A brief note on the 2nd Discussion meet of the preparation of State-Wise Analysis of Accreditation reports of Uttar Pradesh held between 12th to 14th of November 2018, at Dr Raj Manohar Lohiya National Law University, Lucknow

Morning Session 12.11.2018

The following are the members present:

(a) State Government Officials
(i) Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh
(ii) Smt. Madhu Joshi, Special Secretary, Higher Education Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh
(iii) Dr. R.K. Chaturvedi, Additional Secretary, U.P. State Higher Education Council

(b) University Representatives
(i) Dr. Nilima Gupta, Vice-Chancellor, CSJM University, Kanpur
(ii) Prof. S.P. Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Lucknow University, Lucknow
(iii) Prof. S.K. Bhatnagar, Vice-Chancellor, Dr. R.M.L. National Law University, Lucknow
(iv) Prof. Rajnikant Pandey, Ex. Vice-Chancellor, Siddharth University, Kapilvastu, Siddharth Nagar
(v) Prof. S.K. Shukla, Registrar, Lucknow University, Lucknow
(vi) Prof. Rajiv Manohar, I.Q.A.C. In-charge, Lucknow University, Lucknow

(c) College Representatives:
(i) Prof. S.D. Sharma, Principal, J.N. P.G. College, Lucknow
(ii) Dr. B.L. Sharma, Assistant Director, Director of Higher Education, Prayagraj, UP
(iii) Dr. Anjulika Nigam, Principal, Government P.G. College, Deoria
(iv) Dr. Mohammad Tariq, Associate Professor, Government P.G. College, Aashiyana, Lucknow
(v) Dr. Mohd. Syed, Associate Professor, Government P.G. College, Aashiyana, Lucknow

NAAC Team Members:
(i) Dr. Wahidul Hasan, Sr. CPO & Convener, Research & Analysis wing, NAAC
(ii) Dr. S. Srikanta Swamy, Academic Consultant, Research & Analysis wing, NAAC
(iii) Prof. Jani Hareshkumar Jayantilal, Former Professor, MBA programme, Sardar Patel University

(iv) Prof. Susmit Prasad Pani, Director, Directorate of Distance & Continuing Education, Utkal University

(v) Dr. S. Ahmad Ali, Professor & Head, Department of Mathematics & Computer Science, Dean, School of Basic Sciences, Babu Banarasi Das University

(Dr. B.S Madhukar, former Adviser NAAC could not attend the meeting due to illness.)

Dr. S. Srikanta Swamy, Academic Consultant, Research & Analysis wing, NAAC welcomed the Chief Guest Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Guest of Honor Dr. Nilima Gupta, Vice-Chancellor, CSJM University, Kanpur, Vice-Chancellors, Professors, Registrar and Principals, NAAC Officials and experts involved in the preparation of state-wise analysis of accreditation reports, for the discussion meet.

Dr. Wahildul Hasan offered flower bouquets to the guests, on behalf of NAAC. To set the tone of discussion to follow, Dr. Hasan made a power point presentation highlighting the Purpose of preparation of state wise Analysis Report of Uttar Pradesh. Professor S.P. Pani, (Retd. Director, DDCE Utkal University – NAAC expert for preparing the report) made presentation on the following objectives of preparation for the report:

- To provide a bird’s eye view of NAAC accredited institutions of U.P
- To briefly introduce NAAC System of Assessment, Accreditation and Grading
- To Provide both quantitative and qualitative analysis of assessment reports of accredited institutions of U.P
- To suggest a road map for enhancement of quality in HEIs of Uttar Pradesh
- To prepare a SWOC (strength, weakness, opportunities and challenges) analysis of HEIs of U.P

Professor H.J. Jani, emphasized the need for creating movement for accreditation & re-accreditation. Is presentation highlighted how below 10% institution are accredited in Uttar Pradesh While many colleges have gone through first cycle of accreditation most of them have not gone for re-accreditation. Majority of general BA, B.Com. B.Sc. colleges have not gone for accreditation. In comparison to other states, UP is lagging behind.
Dr. Hasan emphasized that NAAC team has come to UP with the following objectives:

- To impress upon the stakeholders of UP on the need for undertaking the process of accreditation.
- To listen to all the stakeholders on their perception and analysis of quality of higher education in UP.
- To develop a strategy for ensuring that the process of accreditation be carried forward in a time-bound programme.
- To share their experience of other states of India in order to facilitate the process of U.P.
- To facilitate collection of all relevant information, statistical detail and quality features etc. for preparation UP analysis report.

