiring for all the participants. Dr. Wahidul Hasan, Senior C.P.O and Deputy Chairman of Official Language Committee, NAAC was instrumental in organizing the event.



Report on Two Days Hindi Learning Class



A two-day Hindi training program was organized for all employees of the NAAC office on 20 and 21 May 2024. In this program, Ms. Sagarika Swain, Hindi Consultant, NAAC served as the Hindi instructor and provided Hindi training to NAAC employees. Many employees participated in the program and contributed to its success. Subsequently, on 22 May 2024, a Hindi Calligraphy Competition was also organized at NAAC, in which several participants took part and were honored with first, second, third, and consolation prizes by the Director.

Report on Hindi Day / Pakhwada Celebration-2024 at NAAC, Bengaluru

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bengaluru, organized 'Hindi Pakhwada' with great enthusiasm from 20 September to 30 September 2024. During this period, various competitions and activities were conducted to promote the propagation and use of Hindi in the office. The purpose was to create awareness about Hindi among the officers and staff and to encourage its use in official work.

Competitions and Programs:

Essay Writing Competition:

On 20 September 2024, a Hindi essay writing competition was organized in which participants presented their thoughts in Hindi on various topics. This competition enhanced Hindi writing skills and provided an opportunity for office staff to showcase their creativity.

Technical Vocabulary Competition:

On 22 September 2024, a competition to test the knowledge of Hindi in technical and administrative terms was held at the office. This competition sparked interest among employees in the use of Hindi technical terminology.

Poetry Recitation Competition:

On 25 September 2024, a poetry recitation competition was held at the NAAC office as part of Hindi Fortnight. Employees participated enthusiastically. Dr. Jagannath Patil



and Dr. Pratibha Singh served as judges, evaluating the participants' poems and awarding the winners. This competition fostered interest in Hindi literature and encouraged creative expression among the employees.

Painting Competition:

On 27 September 2024, a painting competition was organized, with themes based on the Hindi language and culture. This competition provided an opportunity for employees to exhibit their creativity.

Award Distribution Ceremony:

The award distribution ceremony for Hindi Pakhwada was held on 13 November 2024. The event was compered by Dr. Neelesh Pandey, Coordinator of the Official Language Department and Assistant Advisor, NAAC. Winners of the various competitions were honored with

Hindi grammar books, monetary rewards, and certificates by NAAC Director, Prof. Ganesan Kannabiran and Advisor Dr. M.S. Shyamasundar. On this occasion, senior officials of NAAC emphasized the importance of Hindi and encouraged its increased usage in the office.



Report on 10th International Yoga Day Celebrations at NAAC

The concept of the International Day of Yoga was first proposed by the Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi ji during his speech at the UN General Assembly (UNGA), on September 27, 2014. On December 11, 2014, the United Nations General Assembly announced that June 21 will be observed as the International Yoga Day or World Yoga Day. The date of June 21 was chosen as it is the Summer Solstice, the day where there is the most Sun out than any other day of the year. The proposal had garnered the support of 177 nations, the highest number of co-sponsors for any UN resolution.

The theme of International Yoga Day 2024 is “Yoga for Self and Society,” which prioritizes the physical and mental well-being of the community. On this day, various events and sessions are held across the continents to promote the practice of Yoga. NAAC at its premises in Bengaluru celebrated the International Yoga Day with gusto and enthusiasm.

The Chief Guest of the program was Mr. Veeresh C, a Yoga Guru, trainer and practitioner with affiliation to Sri Guruvayur Wellness Center, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru. The program was presided over by Prof. Ganesan Kannabiran, Director, NAAC. The introductory remarks were made by Dr. M. S. Shyamasundar, Adviser, NAAC. He welcomed the chief guest and explained the benefits of yoga with emphasis on the fact that it helps a person improve life physically, mentally and spiritually as well. Mr. Arun M., Administrative Officer introduced the chief guest.

