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Shivaji University sets sights on higher NAAC ranking in 2020

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Kolhapur: The Shivaji University, Kolhapur (SUK) is eyeing to upgrade its ranking in the ongoing National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) re-accreditation cycle.

Earlier this month, the university submitted its letter of intent (LOI) to the NAAC and the process for re-accreditation has kicked off.

YEARENDER

The university is hoping to secure A+ ranking in this round of evaluation.

R K Kamat, director of the internal quality assurance cell (IAQC) at the varsity, told TOI that the previous NAAC accreditation expired on December 10 and they had submitted their letter of intent within the deadline. An approval regarding the same was received from NAAC on December 17.

The next step is to submit the self-study report. "Generally, the report has to be submitted within 45 days of receiving the approval. We have ample time to do it now," he said.

He added that they have all the relevant data with them about the academic and administrative activities of each department. "We are aiming for 3.51 plus score in the ongoing re-accreditation cycle. Prior to this process, we had 3.16 score and an A grade. With the committee visit and several other formalities, the grading is likely to be carried out by March-end, next year," he said.

According to Kamat, the A+ grading will enable the university to secure a few good funding and make them eligible for many other facilities.

The varsity has already applied for the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for 2020 and several other initiatives are in the pipeline. "Diversification in the academics is our strength," he said.

He added that the IQAC has received praise from the academicians in the past for ensuring the quality in the administration and academics alike.

It has to be noted that before the third re-accreditation cycle was conducted way back in 2014, the varsity had 'B' grade ranking.

After the NAAC's successful report, varsity got cumulative grade point average score of 3.16, the highest in the state, and earned the 'A' grade.

Meanwhile, in 2016, the NAAC has revised its grading system, under which the four-point grading system-A, B, C, and D has been replaced with seven-point grading system-A++, A+, A, B++, B+, B, C and D.

VARISTY'S EXPANSE

Pic: Rahul Gayakwad

No. of affiliated colleges	No. of in-campus departments	No. of students studying
293	40	Around 3 lakh