

**A REPORT
ON
THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON
NEW NAAC GUIDELINES FOR AQAR, IIQA, SSR AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT
IN HIGHER EDUCATION,
15 & 16 SEPTEMBER 2022**

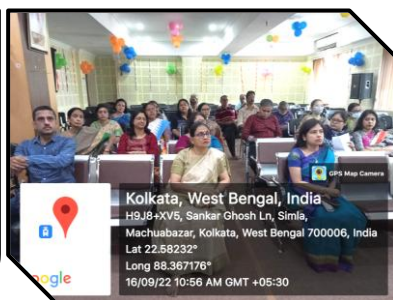
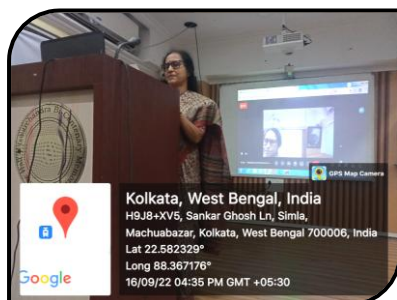
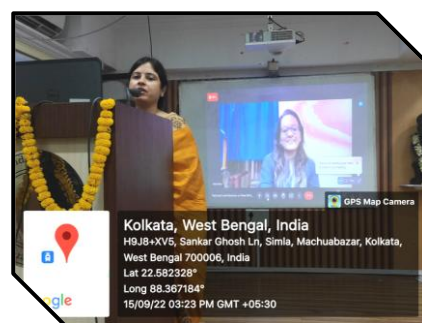


A National Conference on “New NAAC Guidelines for AQAR, IIQA, SSR and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education” was organized by IQAC, Vidyasagar College for Women in collaboration with National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) on September 15 & 16, 2022.

The chief patrons for this National Conference were Sri Vivek Gupta, President, Governing Body; Dr. Rupali Chaudhuri, Principal and Dr. Tapan Roy, Coordinator, IQAC. Dr. Pradipta Mukherjee, Coordinator NAAC and member of the IQAC, was the Convenor of this conference.

Dr. Ambrish Kumar Mahajan, Director, IQAC, Dean, Student Affairs and School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala and an assessor with NAAC, delivered the keynote address. The thrust of his assertions was a pertinent need for syllabus revision on a regular basis, extension activities and awareness programmes, structured feedback from all stakeholders, industry-academia interactions, and a focus on employability and entrepreneurship skill development.

Dr. Subhashree Mukherjee, Professor, Department of English, Kamala Nehru Mahavidyalaya, Nagpur, spoke on “The Role of the Teaching Staff in the Preparation of SSR”. She emphasized the need for a clear understanding of roles, division of labour and teamwork among teachers of the institution during the preparation of the SSR. She emphasized the implementation of ICT in the teaching learning process. She identified the students as the most important stakeholders in higher education and suggested that all institutional policies and actions should be geared towards their welfare.



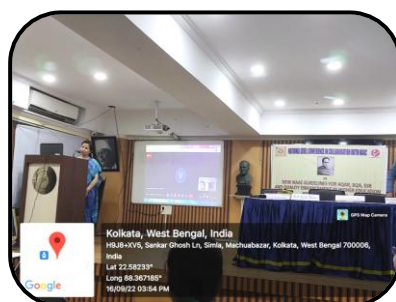
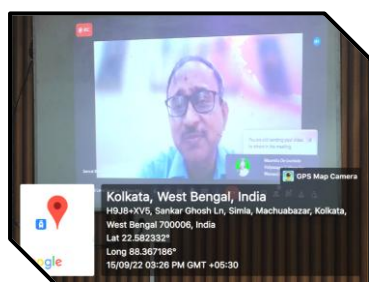
Dr. Samrat Bhattacharjee, Coordinator, IQAC and Associate Professor of Zoology, Scottish Church College, Kolkata, spoke on “Criterion-wise Differential Weightages for Affiliated Institutions”. Concentrating on Criteria I and IV he proposed a careful referencing of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for SSR preparation while working with Qualitative and Quantitative metrics, all fifty-five of them, that are required to be engaged and/or fulfilled in the SSR.

Dr. Varbi Roy, Member, IQAC and Associate Professor of Philosophy, Scottish Church College, Kolkata, elaborated on major metrics of Criteria II and III, stressing the need for careful collation of data, garnered from diverse templates. While discussing Criterion II she commented on the pivotal role played by Student Satisfaction Survey (SSS). For Criterion III, Dr. Roy was insistent that teachers should be actively involved in research and publication, while both students and teachers needed to take up extension activities in an expeditious manner.

Dr. A. Joseph Dorairaj, Professor of English, School of English and Foreign Languages, Gandhigram Rural Institute (Deemed to be University), Tamil Nadu and an assessor with NAAC, proposed a three-pronged approach to the securing of higher grades by affiliated institutions. Noting that apex educational institutions can become inspiring examples and not daunting prospects, Dr. Dorairaj spoke extensively on the ways in which the 2nd, 3rd and 4th cycles of NAAC assessment process may be approached. He emphasized significant linkages, collaborations, functional MOUs and promotion of student leadership that colleges could aspire to, for achieving a better score.

Dr. Siddhartha Shankar Saha, Professor and Head of the Department of Commerce, University of Calcutta and Former Director, IQAC, CU, made it amply clear that the role of the IQAC was of utmost importance as it is a body that mediates, clarifies and infuses different components in the institutional structure: namely, academics, administration and social responsibility. A proactive academic climate coupled with a streamlined administrative mandate was the *modus operandi* that Dr. Saha recommended as an ideal.

Dr. Indrani Choudhuri Dutt, Coordinator, IQAC and Associate Professor of English, Lady Brabourne College, concentrated her talk on Criterion VII. She dwelt at length on the differences between how one might comprehend “Best Practice” and “Institutional Distinctiveness”. Dr. Dutt maintained that every institution has its own set of unique attributes and all one had to do was to identify them. She also asserted that institutions were not in any tussle or a race with their peers when it came to NAAC accreditation. It was actually a journey of introspection and self-discovery for every higher educational institution.



PARTICIPANTS FEEDBACK

