

## **CHAPTER 1**

# **INTRODUCTION**

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Introduction:

Assessment and Accreditation of institutions of higher education has recognized as the quality ensuring mechanism all over the world. It has become necessary and relevant to our country as we have developed the world's second largest system of higher education rather rapidly during the last 50 years.

On the recommendations of the Programme of Action on the National Policy on Education (1986) the University Grant Commission (UGC) has established the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in 16<sup>th</sup> September 1994 at Bangalore, for assessing and grading the institutions of Higher Education. Though the assessment is voluntary, the UGC has already indicated that its plan based developmental support will be related to the outcome of assessment and accreditation.

NAAC's process of assessment and accreditation is neither an inspection to ensure minimum standards nor an exercise of faultfinding. In the value judgment continuum the process of assessment is towards the holistic, objective, systematic, data-based, transparent and shared experience for institutional improvement. It's an exercise based on mutual trust.

Though it is institutional accreditation that the NAAC does, the assessment of a library, is the one of the parameter, is a key step that integrates the overall evaluation of that institution. The present study, "Role of NAAC in the Development of Academic College Libraries, Affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur" deals with the assessment of library services. Library is an integral unit of the college or institution of a Higher Education. NAAC has given weightage for modernization of college libraries. The main focus has been given to investigate to know what kind of improvement has been done in relation to collection, services and staff development of libraries.

## 1.2 Importance of the Study

Higher education plays a vital role in the development of any nation. The wave of change towards internationalization of higher education predicts that quality revolution currently assailing higher education is going to be strengthened in future. Therefore, quality and excellence has become key words in higher education. Like in any other domain, the method to improve quality remains the same i.e. finding and recognizing new needs and satisfying them with products and services of global standards. Upgrading the quality of higher education and to make it relevant to the present societal needs and the country is much crucial. Accreditation is like an external audit process. It recognizes educational institutions for performance, integrity and quality that entitle them to the confidence of the educational community and the public. Accreditation, therefore, is fundamental for the survival of the higher educational system.

Along with all other criteria's for assessment NAAC has given preference for the modernization of library. Because of its introduction the college libraries have enhanced the library collection and its services and fulfill their requirement.

The college libraries are catering the needs and support of the academic communities on an educational campus. In the age of high-tech learning environment, the library is called as learning resource centre, which is taking up more academic space and time in the life of a learner. So the role of libraries in the academic and research environment is more important.

In present study deals with "The Role of NAAC in Development of Academic College Libraries, Affiliated to Shivaji University , Kolhapur" the researcher wanted to assess the role of NAAC in enhancing the quality of library services. The researcher wants to focus the impact of NAAC upon the college libraries administration and organization. The main focus is upon to prepare a model for library as per guidelines provided by NAAC

### **1.3 Need of the Study**

Almost more than to ten years of span NAAC made evaluation of Colleges. This is continuous process and colleges have to show their improvement and development in its day to day activities. Such development and improvement will bring qualitative education and research in all fields.

Compare to the other states of India, Maharashtra state is leading in accreditation of NAAC. Accordingly, the affiliated colleges of Shivaji University, Kolhapur have gone for NAAC's accreditation. Hence, there is a need of improvement and applications of its programme according to sub-unit of college so that NAAC has given weightage for modernization of college libraries. It has therefore necessary to know what kinds of improvement have been done in relation to library collection, services, staff development, infrastructure etc.

### **1.4 Scope of the Study:**

The topic of the research is," Role of NAAC in the Development of Academic College Libraries, Affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur."

The present study deals with academic college libraries affiliated to Shivaji University; Kolhapur. Its scope includes Kolhapur, Sangli and Satata districts.

It is seen from university annual report that the total number of affiliated colleges to Shivaji University are 208, out of them 165 colleges are accredited by NAAC. Thus the researcher selected the scope is limited to the three districts i.e. Shivaji University field area.

### **1.5 Objectives of the Study**

The specific objectives of the study are as follows.

- 1) To evaluate present status of college libraries which are accredited by NAAC affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur.
- 2) To assess the role of NAAC in enhancing the quality of college libraries services.

- 3) To study the impact of NAAC on college libraries administration and organization.
- 4) To measure developing of the college libraries after NAAC'S accreditation.
- 5) To study lacunas of college libraries those are not gone for NAAC'S accreditation.
- 6) To prepare a model for library as per guidelines provided by NAAC.

### **1.6 Hypotheses of the Study:**

A hypothesis is an assumption, a considered guess or a tentative conclusion made by the researcher. Hypothesis provides the direction to the entire process of research.

#### **Definition:**

According to George Lundberg, "A hypothesis is a tentative generalization, the validity of which remains to be tested. In this most elementary stage the hypothesis may be any hunch, guess, imaginative idea, which becomes the basis for action or investigation"

Keeping in mind the above objectives of the study, following hypotheses have been designed for the study.