Mr. Veeresh explained the importance of Yoga in the life of youngsters. He explained that regular practice of Yoga will help the person achieve better mental and physical



health. ‘Yoga was developed as a way to interconnect the mind, body and soul to step closer into enlightenment’, he opined.

Further, he explained as to how the practice became popular in the west as it metamorphosed in to a form of exercise and relaxation method, with claims to help the body’s general well-being, alleviate physical injuries and chronic pain. Yoga was actually done by sages as a holistic approach to life and the God. Later on, it was passed on to the common people, he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Veeresh dealt with the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP); standing asanas, by sitting asanas and meditation with Om chanting. He threw light on the benefits of Yoga to the body, mind and soul. During the occasion, everyone present took a pledge that they will practice yoga on a daily basis.

Dr. M. S. Shyamasundar, Adviser, NAAC and convener of the Yoga Day celebration gave a brief lecture on the importance on yoga and how it complements the human and societal life. He gave a brief on the importance of yoga and complementing the change in the life style of the society. Dr. M.S. Shyamasundar also provided a demo of certain difficult asanas on the occasion.

Mr. Arun, rendered the vote of thanks and he profusely thanked Mr. Veeresh for encouraging everyone to take up measures to make yoga a part of daily life. On the occasion, he also credited the staff of NAAC for their tireless efforts put in to make the event successful. ‘Saatvik’ High Tea session followed the vote of thanks moment.



Assessor’s Orientation Programme Organised by NAAC: 2024

The prime agenda of NAAC is to assess & accredit institutions of higher education in the country. NAAC assesses the institutions on the basis of data & documentation provided by HEIs in the form of Quantitative Metrics (QnM) and Qualitative Metrics (QIM), which are included in the Self Study Report (SSR) framework. The QIMs of SSR are assessed by the peer team members (Assessors) during PTV to HEI, which is also an important component of NAAC’s A&A process.

To strengthen the NAAC’s assessors team, NAAC had invited the applications from eminent academicians to be part of the Panel of Assessors engaged by NAAC. Accordingly 1539 number of applicants were shortlisted. For orientation of these selected assessors, NAAC Bengaluru, organised a series of ‘e-AOPs’ all through the year and as part of efforts, e-AOPs were organised on 6-8 March 2024, 22 April 2024, 31 May 2024 & 1 October 2024. The purpose of conducting e-AOPs was to



equip and update the prospective assessors regarding the A&A process & details regarding handling the Assessors' Portal. A total of 1398 shortlisted applicants participated in the program, comprising Vice Chancellors, Pro-Vice Chancellors, Directors, Professors & Principals belonging to various disciplines.

Prof. Ganesan Kannabiran, Director, NAAC, in his opening remarks elaborated on the approach and purpose of the visit adopted by NAAC and opined that NAAC is "...striving to promote the quality of higher education & therefore we have to adopt cordial approach while interacting with fellow academicians & other stakeholders of the institution when you are on the visit".

Dr. Devender Kawday, Adviser, NAAC, welcomed the distinguished participants to the e-AOP and emphasised on the importance of assessors in the process.

The first session was engaged by Dr. Jagannath Patil, Adviser, NAAC, Dr. B. S. Ponnudiraj, Adviser, NAAC and Dr. Sujata P. Shanbhag, Adviser, NAAC respectively

on various dates of e-AOP, in which they explained the participants regarding the Revised Accreditation Framework (RAF).

Dr. L. Manjunatha Rao, Deputy Adviser, NAAC, engaged the second session and presented the intricacies of the process of A&A. His focus was to explain all details involving 'how to handle the assessors portal- right from login to assessors portal, how to accept/reject the visits, how to fill the peer team report, and peer team score sheet & submit it with the help of test login. He threw light on all the components involved in the process.