At the request of Dr. Hasan, Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education, Government of Uttar Pradesh addressed the gathering. She presented a micro picture at Higher Education scenario, outlined the vision of the UP Government and the policies and practices of UP Government. She also explained the organizational structure of Higher Education in UP. She spoke about the 21 points of action plan in Higher Education. She outlined her objectives for the meeting:

- To identify difficulties faced by UP in achieving the targeted goal in the process of accreditation.
- To evolve a strategy/plan of action with short term (year-wise programme for coming 5 year) and mid-term – long term plan (5, 10, 20 & 30 year) of action. She emphasized the need for evolving points of action.
- To interact with the VCs, Principals and NAAC experts/officials to facilitate preparation of a document. She emphasized that we must know where we stand and where we want to go. This would help us in preparing the road map from the present to the future. She sought the help of all in evolving a shared vision and then follow the agreed path.

Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain, IAS, interacted with the members present. The VC’s, Principals and other Government officials expressed their opinions and shared their experience.
Following emerged out of the interaction:

- Lack of awareness on the need for NAAC accreditation.
- Resource crunch at college/university level to prepare for NAAC accreditation
- Fear of low score or even non-accreditation status for various reasons like lack of adequate teachers.
- As the entire process at NAAC accreditation is in English and an online operation, number of persons involved in the process lack the necessary IT skills and English language ability.
- Resources crunch at the State level and at Institution level to ensure minimum expenditure related to visit, renewal of physical infrastructure, maintenance expenditure, strengthening of library, ICT facilities etc.

After threadbare discussion following suggestions emerged to address the above difficulties:
Awareness Seminars/workshops be conducted at the University / District level to familiarise the colleges on the need for NAAC accreditation. The seminar / workshops may be of one day duration. Experts (from within UP who have acted as NAAC assessors and from outside the states) may be invited to inspire the colleges and galvanize the institutes to a phase action and enthusiasm, motivational speakers may be involved.

**Points of Action – Universities Co-ordination with Higher Education:**
It is proposed that 30-40 assessors from UP may be identified, who will hand-hold institutions, applying for NAAC accreditations. The selected assessors/experts will be deployed to the colleges depending on their expertise and place of posting by the State Higher Education to help the institutions for accreditation. The State Higher Education may act as nodal centre, who will be deputing these assessors to college as and when required. The TA/DA/Honorarium may be borne by NAAC. Higher Education UP shall submit a budget to NAAC and claim bills shall be forwarded by Chief Higher Education to NAAC for payment. On Chief Higher Education certification NAAC would release funds to the experts. The selected assessor will be oriented (Train the Trainer) in a two day workshops to be held Lucknow in collaboration and support of NAAC, DHE UP & UPHE (Action NAAC, UPCHE)
- All the officials (Universities, Government official, Universities Officials) would extend all help and provide statistical details to NAAC, MHRD and other agencies.
• Director Higher Education and Regional Higher Education Officers of U.P government are having primary responsibilities of ensuing accreditation by NAAC.
• U.P Govt/Higher Education Department Officers may issue necessary circulars to facilitate accreditation process.
• Government and government aided colleges and state universities be top priorities of the government for accreditation process. Sources for funds may be explored and allotted to the HEIs for accreditation process.

2nd Sitting 2 PM to 6 PM
The first chapter drafts prepared by Prof. S.P. Pani, Dr. S. Srikanta Swamy and Dr. R.K. Chaturvedi were presented and discussed at length. It was agreed that these would be merged and edited by Prof. S.P. Pani. This chapter be finalised by 15th Dec. 2018. The draft be shared amongst all the members’ ad department of Higher Education, UP Government and suggestion from all be invited. Incorporating suggestion the first chapter be finalised by 30th Dec., 2018. The data available in survey report of All India Higher Education in India published by MHRD for 2016-17 be utilised. UP figures be compared with All India figure and other comparable state like Maharashtra, Tamilnadu and Karnataka, etc. NAAC would explore the possibility of translating the manual to Hindi with the help of UP Higher Education. The Chief Secretary has assured that she will help in getting it translated.

3rd Sitting -9 AM to 1 PM on 13.11.2018
The draft of 2nd chapter prepared by Dr. S. Srikanta Swamy was presented. This chapter was finalised.

4th Sitting -2 PM to 5 PM on 13.11.2018
The draft of 3rd chapter was also presented by Dr. S. Srikanta Swamy and was discussed and was finalised. The 4th chapter was presented by Prof. Jani Hareshkumar Jayantilal in part and was discussed. It was agreed that the 4th chapter will be completed by 31st Dec., 2018. This would be shared amongst all for feedback.
5th Sitting- 8 AM to 11 AM on 14.11.2018

The following scheduled was agreed:

- Completion of chapters 5, 6 & 7 by 15th Feb., 2019
- First draft to be shared amongst all by 01.03.2019
- The final draft to be released for printing 10.03.2019
- Translation to Hindi by UP Government by 15.03.2019
- Release of report between 15 – 30 April, 2019 to be worked out by NAAC and UP Government

The meeting ended with thanks from the convener.