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"A" Re-accredited
by NAAC (2014) With CGPA-3.16

SHIVAJI UNIVERSITY, KOLHAPUR-416 004, MAHARASHTRA

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शिवाजी विद्यापीठ, कोल्हापूर-416 004 महाराष्ट्र

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Ref. Shivaji Uni./IQAC/ 6095

Date. 29 August 2015

Dear Stakeholder,

Greetings from IQAC of Shivaji University, Kolhapur!!

You might be aware that the New Education Policy is on the horizon. In this context, Director of NAAC, Prof. D.P. Singh has invited inputs from the stakeholders of Shivaji University, Kolhapur as a part of nationwide consultation on the New Education Policy with a specific focus on "Ranking of Institutions and Accreditations".

IQAC is coordinating this activity. Members of faculty, staff and university associations are requested to send their feedback to IQAC by return mail by September 3, 2015, 6.00 pm. The inputs received will be scrutinized and then incorporated into the response of Shivaji University. The attached letter and document is self-explanatory.

We look forward to your kind inputs,

Sincerely

Sd/-

Director

Board of College & University Development



राष्ट्रीय मूल्यांकन एवं प्रत्यायन परिषद
विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग का स्वायत्त संस्थान
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL
An Autonomous Institution of the University Grants Commission

प्रो. धीरेन्द्र पाल सिंह
निदेशक
Prof. D. P. Singh
Director

F.No.14-19/NEP/DO/2015

26th August 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

Greetings from NAAC.

You may be aware that the Ministry of Human Resource Development has initiated the process of consultations for formulating the New Education Policy (NEP). For this purpose, 33 themes have been identified across both School Education (13 Themes) and Higher Education (20 Themes) for the consultations.

The Ministry will be holding thematic consultations on all the 33 Themes. Meanwhile since NAAC has the wide experience and background about Assessment & Accreditation, the MHRD (Ministry of Human Resource Development) has assigned NAAC to undertake consultation on the Theme of "**Ranking of Institutions and accreditations**".

A brief write-up provided by the MHRD on this theme is enclosed for your kind reference.

The NAAC is privileged to have association with large number of Colleges & Universities as its accredited Institutions. Since these Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) are key stakeholders of proposed policy reforms in accreditation and issues like ranking etc, we at NAAC are seeking your inputs in this national consultation.

You are requested to conduct a special session or meeting under the auspices of Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) to consider enclosed draft (**Annexure-A**) and give your specific inputs on various issues raised in the document at **Annexure-B**. For this special meeting of IQAC you may like to invite experts, academics, industry representatives, civil society, concerned associations & other stake holders of quality higher education.

You are requested to conduct these meetings preferably before **5th September, 2015** and send a brief note containing recommendations arising out of consultative meetings so as to reach NAAC on or before **8th September, 2015**.

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A soft copy of the report may be mailed to nep.naac@gmail.com. Any queries in this regard may be addressed to my colleague **Dr. Jagannath Patil, Adviser i/c, NAAC, Tel No: 080-23005182.**

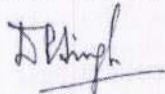
Kindly note that your inputs will be considered at a National Consultative meeting held at NAAC, Bangalore on **16th September, 2015** coinciding with foundation day celebration of NAAC.

NAAC will send a consolidated report to MHRD as an input to nationwide consultation on New Education Policy (NEP).

As the key stake holder of higher education quality in the country, we request your whole-hearted participation in this national consultation and look forward to your active association with NAAC.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,



(D.P. Singh)

Enclosure: Annexure A & B

To

The Vice-Chancellor/Director

II: Ranking of Institutions and Accreditation

The global ranking of universities is based on an assessment of the institutional performance in the areas of research and teaching, reputation of faculty members, reputation among employers, resource availability, share of international students and activities etc. Most of the top ranking institutions are located in the USA and UK.

The Indian universities do not find a place in the top 200 positions in the global ranking of universities. Even the top ranking institutions of India appear low in the global rankings. As per the Times Higher Education Rankings 2012-13, the top ranked Indian institutions are IIT Kharagpur (234), IIT Bombay (258) and IIT Roorkee (267). The top ranked institutions as per the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) System 2012 were IIT Delhi (212), IIT Bombay (227) and IIT Kanpur (278). Does it imply that India has only low quality higher institutions? The idea of establishing accreditation agencies in India was to enhance standards and quality of higher education.

As a measure of quality assurance India established accreditation agencies in 1994. The institutions of higher education were supposed to approach the accreditation agencies to get their institution or programme accredited. Accreditation was voluntary and as a result only few institutions have approached and accredited in India. Only 140 universities (out of the 164 recognized by the UGC) have got themselves accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and, among them; only 32 percent have rated as A grade or above.

Amongst the 4,870 colleges, as many as 2,780 are accredited by the NAAC and, among them, barely 9 percent are rated as A or above. Doubtless, quality and excellence in colleges leaves much to be desired. Among the accredited institutions, 68 percent of

the universities and 91 percent of the colleges are rated average or below average in terms of quality parameters specified by the NAAC.

The Indian higher education system has expanded and will further expand. This is in response to the increasing social demand for higher education. However, a major share of this expansion has taken place through the private institutions. The quality of facilities and teaching learning process in these institutions is far from satisfactory. An assessment and accreditation of institutions are important, especially in the context of mushrooming of private higher education institutions, to ensure quality in higher education.

There is need for effective ways and strategies to expedite the completion of assessment and accreditation by NAAC within a stipulated time frame. Now accreditation is made mandatory for higher education institutions to receive funding support from the UGC. While this is a positive development, the issue of accrediting large number of institutions within a short period of time poses challenges to the accreditation agencies. Some of the state governments, notably the State Councils of Higher Education, have established their own accreditation units. This is an important development to decentralize the accreditation process. The higher education institutions have also established internal quality assurance cells. Their functioning and effect on improving overall quality improvement of the institutions is yet to be assessed. The issues related to ranking and accreditation raises several issues for discussions.

Questions for discussion

- Should India focus its resources on research universities, including liberal arts and social sciences so as to improve the country's position in the global rankings?

- Should not India develop its own ranking system relying on indicators more suitable to Indian situation as other ranking systems have heavy weightage for perception/subjective factors in which Indian Universities lose out.
- Accreditation has been made mandatory for all institutions (whether the institution is publicly funded or not)? Is this approach correct or not?
- How should we facilitate the process of accreditation to make the process more objectively verifiable and transparent?
- Should we focus on programme accreditation or institutional accreditation or both?

Annexure - B

Ranking of Institutions and accreditations

1. What changes could be suggested in the accreditation systems:
 - Having Independent quality assurance frameworks.
 - Having a unified higher education qualification frame work.
 - Role of State Higher Education Council and State Accreditation Council.
 - Changes in Methods of existing accrediting/ regulatory agencies such as NAAC, NBA, UGC, AICTE, COA, DECI, NCTE, etc.
2. What are the hindering factors that make our higher education institutions fare poorly in world rankings?
3. Suggest ways to help our Universities to achieve global standards.
 - Curricular and academic reforms-CBCS, credit transfer, student and faculty mobility, etc.
 - Promoting inter-disciplinary studies, research, innovation, entrepreneurship.