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EXPECTATIONS OF THE NAAC FROM COLLEGES DURING RE-ACCREDITATION

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Abstract:

The progress of a country is possible only when its citizens are dynamic entrepresing and responsible. Without such citizens, a country can not achieve progress in any field. The education is the most important tool to create such type of citizens. The development of a nation mostly depends up on the growth of education in the society. In the development of any country primary education helps in creating base while higher education is important for providing the cutting edge. Higher education institutes contribute to the growth of nation by providing specialized knowledge and skilled manpower. These higher education institute viz. colleges, universities, IITs, IIMs can provide the necessary trained and educated manpower required for development improving environment preserving and implementation of various programmes needed for nation development (Singh and Ahmad 2011).

KEYWORDS:

NAAC, Education, Social Process.

INTRODUCTION

Education is a social process. The forms and content of education of any age and society is a product of society - education, dialectics. Higher education mainly starts after +12 level. Higher education imparts in-depts knowledge and understanding so as to advance the students to new frountiers of knowledge in different works of life. It broaders the intellectual power of the individual and also gives him /her a wider perspective of the world around (Benjamin, 2011).

According to Barnett (1992) there are four predominant concepts of higher education, firstly higher education as the production of qualified human resources, secondly higher education is training for research carrier, thirdly improving environment,

preserving higher education as efficient management of teaching provision and fourth higher education as a matter of extending life chances. All these four concepts are integrated and given overall picture of "higher" in the higher education system.

After independence, the education has spread over to the rural masses. 2010-2011, the number of universities have reached the figure over 500, over 24000 colleges and million students and above 500000 teachers are in the process of higher education; in India. The women students enrollment is also significantly increased. It is also because of awareness about higher education and its impact on service sector. As education has become an essential tool for achieving sustainability and personality development (Ugra 2010).

Higher education or university education had played a major vole for the improving environment, preserving natural resources and making an economic as well as social impact. The universities and colleges performing role in higher education have several functions. Two of them are considered as most

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important, vital and essential, namely knowledge dissemination and research knowledge generation. The core mission of higher education is to educate, train, undertake research and provide service to community.

NAAC - A QUALITY REGULATOR IN HIGHER EDUCATION -

The NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) was established by the UGC in September 1994. It was the National Policy on Education of 1986 that recommended the Plan of Action. NAAC was established as an autonomous body by the University Grants Commission after many years of national consultations. Today NAAC is an autonomous body assigned to assess the quality of education in various universities and colleges in India. This institution lays down certain norms of quality and standards for assessing the performance of citadel of higher learning. The main objectives (Soni & Sodha 2009) of NAAC are:

- The grade institutions of higher learning and their programmes.
- To stimulate the academic enrolment and quality of teaching and research.
- To help the institutions to realize their academic objectives.
- To promote necessary changes - innovations and reforms.
- To encourage self-evaluation and accountability in higher learning.

Today quality in higher learning has become the very important factor in the world. All higher educational institutions in India are to be assessed by NAAC periodically. An effort is made to make Indian Educational Institutions world class. The professional institutions are also to be assessed by National Board of Accreditation which is similar to NAAC.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE -

The NAAC has identified seven criteria to serve as the basis for its assessment procedure viz.,

- i)Curriculum Aspects.
- ii)Teaching-Learning and Evaluation.
- iii)Research, Consultancy and Extension.
- iv)Infrastructure and Learning Resources.
- v)Student Support and Progression.
- vi)Governance and Leadership.
- vii)Innovative Practices.

First Accreditation : Every college / higher education institute has to submit S.S.R. (Self Study Report) based on above criteria. The colleges were accreditated by NAAC peer Team. The most of the colleges of the Shivaji University accreditated with grade B, B+, B++. Very few colleges were awarded A grade. The peer-team gave recomondations and suggestions with respect to above mentioned seven criteria. They have identified SWOT of every college.

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SWOT -

Strength	-	Core faculty Library Infrastructure Quality Students
Weaknessess	-	Library Infrastructure Financial constrains Poor ICT facilities
Opportunities	-	Research consultancy Placement services Promotion of Activities through NSS & Sports.

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Threats - Inadequate staff
Barriers by the Govt.
Least freedom.

The above SWOT is general analysis & it may vary from college to college. In spite of these every college is trying to achieve excellence in higher education due to accreditation and Re-accreditation processes adopted by NAAC.

Re-accreditation - This process was started immediately after first accreditation. NAAC has given five year span to prepare RAR (Re-accreditation Report). In this Re-accreditation phase the formation IQAC, Research committees, parent - teacher association were the prominent features. They have also stressed for placement services of the students.

Impact of the Accreditation - Accreditation and Re-accreditation is mandatory for every educational institution. The teachers should involve themselves in conducting research activities. The upgradation of the colleges must be done through this process. An atmosphere has to be created by all the components of education system, so that our student must be developed to accept the challenges of higher education.

EXPECTATION FROM NAAC :

- i) The innovative programmes must be framed for the students development.
- ii) NAAC should consider the situation of the college and its functioning in a proper way.
- iii) The peer-team members should be with one representative of the particular state as a co-ordinator so that he can give proper guidance to the team while Re-accreditation.
- iv) NAAC should consider the present scenario of the college and assessment should be done on actual visits. The factual facts should be considered while assessment.

CONCLUSION:

NAAC accreditation as well as Re-accreditation identifies SWOT of every college. During the course of Re-accreditation and further in third cycle the weaknesses can be converted into strengths of each college with the help of student teachers, parents and management. It will be helpful to the college to produce highly interactive strong capable citizens of India. They can also face the challenges of the global era to make India "worldpower".

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