- 1) With the NAAC accreditation programme, college libraries are fast improved.
- 2) NAAC play's a vital role in enhancing the quality of library Services.
- 3) NAAC's guidelines will contribute to the development of College Libraries.
- 4) NAAC brings motivation towards HRM in college libraries.

### **1.7 Research Methodology**

It is a systematic and objective attempt to study a problem for the purpose of deriving general principles .In broad views Research is a systematic quest for Knowledge.

The present study aims to assess 'The Role of NAAC in Development of Academic College Libraries, Affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur'. The researcher is going to adopt descriptive research method for his study.

### 1.7.1 Data Sampling :

For the purpose of present study, the researcher has selected the academic college libraries affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur. There are 208 college libraries located in the three districts i.e. Kolhapur, Sangli and Satara.

### 1.7.2 Sample Design :

Out of 208 (165 colleges are accredited by NAAC) 76 Are professional colleges (Engineering, Medical, Education colleges etc) and 132 Academic Colleges are affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur. Out of 132 academic colleges 94 academic colleges are accredited by NAAC.

Sr. No	Districts	Total no of Academic Colleges accredited by NAAC	No of Academic Colleges where faculties i.e. Arts, Commerce & Science are existed together.
1	Kolhapur	40	13
2.	Sangli	27	09
3.	Satara	27	09
	Total	94	31

From the above mentioned academic colleges, accredited by NAAC, the researcher has been taken the academic colleges where Arts, Commerce and Science faculties are existed together throughout three districts i.e. Kolhapur, Sangli and Satara. Total number of all such accredited colleges are 31, would form the sample.

### 1.7.3 Data Collection Tools :

Following data collection tools have been used to collect the required information for studies.

#### i) Questionnaire:

The researcher selected a questionnaire method for data collection.

#### Definition:

Busha and Harter (1980) opined that, “questionnaire are often used in surveys as the primary data collection instruments” (Busha and Harter, 1980, p. 61).<sup>1</sup>

According to Krishan Kumar (1992), “a questionnaire is a written document listing a series of questions pertaining to the problem under study, to which the investigator requires the answers”

The researcher has prepared a questionnaire where questions are formulated in a sequential manner keeping in mind the objectives of the study. So that it becomes suitable for to get the desired information from the respondents. As the study takes into account the ‘Role of NAAC in Development of Academic College Libraries, Affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur’, the researcher had distributed the questionnaire and made personal contact to collect the data from the college libraries.

#### ii) Interview

#### iii) Observation

The collected data will be analyzed, interpreted keeping in mind the objectives of NAAC. Interpreted results have been tested with hypotheses. Further findings and recommendation has been made. With the help of guidelines provided by NAAC, model library plan has been prepared.

### 1.7.4 Conspectus of the Study

The organization of the dissertation has been planned into five chapters as following:

CHAPTER 1	:	Introduction
CHAPTER 2	:	Overview of NAAC

CHAPTER 3	:	Role of NAAC in Development of College Libraries
CHAPTER 4	:	Analysis and Interpretation of Data
CHAPTER 5	:	Findings, Suggestion and Conclusions

The present research work as outlined above is presented in V chapters. It is structured to cover all related aspects of research topic undertaken for study.

### **Chapter 1 : Introduction**

In this chapter the researcher presented the rationale behind choosing the topic, need of the study, objectives of the study, hypotheses and research methodology and conspectus of the study.

### **Chapter 2 : Overview of NAAC**

In this chapter the researcher has given a brief an account of information about NAAC.

### **Chapter 3 : Role of NAAC in Development of College Libraries.**

In this chapter, the researcher has been described the academic libraries and the role of NAAC in development of academic libraries in context of college libraries affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

### **Chapter 4 : Analysis and Interpretation of Data**

This chapter presents the analysis and interpretation of collected data throughout the questionnaire in the form of tables, graphs, pie-charts, circular graphs.

### **Chapter 5 : Findings, Suggestions and Conclusions**

This chapter indicates findings of the study based on the analysis and interpretation of the data in the previous chapter. It also contains some suggestions which may help to improve the quality of library services.



