

Revised Accreditation Framework: An Awareness Workshop for Affiliated Colleges of NEHU

India is one of the largest countries in the world in terms of diversified educational system. It has been able to create a huge infrastructure for higher education at the College and University levels. Initially the Central Government and various State governments in India were running educational institutions but the role of private sector in education has been very important in the recent past after globalization and liberalisation of Indian economy. Foreign Universities are also showing interest in India to have collaboration with Indian Universities and Colleges. As a result of all these reasons number of educational institutions in the country has witnessed a manifold increase. Institutions have also started introducing various programmes in new and emerging areas in curriculum both at Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels because of their autonomy. Although access to higher education has improved significantly there has been concern regarding the quality of education and their practical relevance. To address these issues a need was felt at the national level to establish one autonomous institution to ensure quality in higher education and act as an independent Accreditation Agency. Accordingly National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) were established in 1994 in Bangalore. The vision of NAAC has been to make quality the key element of higher education in the country through a combination of self and external quality evaluation, promotion and sustenance initiatives. It has been running since its establishment with five-point mission of which one of these is to arrange for periodic assessment and accreditation of higher educational institutions or units thereof, or specific academic programmes or projects. Towards this end the NAAC developed the following set of seven criteria in July 2017 to serve as the basis of its assessment procedures under the Revised Accreditation Framework (RAF) taking cognisance of changing trends in higher education and aligning the reforms and rapidly transforming global education scenario: (i) Curricula Aspects, (ii) Teaching-learning and Evaluation, (iii) Research, Innovations and Extension, (iv) Infrastructure and Learning Resources, (v) Student Support and Progression, (vi) Governance, Leadership and Management, and (vii) Institutional Values and Best Practices. The revised framework developed in partnership with stakeholders has a distinct focus on capturing data for quantitative assessment and process details for qualitative assessment. It is an effort to make the assessment and accreditation process more robust, objective, and transparent, outcome oriented and stakeholder friendly. Since introduction of RAF, a number of educational institutions in India have taken its advantage and have been evaluated through the mechanism developed by NAAC. However,

many institutions are yet to show their interest in getting them evaluated and accredited by NAAC. Probably these institutions are either not aware of the benefits of accreditation or are in disadvantageous position because of number of constraints faced by them in day to day running of their institutions. Some of the major benefits of accreditation of an institution are as follows:

- Institution would be in a position to know its strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities through an informed review process;
- Would be able to Identify internal areas of planning and resource allocation;
- Would be able to show collegiality on the campus;
- Would be able to show their strength to funding agencies who look for objective data for performance funding;
- Would be motivated to initiate innovative and modern methods of pedagogy;
- Would get new sense of direction and identity;
- Would be in a position to show its strength to the society who look for reliable information on quality education;
- Would be able to convince the employers who look for reliable information on the quality of education offered to the prospective recruits; and
- Finally, it would be able to inculcate a culture of intra and inter-institutional interactions.

Keeping these points in view the NAAC has been encouraging various educational institutions in the country to organise workshops to create awareness among non-accredited institutions about the necessity and importance of accreditation. To this end, NEHU received a letter of invitation from NAAC to organise two-day's workshop for its non-accredited affiliated colleges. Accordingly Internal Quality Assurance Cell of NEHU has been assigned the task of organising a workshop on Revised Accreditation Framework: An Awareness Workshop for Affiliated Colleges of NEHU during **8-9, August 2019** at NEHU Campus, Umshing, Shillong, Meghalaya – 793 022.

There are in total 70 Colleges affiliated to NEHU of which 20 are already accredited and the rest 50 colleges are non-accredited. Among the non accredited Colleges 40 Colleges belong to the category of general colleges, 32 self-financing colleges, all the 10 Government colleges and 7 health sciences colleges. In Meghalaya there are 7 districts of which East Khasi Hills is socioeconomically advanced in comparison to all other six districts. Literacy rate in East Khasi Hills is as high as 84 percent whereas other districts in the state are having literacy rates varying from 61 percent to 77 percent. Shillong city which falls under East Khasi Hills district has more than 25 colleges. Besides, 40 colleges are spread over different parts of Meghalaya and one

college is situated in Surat, Gujarat. Since there are only 50 non accredited colleges in the state of Meghalaya, all of these affiliated colleges are invited to participate in the Workshop. College may be represented either by the Principal or the IQAC Coordinator of the concerned college. All those participants who would participate in the workshop and coming outside the city of Shillong would be provided shared accommodations in NEHU guest house at Shillong. Because of fund constraint it would be appreciated if College Principals/IQAC Coordinators make their own travel arrangement and bear their travel expenses. However, in exceptional cases the organiser of the workshop would bear their travel cost partially.

All the participants from affiliated Colleges are requested to contact the following on or before 19th of July 2019.

Dated 19th June 2019



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The Principal,

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