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National Level Seminar

REVISED ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION FRAMEWORK OF NAAC : ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES

Kisan Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Borgaon (Kale), Tq. & Dist. Latur
Affiliated to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad

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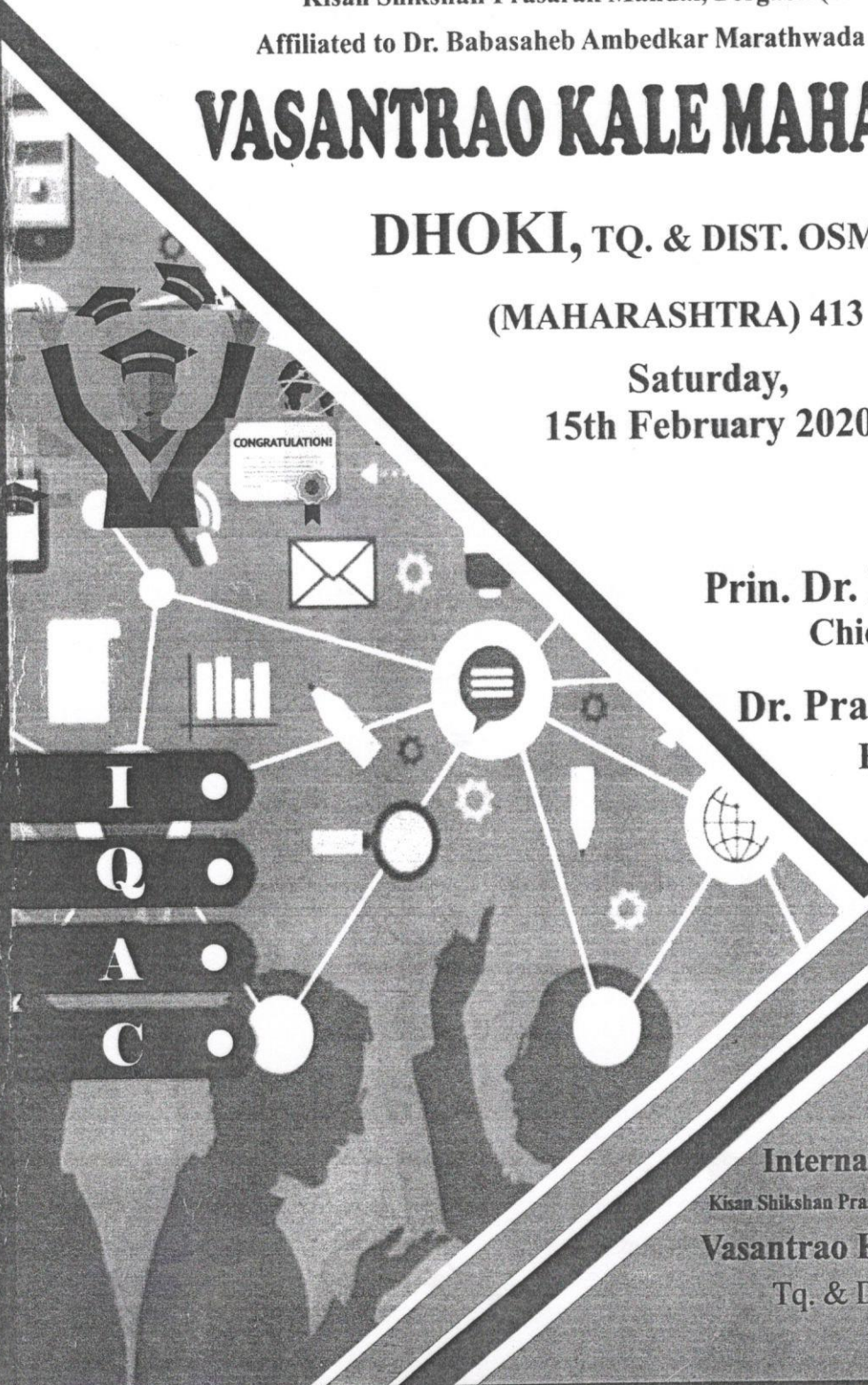
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Sr.No.	Name of Author	Title of paper	Page No.
36	Dr. Jyoti Nade	Teaching Learning Process in Higher Education	98
37	Dr. B.V.Maind	Role of ICT in Teaching and Learning	101
38	Mr Vikram S Dhanve	IQAC: a Mechanism and its tools for Quality Improvement and Excellence	102
39	Dr. Milind Mane	Role of ICT in Teaching and Learning Process	106
40	Mr. Madhav D. Shrimangale	Revised Assessment And Accreditation Framework Of NAAC : An Overview	108
41	Prof. Dnyanoba Gaikawad	Green Audit For Univeristies, Institutes & Colleges	113
42	Dr Vidya Patil	Internationalisation: A Global Trend In Higher Education	115
✓ 43	Dr. Govind Digambar Kokane	Innovations And Best Practices In Higher Education	118
44	Mr. R.S. Dhappadhule	Role of IQAC in Quality Improvement of HEIs	120
45	Prin. Dr. Haridas Fere Dr. Pradeep Ingale	IQAC as a Tool for Improving Quality Education in Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs)	122

