

Radhakrishnan Committee

By IAS Toppers | 2024-01-30 15:10:00



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The government accepted the final report of the Radhakrishnan Committee on National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) reforms.



[Ref: TOI]

About the Committee

- It was under the education ministry and chaired by **K Radhakrishnan**, former chairman of ISRO and chairperson of the standing committee of IIT Council.
- These reforms are in alignment with the **Vision of NEP 2020** and aim to adopt a simple, trust-based, and technology-driven system for approval, accreditation, and ranking of **Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)**.

Key Recommendations of the Committee:

- **Binary Accreditation:** This system will categorize institutions as either 'Accredited' or 'Not Accredited', eliminating the existing grading system. It aims to encourage participation and create a quality education system.
- **Maturity-Based Graded Accreditation:** This involves five levels (Level 1 to Level 5), where institutions can progress from 'Level 1' (basic accreditation) to 'Level 5' (Institutions of Global Excellence for multi-disciplinary research and education).
- **Implementation Phases:** The Binary Accreditation is to be implemented in the next four months, followed by the implementation of Maturity-Based Graded Levels by December 2024.
- **Data Collection and Transparency:** The 'One Nation One Data Platform' is proposed to capture a superset of data from HEIs, with mechanisms for cross-checking to ensure data authenticity.
- **Stakeholder Validation:** This involves integrating inputs from students, industries, and others in the accreditation and ranking process.
- **Focus on Diversity:** The new process will consider the heterogeneity of HEIs, categorizing them based on their orientation/vision and heritage/legacy.
- **Special Focus on Remote Institutions:** There will be a special focus on institutions in rural and remote locations through mentoring and handholding.
- **Customized Ranking:** The system will allow for customized ranking based on various criteria like industry, funding agencies, and student preferences.
- **Penalties for False Data:** The system will have strict penalties for institutions providing incorrect

data submissions.

- **Possible Inclusion of IITs:** Though not confirmed, there is a recommendation that IITs may be brought under a unified accreditation process.

About NAAC:

- NAAC is an acronym for the **National Assessment and Accreditation Council**.
- It was established in **1994** by the **University Grants Commission (UGC)** of India.
- It has its headquarters in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**, and operates across the country.
- The primary objective of NAAC is to **assess and accredit higher education institutions** to ensure quality and excellence in higher education.
- It evaluates various aspects of an institution, including its infrastructure, faculty quality, research output, curriculum, governance, and more.
- Accreditation by NAAC helps institutions improve their **quality of education** and provides a framework for continuous improvement.
- Institutions that undergo NAAC assessment are awarded grades ranging from '**A++**' to '**D**,' with '**A++**' being the highest and '**D**' being the lowest.
- Accreditation by NAAC is important for institutions seeking **funding, recognition, and reputation enhancement**.
- It conducts **periodic assessments** and reviews to ensure institutions maintain and enhance their quality standards.