

Role of IQAC In Improving Quality In Higher Education

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Abstract:-

The establishment of Internal Quality Assurance cell (IQAC) by accredited institution is a major step pushing long term Quality Standard. IQAC in any institution is a significant administrative body that is responsible for all Quality matters. It is the Prime responsibility of IQAC to initiate plan and supervise various activities that are necessary to increase the quality of the education imparted in an institution or college. IQAC is being very instrumental in bringing about so many changes in the institutes of higher education. This paper deals to investigate the matter as to how and what ways IQAC functions and brings quality in the overall development of institutes of higher education and to find out the role of IQAC in terms of quality assurance sustaining in regard with all the core element.

KeyWords:-

Role of IQAC, Establishment of IQAC, Function of IQAC.

I. INTRODUCTION

National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore has introduced Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) to all the college and institutions as a post-accreditation quality sustenance measure. As quality enhancement is a continuous process, the IQAC must become an integral part of the institution's system and needs to work towards fulfilment of the goals i.e. quality enhancement and sustenance in almost all the core elements. The major concern of the IQAC is to develop a system for conscious and consistent improvement in the overall performance of institution. This is expected from IQAC in any university or an institution.

NAAC has developed a systematic process of external academic audit for institutes of higher education in India. It is based on mutual involvement of NAAC as well as the institution which goes for audit. The process involves self-study by the institution and external peer team visit by NAAC. The utmost care is taken for maintaining transparency in the process of assessment. NAAC has suggested institutions to establish Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) as the internal agency for quality assurance. The task of self-introspection and preparing self-study.

II. COMPOSITION OF THE IQAC

IQAC may be constituted in every institution under the chairmanship of the Head of the institution with heads of important academic and administrative units and a few teachers and a few distinguished educators and representative of local management and stakeholders.

III. AIMS OF IQAC

- To develop a system for conscious, consistent and catalytic action to improve the academic and administrative performance of the institution.
- To promote measures for institutional functioning towards quality enhancement through internalization of quality culture and institutionalization of best practices.

IV. STRATEGIES

IQAC shall evolve mechanisms and procedures for

- Ensuring timely, efficient and progressive performance of academic, administrative and financial tasks;
- The relevance and quality of academic and research programmes;
- Equitable access to and affordability of academic programmes for various sections of society; d) Optimization and integration of modern methods of teaching and learning;
- The credibility of evaluation procedures;
- Ensuring the adequacy, maintenance and proper allocation of support structure and services;
- Sharing of research findings and networking with other institutions in India and abroad.

V. ROLE OF IQAC

• Academic Audit:

IQAC in higher educational institutions is expected to channelize all its stakeholders to expedite its quest for quality. Therefore, the role of IQAC in the process of self-assessment i. e. one type of academic audit is vital. The IQAC can expedite its quest for quality by running various quality processes like

1. Reviewing systems
2. Record keeping
3. Practicing equal opportunities
4. Enhancing the quality of various operational committees

- **Teaching and Evaluation:**

IQAC can enhance quality through enhancing teaching and assessment by applying the following measures.

1. Supporting students in the learning process
2. Providing quality learning environment
3. Maintaining quality of learning outcomes
4. Enhancing student projects
5. Implying activity-based learning in small groups Valuing Students.

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- **Staff Evaluation:**

After Student staff of an educational institution is considered as second assesst. So, it is also responsibility of IQAC to be committed for staff development. For that use of appraisal system to enhance quality.

- **Mechanism for Feedback & Evaluation:**

IQAC should develop a system of collecting inputs from all its stakeholders. Feedback is the best mechanism for this activity. For seeking feedback IQAC may take up following actions.

1. Designing structured feedback questionnaire
2. Designing open feedback questionnaire
3. Feedback from interviews with students
4. Establishing a culture of student feedback

- **Admistration:**

The role of IQAC can also be instrumental in bringing about some positive change in the administration of the college/institute. The IQAC should also arrange some orientation sessions for administrative staff and other supportive staff of the college so that a sense of responsibility can be created among the administrative staff and other supportive staff.

- **Preparation and submission of AQAR:**

The institutions need to submit yearly the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) to NAAC every year positively. A functional IQAC and timely submission of Annual Quality Assurance Report are the minimum institutional requirements to volunteer for second, third or subsequent cycles accreditation.

The IQAC should play a key role in planning, monitoring and evaluating the academic activities of the college/institution. The IQAC should devise an academic calendar at the beginning of academic year by considering the academic plan of the affiliating university. Generally, the academic calendar should incorporate teaching and practical schedule, examination slots, guest lectures, tours and excursion, day celebration and observations, local programmes and institutional programme, industrial visit, co-curricular and extra-curricular and cultural activities/programmes and research activities. Moreover, IQAC shall also conduct regular meetings of the faculty members and the staff to evaluate and monitor the academic plan time to time during the year. If this is followed with serious thought and change and modify certain things whenever and wherever needed. Then the IQAC of that college/institute can able to create a very good atmosphere in the college premises

VI. CONCLUSION

1. The IQAC is a significant administrative body in any educational institution
2. It contributes to maintaining quality standards in teaching, learning and evaluation.
3. It promotes co-curricular and extra-curricular activities in the college.
4. It is a capable body to administer various academic/educational activities.
5. There is coordination among the stakeholders of the institution, but this still needed more attention and concern to increase such coordination.
6. The IQAC and its coordinator require more autonomy (e.g., academic, financial, and administrative) for better performance.
7. In some institutions/colleges, the IQAC and its coordinator work under pressure of principal and management.
8. The IQAC tries to include everyone in its activities, but sometimes some individuals are excluded from its programmes
9. The IQAC should not be replaced by any other body/committee/agency, or the like.
10. The IQAC has a greater role and responsibility in maintaining quality standards in the whole process of teaching, learning and evaluation.

VII. REFERENCES

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