Dr. Latha Pillai, former Adviser NAAC and Prof.(Dr.) Sushma Yadav, Pro Vice-Chancellor Central University of Haryana, in various e-AOP's shared their experiences during the visit. They explained NAAC's adherence to the code of conduct & ethics. The Resource persons advised the assessors to refrain from being influenced directly or indirectly by the institutions or any other entity concerning qualitative assessment and outcome of the assessment process, taking family members on the visit etc. They further advised the prospective assessors to desist from using the facilities of the institution, including accepting honorarium, honorary degrees, awards and positions from the HEIs even at a later date.

The presentation sessions were followed by Question & Answer sessions. The participants were given the opportunity to clear their doubts by asking questions.

The programmes were compered by Dr. Prashant. P. Parhad, Deputy Adviser, NAAC and ended with the vote of thanks given by Dr. Shyam Singh Inda, Assistant Adviser, NAAC.

Report of INQAHE FORUM 2024

The INQAHE 2024 Forum is an international event that brings together QA professionals, higher education leaders, educators, researchers, students, and policy makers from around the world to discuss the role of quality assurance in promoting social responsibility in higher education through hands-on methodologies. The INQAHE 2024 Forum took place in National University of Science and Technology Politehnica Bucharest (UNSTPB), Romania hosted by the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS) from 10-12 June 2024.



A proposal submitted by Prof. (Dr.) Ganesan Kannabiran,



Director, NAAC, and Dr. Vinita Sahu was selected for inclusion in the Forum's agenda. They were invited to conduct a joint session titled "Promoting Civic Engagement in Higher Education via the Assessment and Accreditation of Tertiary Institutions" in a roundtable format under the theme of "Fostering Civic Engagement".

During the session, the presenters covered essential topics such as the basics of civic management, its broad categories, global and national perspectives, India's approach, key trends in civic management, and more. The session also featured brainstorming with representatives from other QA agencies. Worksheets were completed to capture key attributes related to civic management trends

and to suggest how these attributes could be incorporated into accreditation frameworks.

The interaction with other QA agencies proved to be highly valuable for both NAAC and individual participants, helping to create and sustain a quality network with international agencies, fostering further growth and collaboration.



Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN)

Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) organized APQN Academic Conference (AAC) on "Quality Assurance and Global Tertiary Education: Navigating Challenges and Embracing Innovation" during 26 to 29 September 2024 at St. Petersburg, Russia.

In this prestigious conference two NAAC officers Dr. K.R. Vishnu Mahesh, Assistant Adviser, and Dr. N.R. Mohan, Assistant Adviser participated as speakers and presented papers titled "Quality Assurance in the Digital Age: Charting New Paths for Global Tertiary Education" and "Promotion of Quality in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Institutions: Case Study of Randomly Selected Colleges Accredited by NAAC Parameters" respectively. This conference was extremely useful for the growth, international relationships in the quality circle, and mutual exchange of international standards quality practices with the global Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs).

- Effectiveness of digital tools
- Accessibility
- Student support
- Overall student experience



St. Petersburg
Hotel conference center



Report on Independence Day Celebration at NAAC campus

On the occasion of 78th Independence Day, National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) honoured the significance of the day by Flag Hoisting Ceremony to



mark the beginning of the celebrations, accompanied by the National Anthem.

Independence Day is celebrated annually on 15 August as a National holiday of India to commemorate the end of British rule in 1947. Independence Day is a reminder of the sacrifices made by countless freedom fighters and leaders who paved the way for a free and democratic India. Further, speech by Hon'ble Director, NAAC addressed the gathering on emphasizing the importance of the Independence Day and the prominence of education in nation-building. NAAC's achievements, initiatives, and future plans for enhancing quality in higher education were listed out on the occasion. Patriotic songs and short speeches by the staff / children were part of the Independence Day celebration.

Kannada Rajyotsava Celebration at NAAC - Report

Kannada Rajyotsava celebration was organised at NAAC Conference Hall on 5 November 2024 as per the tradition of NAAC. Shri. B.R. Laxmana Rao, noted Kannada Poet and Lyricist was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Dr. M.S. Shyamasundar, Adviser, NAAC presided over the function.

