

## **A Report on One-day workshop on “Revised Assessment and Accreditation Framework of NAAC” sponsored by NAAC**

A one-day workshop on “Revised Assessment and Accreditation Framework of NAAC” sponsored by NAAC was organized by IQAC, Dibrugarh University on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2019. The inaugural session was graced by Prof. L.K.Nath, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor In-charge, Dibrugarh University; Dr.H.C Mahanta, Registrar, Dibrugarh University; Prof.A.N.Rai, Former Director, NAAC; Prof. G.C Hazarika, Centre for Computer Studies and Applications, Dibrugarh University; Prof. J. C. Kalita, Director, HRDC, Gauhati University and Prof. Utpal Sarma, Coordinator, IQAC, Gauhati University. The Inaugural Session of the workshop started with the lighting the lamps by the dignitaries. Principal, teachers, coordinators and members of IQAC from different affiliated colleges under Dibrugarh University were present in the inaugural session.



The welcoming speech was addressed by Dr.H.C.Mahanta, Registrar, D.U. He welcomed the gathering by a Sanskrit shloka. He complemented NAAC and IQAC, D.U. for organizing the workshop. He briefly outlined the changes in the Higher Educational Institutions to enhance the

quality of education. Also, he highlighted the role of NAAC in uplifting the quality of Higher Education in India.

The workshop was inaugurated on behalf of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor by Prof. L.K.Nath, the Vice-Chancellor In-charge, Dibrugarh University. Prof. Nath in his inaugural speech mentioned how NAAC has created a momentum of quality assessment to motivate the institutions for continuous quality improvement process from which institutions can be aware of their weaknesses and strengths. He pointed out that more than 50% of the colleges under Dibrugarh University are yet to be accredited by NAAC till date.

The Inaugural speech was followed by the Key Note Address of Prof. A.N. Rai, Former Director, NAAC on the topic "Quality Assurance issues in Higher Education." He praised the Dibrugarh University fraternity for its good quality of infrastructure and wonderful environment he has witnessed in his second visit to the University after a long period of 25 years. Starting from the establishment of NAAC, he covered all the important issues related to Accreditation & Assessment (A & A) in a very lucid manner. He mentioned that he was appointed as Director of NAAC on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2013. At that time, HRDC and UGC came together to ensure that more colleges and institutions of the country were covered under A & A program. He discussed various issues related to Higher Education in India pertaining to regulation and quality assurance. He mentioned that NAAC is the only agency in the country which performs institutional accreditation. In a brief note, he discussed the overall issues related to general, internal & external functioning of the A&A program. He also mentioned that way back in 2015, North-East India had higher percentage of national A & A than any other states.

The inaugural session was followed by three technical sessions. Technical session-I was addressed by Prof. G.C Hazarika, CCSA, Dibrugarh University on the topic "Revised Accreditation Framework (RAF) of NAAC: New Dimensions." In his talk, he discussed the importance of the five core values related to A & A of NAAC, viz. contributing to national development, fostering global competencies among students, inculcating a value system among students, promoting the use of technology and quest for excellence. He also discussed the general instructions for online submission of Institutional Information for Quality Assessment (IIQA) and listed the required documents to be uploaded. He also mentioned the changes of 21 points in

RAF launched in July 2017. The revised A & A framework represents an explicit paradigm shift making it Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enabled, objective and transparent.

Technical session-II was addressed by Prof. Utpal Sarma, Coordinator, IQAC, Gauhati University on the topic “Revised Accreditation Framework of NAAC: Opportunities and Challenges.” Prof. Sarma has elaborately discussed each and every step on how an institution has to follow the entire online A & A process. He emphasized on those components where an institute can acquire more weightage. According to RAF, those institutions who were already accredited to the old process also have to register again under the new process.

Technical session-III was conducted by Prof. J. C. Kalita, Director, HRDC, Gauhati University on the topic “Innovative Practices, Research and Developing Collaboration in Higher Education Institution (HEI) as per UGC quality mandate.” Prof. Kalita has started his talk with a very remarkable example related to his stay in London, during 1997. At that time, when Tony Blair was elected as Prime Minister of UK, he was asked for his top three priorities and surprisingly all his three priorities were only Education. Once, President Obama said “Our Leadership tomorrow depends on how we educate our students today.” Educated people are the most valuable resource. Prof. Kalita focused on issued related to Research because research can potentially solve big problems in the society we live therefore, according to him we must ensure that in this 21<sup>st</sup> century we should work on four major skills, i.e. critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creation.



The workshop ended with a valedictory session. The rapporteurs of all the sessions are Sulaxana Bharali and Sakuntala Deka of the Department of Statistics, Dibrugarh University. All the participants had praised NAAC for sponsoring the Workshop and IQAC, Dibrugarh University for holding the workshop in a systematic manner. Prof. K. Bhuyan, Director, IQAC, Dibrugarh University offered vote of thanks on behalf of the organizing committee of the workshop. Prof. Bhuyan expressed deep sense of gratitude to NAAC for giving Dibrugarh University the opportunity to hold the Workshop. He also expressed his thankfulness to the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and other members of the University authority for their support and constructive suggestions from time to time. He also offered his vote of thanks to all the resource persons, participants, IQAC members, rapporteurs, care taker of the conference hall, faculty members of the organizing institute and others involving directly or indirectly in this endeavour. He also suggested the colleges who are yet to be accredited, to be accredited as soon as possible and declared the end of the programme.

*Kalyan Bhuyan*

(Prof. K. Bhuyan)

Director

IQAC

Dibrugarh University