## 1.8 Literature Review

Literature review is a study of literature available on the problem selected by the researcher. In order to understand the general problems and their context, it is necessary to review the literature published in the area of interest in general, and on the topic of research in particular. A literature search is an attempt to identify, locate and synthesize completed research reports, articles, and books etc. about the specific of a research topic. To this research topic researcher has been reviewed literature as following

**1. Krishnamoorthy, Velagalety (1993).** in the article 'Accreditation and it's Impact on Higher Education in University News, describes the process of accreditation . He also took historical review of accreditation in USA, Britain and Germany. This article provides the process of accreditation as a non-governmental process for evaluation of institutional performance of higher education.<sup>2</sup>

**2. Frazer, Stuart (1994).** In his article 'Specialized Accreditation and Academic Libraries 'has described literature on academic libraries and the accrediting process has centered on regional accrediting agencies. Library guidelines from seventeen specialized accrediting bodies were evaluated and compared to guidelines from regional accreditors. Like the regional accrediting agencies, most specialized accrediting agencies stress input or process measures over output measures. A few specialized accreditors were found to be more prescriptive than the regional accreditors in their demands for collection inputs, particularly journal holdings. An overview of specific characteristics of the specialized accrediting process is offered, along with suggestions for improving the library's participation in the process.<sup>3</sup>

**3. Gnanam A. (1998)** presented the status of work being done by the NAAC. According to him, the NAAC has made a good beginning with several initiatives. He also describes the brief report of the activities i.e. reaching Out, Development of Instruments for Assessment and Accreditation, Interaction

with Professional Bodies, IQAC, and Support for Accreditation cost from UGC and State Governments and Future Plan and IX th plan projections.<sup>4</sup>

**4. Powar , K.B. (2001)** in his article ‘Grading of Institutions by NAAC : A Meta-evaluation ‘attempted the evaluation of evaluation of procedure of assessment and gradation by NAAC has been standardized.<sup>5</sup>

**5. Stella, Antony. (2001)** describes in his article ‘Impact of Assessment and Accreditation on Institutions of Higher Education’ the impact of NAAC on institutions of higher educations . According to him the NAAC’s impact has been felt by the institutions on all aspects of their functioning –pedagogical, managerial and administrative.<sup>6</sup>

**6. Chougale, Praveen. (2002)** in his article ‘Accreditation by NAAC and Destiny of the Colleges in Rural Areas’ has been described background of the establishment of NAAC. He also describes NAAC Parameters and its application to Rural Colleges.<sup>7</sup>

**7. Deshpande, H. V. (2002),** in his article named ‘Quality and Excellence in Higher Education: A vision ‘describes the NAAC’S credibility in the global context. He also states the challenges and vision in context of assessment and accreditation of institutions of Higher Education by NAAC.<sup>8</sup>

**8. Steela, Antony, (2002)** in article named ‘Appropriate Uses of Assessment Outcome ‘has given the brief account of the assessment outcomes are used for one or more of the purposes. Steela Antony also described the characteristics of NAAC’s Methodology of assessment of institutions of Higher Education.<sup>9</sup>

**9. Shafi, Zeenat S. (2002)** in his article ‘Quality Assurance in Open and Distance Learning Institutions’ describes the quality assurance of open and distance learning system through both mono-dual modes of institutions. Open and distance learning institutions provide exciting opportunities for education

and training. Accreditation of distance education programmes is therefore necessary.<sup>10</sup>

**10. Steela, Antony (2003)**, in article named 'The Futuristic Model of Accreditation of NAAC' describes the scenario of Re-accreditation. Steela Antony also describes Electronic Assessment and Accreditation (EAA) through NAAC. EAA would require more radical changes in the way the higher education Institutions are managed to become amenable to electronic data management systems.<sup>11</sup>

**11. Steela Antony (2003)** in article named 'Alternatives Models of External Quality assurance: Departure from Tradition' has been described Academic Audit Models in country like India. The Indian Models i.e. National Board of Accreditation (NBA), Accreditation Board (AB) and National Assessment And Accreditation Council (NAAC) also briefly discussed.<sup>12</sup>

**12. Jamode, V.S. (2003)**, in his article 'A Proposed Action Programme for post NAAC Activities' states that the process of accreditation is now being established in the educational setup gradually. Indian higher education system is growing through process of synchronization and change. The process of advancement has definitely gathered a desired momentum. It has brought the change in the system of work, work culture of universities and colleges. So the post NAAC activity is equally important action plan for continuous and planned improvement of the institute. In this article the phases of post NAAC Activities is described.<sup>13</sup>

**13. Patil, P. B. (2003)** in his article 'College Education, Teachers, Students and NAAC' describes the Nature of Benefits of NAAC. The basic information about NAAC is given in this article is quiet useful for newers. He also gives the light on rural and urban colleges in context of NAAC's accreditation process.<sup>14</sup>

**14. Basa , D.K. (2003)** in his article 'Quality Assessment and Accreditation in Higher Education 'generally gives an account of quality assessment of institutions of higher education and accreditation process of NAAC.<sup>15</sup>

**15. Gosai, M.R. (2003).** In his article 'Institutionalization of Quality Culture through NAAC : Some Theoretical Implications ' has been stated the world View of Assessment and Accreditation. He also describes the Indian view of Assessment and Accreditation. He also gives the account of eligibility of Autonomous Colleges.<sup>16</sup>