As part of the celebration of Kannada Rajyotsava every year at NAAC, Kannada flag was hoisted by the chief guest. The lighting of the lamp was followed by the rendition of the Kannada Naada Geethe (the state anthem) written by Shri Kuvempu. Dr. M.S. Shyamasundar, Adviser, NAAC, welcomed the guest and the gathering. Shri. B.R. Laxmana Rao was felicitated on the occasion. Dr. Sujata P Shanbhag, Adviser, NAAC, introduced the guest.

The chief guest Shri. B. R. Laxmana Rao spoke on the occasion in his inimical style. He spoke on the origin of Kannada language which is the oldest language of the 2nd century and cited the examples of great stalwarts of Karnataka who have proved their excellence with their rich contributions to the culture of state. Inscriptions, art, literature, music, painting, sculpture found space in his speech and he stressed on the importance of Kannada and its historical significance. Further he stressed for



adoption of Kannada language in day-to-day conversation and implementation.

As part of the celebration of Kannada Rajyotsava, events like quiz competition for all staff and self-introduction competition for non-Kannadigas were conducted. All the participants and winners in these competitions were awarded Kannada books.

The master of ceremony of the function was Dr. Vishnu Mahesh, Assistant Adviser, NAAC.

Mr. Arun M.(AO), Dr. Vishnu Mahesh K.R., Dr. Mohan N.R, Mr. R.S. Sridhar and Mr. Sharath D.K contributed their efforts to make the event successful.





Report on Summer camp held from 16-18 May 2024 at NAAC for the age group of Children from 11 yrs to 14 yrs

The concept of the Summer camp was conceived by NAAC and was successfully conducted as part of its social responsibility initiative. NAAC had organized the 3-Day Summer Camp from 16-18 May 2024 specifically for the children of contractual staff members, PAEs, Housekeeping, Security and garden staff to promote their talent and provide opportunities for academic and personal development. Specially designed 'Talent hunt' was organised for these Children to identify and nurture the skills and abilities of children and these programs often provide platforms for children to showcase their talents in various areas. By actively seeking out and encouraging their talent, it had played a significant role in helping children to realize their full potential and pursue their academic and other interests.

The three day event witnessed active participation from 17 participants in the camp. The event was well organized by Mrs. R. Gowrilakshmi, Mrs. Rani Purushotham and Mrs. Chandrabha.A.

Activities of the Camp involved collective prayer each day setting the tone for a peaceful and focused day and introduction of the participants to know each other, ice breaking activities and fun activities to engage the participants in communicative endeavors to improve communication skills, team building and cooperative skills. The event also made space for various games for brain development, cognitive skills acquisition, promoting critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. The 3 day event also provided an opportunity for the participants to learn and chant Bhagavthgeetha shlokas. The opportunity empowered

the participants to foster a sense of spirituality and appreciate the Indian culture. Various traditional games were introduced to the participants with a view to promote physical activity as well as to provide insights into the cultural heritage. The games were aimed at promoting team work and physical fitness. There were opportunities for Talent Hunt in which avenues were provided to showcase the diverse talents of the participants, viz, singing, dancing, acting etc. The sessions in

