

Establishment of Quality Assurance Cell

Quality Assurance Cell (QAC) is established in the AP State Council of Higher Education during the year 2020 with the following objectives –

1. To promote quality standards in all the higher education institutions of the state.
2. To extend qualitative support to all Universities and Colleges for make them ready for assessment and accreditation by NAAC, NBA, and participation in NIRF, QS, and Times International rankings.
3. To develop a database of all the Universities and Colleges on quality parameters to identify quality gaps and suggest measures.
4. To develop quality audit system in all institutions.
5. To organize programmes for creating awareness on best practices by inviting experts from India and abroad.

Strategies of the Quality Assurance Cell of APSCHE

A state level organizational system will be developed for quality assurance involving the Quality Assurance Cell of APSCHE and the IQAC Coordinators/Directors of Universities and Colleges. The following are the strategies to achieve the objectives of QAC of APSCHE:

1. Identification of 10 faculty members drawn from colleges and Universities from each district who have the ability and interest in quality.
2. Training the identified faculty members (10 x 13 districts = 130) on quality assessment and designating them as Quality Assessors.

3. The quality assessors will be accessible to the colleges in the district for extending all kinds of support in getting ready for quality assessment process.
4. The quality assessors will also be given training on ISO Certification.
5. The list of recognized quality assessors will be placed on the website of APSCHE and will be made as part of the organization system to ensure quality.
6. The colleges will be classified into A, B, and C categories. The colleges having all necessary qualities to go for accreditation with moderate support will be placed under Category-A. The target is to encourage them to go for accreditation within one year. The colleges who have the potential to get accredited but require special focus and support will be placed under Category-B. The colleges under category-B will be given a time frame of two years to get ready for NAAC accreditation. All other colleges will be placed under Category-C and they will be given 3-4 years time to get ready for NAAC accreditation.
7. The Universities and Colleges who are accredited by NAAC already will be provided the required support to upgrade the NAAC grading.
8. Similar processes will be undertaken for NBA accreditation, NIRF, QS, and Times International rankings.
9. The performance of Universities and Colleges with respect of the criteria of assessment will be reviewed periodically by the team of experts at QAC of APSCHE to identify the gaps and to suggest measures.
10. The IQAC Coordinators/Directors of Universities and Colleges will be trained on quality parameters periodically.

11. The QAC will organize awareness and motivational campaign on quality enhancement, assurance, and accreditation throughout the state.
12. The QAC will conduct meetings with A, B, and C category colleges for exchanging views on various quality parameters and to workout strategies for improvement.
13. The best practices of various institutions in India and abroad will be collected and disseminated to all Universities and Colleges.
14. The QAC will suggest policy measures to promote quality in higher education institutions.

Activities done by the Quality Assurance Cell during 2020

The Quality Assurance Cell (QAC) of APSCHE conducted 3 day Faculty Development Program on “Quality Sustainability and Quality Enhancement Strategy” in association with KKR & KSR Institute of Technology and Sciences, Guntur inviting all the faculty members across India. The FDP was organized by KITS-Internal Quality Assurance Cell. Prof. K. Rama Mohana Rao Vice chairman, APSCHE Sri. Mathew Srirangam, Academic Officer, APSCHE and Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao, IQAC Coordinator from Andhra Loyola College, Vijayawada served as resource persons. The FDP was attended by 862 participants from various states of Assam, west Bengal , Bihar, Madhya Pradesh , Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Delhi etc.

The Quality Assurance Cell (QAC) of APSCHE Andhra Pradesh State council of Higher Education organised one day Interactive session (webinar) with University Officers including Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, IQAC Coordinator, Heads of the Department and faculty members of *Yogi Vemana University* on “Preparation for NAAC Accreditation – Review and Action Plan” on 04.06.2020 from 12:00 noon to 02:00 PM.

A similar programme was organised to the officials and faculty members of *Adikavi Nannaya University* on 09.06.2020; for the officials and faculty members of *Krishna University* on 10.06.2020.

An awareness programme on NAAC “NAAC Assessment and Accreditation” was organised in *Acharya Nagarjuna University* on 24.06.2020.

Quality Assurance Cell of APSCHE in collaboration with Andhra Christian College, Guntur organised a 7 day FDP Programme on Revised Assessment and Accreditation Framework on NAAC through online from 09.09.2020 to 15.09.2020. Prof. K. Rama Mohana Rao, Vice-Chairman and Sri. Srirangam Mathew, Academic Officer (QAC) presented theme papers in the FDP

The QAC of APSCHE in collaboration with KBN College, Vijayawada organized “Impact of Best Practices and Quality Enhancement in Higher Educational Institutions” on 4th and 5th December 2020. Prof. K. Rama Mohana Rao delivered the inaugural address and Sri. Srirangam Mathew, Academic Officer (QAC) delivered a talk on “Innovations and Best Practices in Higher Education”.