

**Report of One Day Awareness Workshop on
“NAAC Revised Accreditation Framework (RAF)”**

Organized by: Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal
University (A Central University), Srinagar (Garhwal), Uttarakhand
29th April, 2019, Academic Activity Centre, Chauras Campus

Addressing the changing paradigms of higher education, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bengaluru developed Revised Accreditation Framework (RAF) to make the existing assessment and accreditation process more robust, objective, transparent, outcome oriented and stakeholder friendly.

It is in this context, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University (HNBGU) organized a one day NAAC sponsored awareness workshop under the theme, "NAAC Revised Accreditation Framework (RAF)" on 29th April, 2019. In view of the need of mandatory accreditation for improving quality of Higher Education Institutions in the country, the main objective of this workshop was to bring together all the non accredited colleges affiliated to HNB Garhwal University and create awareness among them about the NAAC's Revised Accreditation Framework. Registration for the workshop started at 10:00 AM followed by the Inaugural Session, Technical Session I, Technical Session II and Open Session, as per the schedule.

In all, 74 participants attended the workshop. These included Principals, Directors, IQAC Coordinators, faculty members and officials of 35 colleges/ institutes affiliated to HNBGU; and 08 faculty members from the three campuses of the University.

Inaugural Session

Dr. Mahendra Babu Kuruva, Assistant Director, IQAC welcomed all the guests and participants. The session was presided over by Prof. Annpurna Nautiyal, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, HNB Garhwal University. The session was also graced by Prof. J.P. Pachauri, Former Dean of School of Humanities & Social Sciences, HNB Garhwal University and Dr. Shyam Singh Inda, Assistant Adviser, NAAC as Resource Persons.

Prof. O.P. Gusain, Director IQAC welcomed all 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 Curriculum, Teaching-Learning, Student Support, Research, Infrastructure, Governance etc. He further expressed a hope that more affiliated colleges would come forward for assessment and accreditation as an immediate outcome of this workshop.

Prof. J.P. Pachauri said that during his nineteen years association with NAAC, the methodology of assessment has changed for better. He also mentioned the benefits that an the college gets after successful assessment and accreditation by NAAC.

The Keynote address was delivered by Dr. Shyam Singh Inda. 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.

In her presidential address, Prof Annpurna Nautiyal, Vice Chancellor, extended a very warm welcome to the participants and the resource persons. She emphasized on the need for accreditation of the colleges and institutes affiliated to the University. She was also appreciative of the NAAC for the support in organizing the workshop.

The inaugural session concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Nitin Sati, Assistant Director, IQAC.

Technical Session I

In this session, Dr. Shyam Singh Inda 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, Dr. Inda discussed the changes introduced in the Revised Assessment and Accreditation (A&A) Framework in July 2017, representing an explicit paradigm shift making it ICT enabled, objective, robust and transparent.

Subsequently, Dr. Inda 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.

Dr. Inda concluded by saying that each and every data should be supported with verifiable document, therefore utmost care should be taken before submitting the SSR.

Technical Session II

In the post lunch session, Prof. J.P. Pachauri deliberated upon "Peer Team Visit". He told the participants that in the revised framework, the number of Peer Team members and duration of visit has been reduced. He also mentioned that the expense on the visit and stay of Peer team members is borne fully by NAAC. Prof. Pachauri cited many examples how any false information mentioned by the college in SSR is revealed by the Peer Team. He, cautioned, that such practise is not acceptable and the college should always submit only that information which could be verified. 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.

Open Session

The last session of the workshop was to address the queries and questions of the participants. Prof. J.P. Pachauri and Dr. Shyam Singh Inda jointly answered to the questions. Prof. O.P. Gusain, Director, IQAC was the moderator of the session. The queries were related to online submission of AQAR, Student Satisfaction Survey, timeline for second cycle, data on student progression, placement in UG college etc.

At the end of session, Director, IQAC summarized the proceedings of the workshop. Prof. Gusain expressed his gratefulness to the Resource Persons for taking pains in travelling to Srinagar and making the sessions lively with their informative presentations. He 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. The workshop concluded with distribution of certificates to the participants.