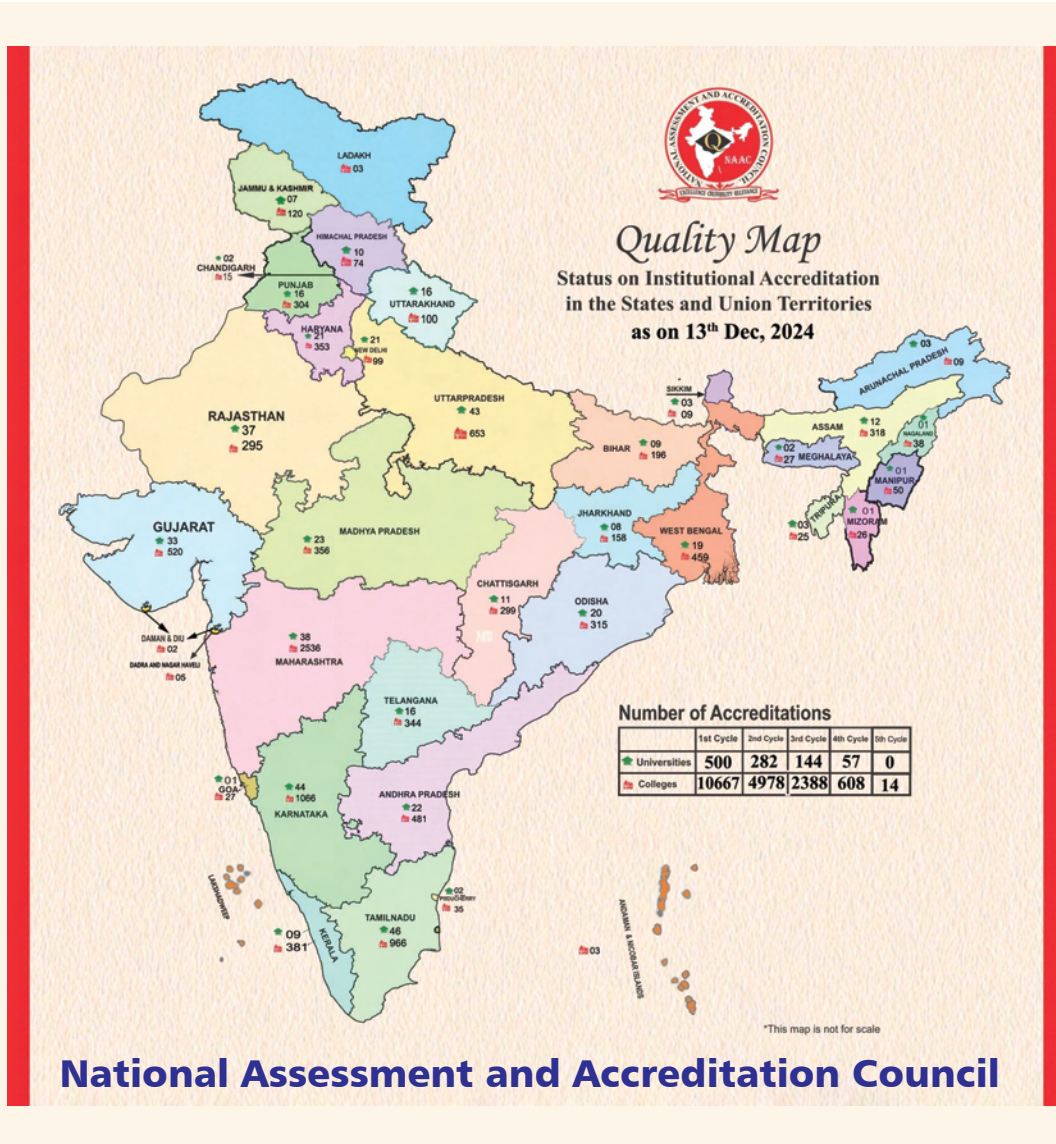
the 3 day event also provided space for story sessions to improve listening skills, cognition, creativity and fostering imagination. Art classes were conducted besides, pick and speak events for the participants with a view to improve a set of skills necessary for life.

The Summer Camp 2024 was a resounding success, offering a balanced mix of educational, physical, and creative activities that enriched the participants' summer experience. The camp provided a safe and nurturing environment for all attendees, ensuring that they were left with fond memories and enhanced skills.



NAAC staff members also voluntarily contributed for this program to offer scholarships and other educational support to the participating children.

The event was inaugurated on 16 May 2024 by Dr. Vidyashree Chandaragi, Registrar, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar School of Economics University, Bengaluru. As the Chief Guest of the event, she deliberated on various domains of learning, innovation and human potential. Through her remarkable speech, she shared immense wisdom and insightful thoughts that went on to inspire the participants.



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