**16. Prabhukhanolkar, Rakhi (2003)** in her article 'Rashtriya Mulyanmapan Anni Adhiswikruti Parishad : NAAC (in Marathi) describes the NAAC's Establishment and purpose behind it. Objectives of NAAC, its structure and scope , NAAC's financial side, criteria of NAAC's accreditation.<sup>17</sup>

**17. Stella, Antony (2004)** in article named ' Community Engagement of Indian Universities : what does the Best Practices Approach of the NAAC Indicate?' describes the community engagement in Higher Education and also in NAAC's assessment framework.<sup>18</sup>

**18. Srinivas G. (2004)** in his article 'SWOT Analysis of Assessment and Accreditation Process' describe SWOT analysis of accredited institutions of Higher Education e.g. 109 universities, 1433 colleges on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2004. He fully analysed the strengths, weaknesses of accredited institutions, what are the opportunities for institutions to improve its infrastructure or quality enhancement and the threats are also has been identified.<sup>19</sup>

**19 Stella, Antony (2004)** in article titled as 'The Re-Accreditation Framework of NAAC : Building on the Lessons from the First Assessment, states the results of first phase accreditation. As done in the first assessment, building on the lessons from experience, NAAC has developed the methodology for Re-

accreditation. This article presents the re-accreditation framework into two parts :

- i) The lessons learnt in the first assessment
- ii) Highlights how the re-accreditation framework is built on those lesson<sup>20</sup>

**20. Verma , Yogindar (2004)** in his article ‘Accreditation and Thereafter : A Model for Quality Enhancement in Higher Education Institutions’ states the NAAC and Quality Assurance in Higher Education . He also describe the post Accreditation Quality Enhancement Model. The essential prerequisites for quality education has been described in detail.<sup>21</sup>

**21. Soundararaj, Francis (2006)** in his article ‘Quality Sustenance and Enhancement: Models and Strategies ‘ has been described the Philosophy of Quality of NAAC , Quality Framework of Assessment which includes National development , global competence , a value system, use of technology, Quest for Excellence. This article also describes a post accreditation strategy of NAAC i.e. Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC). He also take the account of ISO9000 : 2000, ISO 9001:2000 for education.<sup>22</sup>

**22. Gnanam,A and Steela, Antony (2006)** in their article titled ‘ Revisiting the Quality Assurance Model of the NAAC : Understanding it in the Right Perspectives’ have been described the characteristics of NAAC’s model. They also make comments of the Academia . They criticizes the NAAC’s Process in changing scenario.<sup>23</sup>

**23. Pradhan, Ashok (2006)** in his article ‘Quality Assurance : Post Accreditation Scenario’ has been describes the action points for the government as well as for the universities and colleges after accreditation, in context of quality enhancement.<sup>24</sup>

**24. Rajendran, M. (2006)** in his article ‘Academic Assessment Ignoring Administrative Audit is Farce Accreditation’ has been taken the account of

administrative audit of higher educational institutions for assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of the operating system of the administrative procedures, policies, decision-making authorities and functionaries strategies, process, feedback , control mechanism and so on.<sup>25</sup>

**25 Madegowda J. (2007)** in his article named ‘NAAC’s New Methodology for Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions’ has been describes the new methodology for Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions. The paper is thereafter, an attempt to analyze the important aspects of the New Methodology and compared it with the earlier (pre-revised) methodology to find out the extent to which the New Methodology differs from the earlier methodology.<sup>26</sup>

**26.Pasha, P. M. Mubarak (2007)** in his article ‘Accreditation in Higher Education : A Restatement’ has been stated the benefits as well as lacunas of NAAC’s assessment and accreditation processes of institutions of higher education.<sup>27</sup>

**27. Ahmad, Shakeel (2007)** in his article titled as ‘Accreditation of Universities and Colleges in India ‘ has been describes the importance, process and benefits of Accreditation. He also states the status of Accredited Institutions such as Southern region, Western region, Northern –Eastern region of India.<sup>28</sup>

**28. Abdul, Majeed K.C. and Bavakutty, M. (2007)** in their article ‘Quality Assessment of College and University Library Services’ has been suggested to improve the quality of the learning resource centre in affiliated colleges in India. The quality of library and information services offered in higher education institutions is a serious matter and the authorities and the library and information professionals in higher education institutions must consider it seriously.<sup>29</sup>

29. **Kaliammol, A. and Sarasvady S. (2007)** in their article titled 'Significance of Information and Communication Technologies in the New NAAC Standards for University Libraries' described the standards in promoting quality of library and information services. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) enable to maximum access to information resources. In this article Electronic Services and their Impact on Library Standards also described, which is very important issue in digital environment.<sup>30</sup>

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