The National Assessment and Accreditation Council is an organisation that assesses and accredits higher education Institutions in India. Assessing the quality of education offered by an institution of higher learning is the responsibility of the assessors. Therefore, bringing an objectivity and consistency among assessors draw inferences becomes a major concern of NAAC.

NAAC believes that the quality of the assessment depends on the quality of the assessor. Hence, the orientation of the assessor is a crucial part of accreditation. As the process of NAAC is dynamic, it is imperative that the peers should get an orientation on the methodology from time to time. In the
process, NAAC organizes Assessors Orientation Programme (AOP) which makes space for not only orienting the peers,

But also it conducts simulation exercises, draw strategies to bring down inter team variances in the process of assessment. NAAC also collects the feedback from the Peers based on their field visits. NAAC has organised periodically the Assessors’ Orientation Programmes with a view to equip and update them capable of evaluating performance of HEIs efficiently and effectively. In this series, NAAC has organised Assessors’ Orientation Programme (AOP) Experts from Western Region (Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa) on 02\textsuperscript{nd} August 2019 in Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune. \textbf{Prof. N. J Pawar, (Former Vice chancellor, Shivaji University, Kolhapur) Vice chancellor, Dr. D. Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pimpri, Pune}, in his Opening remarks, explained significance of Assessors’ Orientation Programme (AOP). He shared his experience as an assessor and provided same tips to participants. He listed out the challenges that our country is facing today in preparing and grooming our students to be self sufficient to face the global competences.
Dr. Manikarao Salunke, Former Vice-Chancellor, Central University, Rajasthan and Former Vice-Chancellor, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Vice-Chancellor, Bharathi Vidyapeeth, Pune, has shared the experience of Assessors and also the review of the manual which has been done by the core-committee.
Dr. Ganesh A. Hegde, Deputy Adviser, NAAC, Convenor of the Programme, welcomed the distinguished guests and the esteemed participants to the Assessors’ Orientation Programme (AOP). In his welcome address, he briefed about the programme schedule and Accreditation Framework.

IN SESSION–I: Dr. Ganesh A. Hegde, Deputy Adviser, NAAC, spoke on “Revised Accreditation Framework-An overview”. In addition to the overview of RAF, he specifically projected the critical points in connection with the changes brought in between the earlier and new A & A methodologies. He has drawn a clear picture merging of LOI, IEQA as IIQA, Quality Indicator
Framework(QIF), regarding pre-qualifier, changes in the seven criteria, key indicators, SSR, onsite visit, non-applicable metrics etc.

**IN SESSION- II, Dr. D. K. Kamble**, Assistant Adviser, NAAC, dealt with **IIQA, DVV, SSS and Logistics**. Basically he focused on IIQA, Data Validation & Verification, DVV Clarification, Student Satisfaction Survey and process of Logistics module.

There were 65 participants from 04 States representatives from Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa for Accredited institutions from Western Region. Before lunch Dr. Ganesh Hegde, Deputy Adviser, NAAC has explained the Introduction to Group Activity and activity to be undertaken after the lunch. He explained that after the lunch the participants will be sub-divided into seven groups. Each group has made the role plays (simulation), Pre-visit Meeting, Interactions with Principal/ Management, Faculty/Students etc. Each group has been requested to prepare the report and score card for the SSR and presented.
IN SESSION- III: In the open forum Prof. R.S Mali, Former Vice-Chancellor, Chaired the Session, Dr. Ganesh Hegde, Deputy Adviser, NAAC and Dr. D.K. Kamble, Assistant Adviser, NAAC, chaired the session and clarified the doubts. Dr Ganesh A. Hegde requested the assessors to be ambassadors of the NAAC and to promote the quality in Higher Education in India.

The programme was organized and convened by Dr. Ganesh Hegde, Deputy Adviser, NAAC, and coordinated by Dr. D. K. Kamble, Assistant Adviser, NAAC.

Dr. Ganesh Hegde, Deputy Adviser
Dr. D. K. Kamble, Assistant Adviser