A Brief Report of
one day Awareness Workshop on NAAC Revised Accreditation Framework,
organized by
Fakir Mohan University, Balasore, Odisha
in collaboration with
NAAC Bangalore

The Fakir Mohan University, Vyasa Vihar, Balasore was established by the Government of Odisha, under Section 32 of the Odisha Universities Act, 1989 (Act 5 of 1989) notified by vide Government Notification No. 973 dated 3rd July, 1999. The University has been duly recognized by the UGC under section 2(f) of the UGC Act by the Notification No. F-9-1 / 2000 (CPP-I), dated 11th February 2000 and under section 12(B), vide UGC letter No. F.9-1 /2000 (CPP-I) dated 23rd December, 2005. It has been accredited by NAAC with a B+ Grade and also the Association of Indian Universities by vide letter no. Meet: SC: 261:2K/108693, dated 22nd August, 2000. Besides, Fakir Mohan University has been placed in the band of 151-200 top Universities of India by NIRF. The University is functioning in two campuses: the Old campus at Ganeswarpur, Januganj and the New Campus at Nuapadhi. Ninety four (94) colleges of Bhadrak and Balasore districts are affiliated to the University.

In view of the need of mandatory accreditation for improving quality of Higher Education Institutions in the country, Fakir Mohan University has organized a one Day workshop entitled NAAC Revised Accreditation Framework (RAF) on 11th September, 2019. The main objective of this workshop was to bring together all the non-accredited Colleges and Colleges/University which is due for reaccreditation for 2nd/3rd cycle affiliated to Fakir Mohan University and create awareness among them about the NAAC's Revised Accreditation Framework.

In total 85 participants had attended the workshop. These included Principals, Directors, IQAC Coordinators, faculty members and officials of 50 Colleges/ Institutes affiliated to Fakir Mohan University and 40 faculty members from the two campuses of the University.

Inaugural Session
The inaugural programme of the workshop was started with "**University Anthem"** at 10.30 AM followed by ceremonial lighting by dignitaries on the dais. Dr. Ranindra Kumar Nayak, Director, College Development Council and Co-convenor of the Workshop welcomed all the dignitaries and participants. The session was presided over by Prof. Madhumita Das, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, of Fakir Mohan University. The session was also graced by Prof. Kumar Bar Das, Former Vice Chancellor of Fakir Mohan University, Dr. Sitansu Kumar Samal, Regional Director of Education, Balasore, and Prof. Amiya Kumar Rath, Adviser NAAC as Resource Persons.

[From Right to Left: Dr. R. K. Nayak, Director CDC; Prof. S. Dehuri, Chairman, PGC; Prof. K. B. Das, Former VC of FMU; Prof. M. Das, Vice Chancellor; Prof. A. K. Rath, Adviser NAAC; Dr. S. K. Samal, RDE]

Prof. Satchidananda Dehuri, Chairman, Post Graduate Council cum convenor of the workshop welcomed and introduced the distinguished guests and briefed the participants about the objective and rationale of the workshop. He informed that the Revised Accreditation Framework of NAAC has necessitated documentation of the details on all aspects related to curricular aspects, Teaching-Learning and evaluation, Student Support and Progression, Research, Infrastructure, Governance, Best Practices, etc. He further expressed a hope that non-accredited affiliated colleges would come forward for assessment and accreditation as an immediate outcome of this workshop.

Dr. S. K. Samal suggested all non-accredited colleges to secure good NAAC grade by putting their holistic effort in all directions. He also mentioned the benefits that a college gets after successful assessment and accreditation by NAAC. Prof. Kumar Bar Das highlighted about the benefits of securing a good NAAC grade.

In her presidential address, Prof Madhumita Das, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor emphasized on the need for accreditation of the Colleges affiliated to the F. M. University. She was also indebted of the NAAC for the financial support in organizing the workshop.

[Address by Prof. Madhumita Das, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor]

The Keynote address was delivered by Prof. Amiya Kumar Rath. He introduced the concept of the NAAC's Revised Accreditation Framework. He emphasized that how the NAAC is striving

to make the process of assessment more robust, technology friendly, and transparent. He further stated that tutorials and helpdesk are available for understanding the RAF.

[Prof. A. K. Rath delivering the Keynote Address]

The inaugural session concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Ranindra Kumar Nayak, Director, CDC.

Technical Session
In this session, Prof. Amiya Kumar Rath made a detailed presentation on the Revised Accreditation Framework of NAAC. He explained minute details of the Assessment & Accreditation (A & A) process beginning with the eligibility criteria to online submission of 'Institutional Information for Quality Assessment (IIQA)'. Next, he described as to how the HEI's applying for A & A process for the first time (Cycle1 Process) has to register and proceed. He informed that "IIQA User Manual" is available on the dashboard for help. Also, the required documents and the ones to be uploaded were also enlisted. The IIQA Application Process was explained in detail. Thereafter, Prof. Rath discussed the changes introduced in the Revised Assessment and Accreditation (A&A) Framework, representing an explicit paradigm shift making it ICT enabled, objective, robust, and transparent. Subsequently, Prof. Rath explained all the seven Criteria to serve as basis for assessment of HEIs in detail. The Key Indicators, including the New Introduced ones, were also explained with suitable examples. Prof. Rath concluded by saying that each and every data should be supported with verifiable document, therefore utmost care should be taken before submitting the SSR.

In the post lunch session, Prof. Rath made an on-line demonstration of activities which were discussed at pre-lunch session by him. He also deliberated upon "Peer Team Visit". He also made it clear that the Peer Team is not for grievance redressal, therefore, the faculty, employees and students during interaction with Peer Team should put forth answers honestly and desist from forwarding their personal grievances.

[Participants of the Workshop]

At the end an **interactive session** was made to address the queries and questions of the participants. Prof. Rath answered to the questions. The queries were related to online submission of AQAR, Student Satisfaction Survey, timeline for second cycle, data on student progression, placement, etc. With a concluding note Prof. Madhumita Das, VC, expressed her gratefulness to the Resource Person for taking pains in travelling to Balasore and making the sessions lively with his informative presentation. She thanked the participants for their keen interest and active interaction during the sessions. He also thanked NAAC for extending support in conduct of the workshop.

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