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Innovations And Best Practices In Higher Education

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Abstract

Best practices are those that add value to human life and support main cause of an institution. It helps in the development of an institution to perform social responsibility. NAAC has give emphasis on the innovation and best practices in the higher educational institutions while implementing the process of assessment and accrediting of an educational institute. Traditionally, colleges or universities were the places of learning; today the situation has been drastically changed. It is now the place of reformation, social and political activities. The educational institutions not only provide the ideas and imagination to the students but also develop the capability among every student to earn a just and meaningful and gainful employment.

The processes of innovation and best practices are critical for the success of any institution. The best practices help us move forward. Every higher educational institution prepares the students for the uncertain future. We have great commitment and concerns for the innovation and best practices for improving the quality of higher education. The development of higher education should be both quantitative and qualitative.

Nowadays there is more pressure on educational institutions not only for grater enrollment of students but also for the preparation of students for the future challenges which he or she will face in personal and professional life. The processes of universities and colleges for innovation should take into account the interests of all stakeholders. While implementing innovation we should maximize the benefit and minimize the risks. The communication process is important for the realization of aims and objectives of any organization.

1. Clarity of the Objectives

There is the difference between a business enterprise and a university mission. The business unit or the industry has the only one goal that is to maximize the net profit. The objective of the university is multifaceted. The mission of the university is complex. The mission includes enrollment, revenue, costs, productivity, student success, student composition, culture, faculty growth or diversity, community engagement, curriculum or course design, and links to employers. After clarifying the goals, the institution then is able to see its gaps – how far it has to go to address the current problems.

2. Build the Strategy

The strategy involves the steps which are necessary to achieve the aims of the institution. The focus areas of any higher educational institute are: improve the student experience, increase revenue, develop the future of students, and improve efficiency. Every institution has the traditional long term plan. But it is not sufficient in today's fast pacing society. There is the need for the strategy to supplement the long term plan of an institution.

3. Implement a Portfolio Approach

When an University identifies it's goals and gaps, there is the need for a strategy to implement for the realization of organizational goals in real sense of the terms. The strategy comprises the creation of project plan to focus product development. Resource allocation equally among all departments is important. The colleges and universities must invest in innovations and strategies to realise their goals. The innovation comprises the improvement of a course, launch of a new academic programme, beginning of a skill development certificate course etc. Innovation is a difficult and unpredictable process. It is a process. It is not an event. The Innovation should be implemented after testing the hypothesis. It should cost little and benefit more.

Best practices include the mentor mentee scheme, where the students are given guidance when they approach the faculty to seek guidance for the problems which they are facing, the audio visual ICT use in the teaching learning process, organization of guest lecture series on vital and contemporary issues related to higher education, Career Guidance, Counseling Cell, Placement Cell, Short Term Courses, Language Laboratory, Earn and Learn Scheme, Student Evaluation of teaching staff, Sport Promotion, Effective

Classroom teaching, Students' welfare are the programmes which are innovations and best practiced in colleges and universities across the world.

Quality enhancement has become the most important factor for Indian higher educational institutions. Contribution to national development has always been the goal of Indian higher educational institutions. Higher educational institutions develop the capacity of the individuals to cater to the needs of the society, economy and country as a whole. Therefore the process of NAAC looks deeply into how do the Indian educational institutions is catering to the cause of national development. In the age of globalization, there is a great emphasis on the development of skilled human resource. Students should learn core competencies to face the global challenges successfully.

Inculcation of value among the students is important. Skill development for getting the job is crucial. Skills are of less value in the absence of appropriate value systems. In the plural and diversified country like India, students must imbibe the universal values which commensurate with the local, national and global realities. The Values of truth, righteousness, cooperation, mutual understanding must be inculcated among the students. Technology should be used in the teaching learning process to enhance the knowledge experience of the students. Quest for excellence should be the mission of all institutions. The educational institutions should become the centers of excellence themselves. NAAC focuses on the quality culture of the institutions. Higher educational institutions must provide quality and relevant education to the students.

