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Best Practices of NAAC Accredited Govt Degree Colleges in Kashmir

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ABSTRACT

Best practices are the most effective ways to carry out a process, function, or activity that results in higher performance. These are the processes, procedures, and systems identified in public and commercial organizations that function extraordinarily well and are universally acknowledged as such. Increasing the organization's performance and efficiency. Identifying and implementing excellent practices. In the overall assessment and accreditation of an institution, NAAC has given 100 points to Innovations and Best Practices (Criteria VII). The best practices of a college are a reflection of its trustworthiness and its positive atmosphere. These methods can instill a more scientific way of thinking about social problems. Changing a system requires the use of best practices specific academic setting and cultural milieu. This paper delves the pivotal role of best practices in colleges accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in the region of Kashmir, assess the impact of these best practices on these colleges and finally provides a comprehensive list of various best practices adopted by these colleges. NAAC accreditation serves as a quality benchmark for higher education institutions in India, fostering continuous improvement and ensuring excellence in various aspects of institutional functioning.

Keywords: NAAC, Best practices, performance, Kashmir, Implementing.

Introduction

Higher education institutions (HEIs) in India are evaluated and accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) which help in maintaining the quality standards of these institutes (Utane, 2021). NAAC was founded in 1994 in accordance to National Policy in Education (1986) guidelines. This strategy was designed to "address issues of deterioration in educational quality," and the Programme of Action (POA-1992) outlined strategic goals for the policies, including the creation of an independent national accreditation organization. NAAC's accreditation process is voluntary, and the results of the accreditation are publically available. It sets standards and guidelines for accreditation of higher educational institutions, grading them on the basis of overall performance, and providing feedback and support to them. It provides an external assessment of the quality of higher educational institutions, which can help to identify areas in need of improvement and to promote best practices. NAAC has basically seven criterias that serve the bases for assessment like Curricular Aspect, Teaching Learning and Evaluation, Research innovations & Extension, Infrastructure and Learning Resources, Student support and progression, Governance, Leadership & management, Institutional values and Best practices. Institutional values and best practices constitute the Criteria VII given by NAAC. Any practice or practices that the institution has internally evolved and used during the last few years leading to positive impact on the regular functioning of the institution can be identified as "best practice/s". These are not any activity prescribed by some authority. At some point in time the institution evolves some innovation or a change in some aspect of functioning. This practice is relevant mainly within the institution at a given point in time. It could be in respect of teaching learning, office procedures, maintenance and up keep of things or dealing with human beings or monetary matters. But adopting that practice has resolved the difficulty or has brought in greater ease in working in that aspect. In brief, these 'best practices' are relevant within the institutional context and may pertain to either academic or administrative or organizational aspects of institutional functioning (NAAC Manual). Best practices generate results that are superior to those obtained through other approaches or because it has evolved into a standard strategy for completing tasks, for example, a standard strategy for accomplishing tasks for fulfilling legal or moral norms. Best practices are used to maintain quality as an alternative to required regulated measurements that can be found on one's own benchmarking. Best practices indicate a college's credibility and cheerfulness. These approaches have the potential to establish a scientific perspective to societal challenges or problems. Best practices are change agents for a specific educational institution as well as society. A best practice must be of high quality, meaning that it benefits all parties involved and produces a positive result. "a practice qualifies to 'best practice' status if it resulted in high-value outcomes and influences all parts of society. World-renowned HEIs use technology not only to reach a bigger number of students, but also to provide need-based quality education, generating their bases globally. These institutions' new instrument is technology-enabled practices. The top universities in the world, such as Harvard and MIT are increasingly embracing the luxury of having some genuinely brilliant teachers on their payroll. By adopting new teaching learning approaches and best practices such as flipped classroom approach, MOOCs in which students watch video lectures at home and spend class time discussing them and putting their knowledge to use, solving issues, discussing instances, and so on these top universities also become a guiding principle for other colleges and universities of the world as well (Banerjee,2009).

Objectives:

- 1) To know the best practices of various NAAC accredited Govt. Degree colleges of Kashmir.
- 2) To list out/ search the best practices undertaken by different Govt.Degree colleges of Kashmir.
- 3) To assess the impact of best practices on NAAC accredited Govt. Degree colleges of Kashmir.

Delimitation of the study:

- The present study shall be delimited only to NAAC accredited Govt.Degree colleges of Kashmir.

Methodology:

For the present study 24 NAAC accredited Govt.Degree Colleges of Kashmir division are selected. For this selection, NAAC grades obtained by colleges were taken into consideration. The data of the best practices is taken from the official websites of the respective colleges. Except few colleges almost all the colleges displayed their data on their electronic window. Self-study Reports (SSR), Annual Quality Assurance Reports (AQARs), Internal Quality Assurance Reports (IQACRs) and related information is taken from the official websites of each college and after that following tables is framed by the which displays the grades and then top best practices adopted of each college respectively.

Table 1: List of Degree Colleges Selected for the present study:

S.NO	Name of the College	Grade
1.	Govt.Degree College Baramulla	A
2.	Govt.Degree College Women Baramulla	C
3.	Govt.Degree College Sopore	A
4.	Govt.Degree College Kupwara	A
5.	Govt.Degree College Pulwama	A+
6.	S.P college Srinagar	A+
7.	Govt.women college Nawakadal Srinagar	A+
8.	Amarsingh College Srinagar	B+
9.	Govt.Degree College Anantnag	B+
10.	Govt.Women College Anantnag	B+
11.	Govt.Degree College Bijbhera	B
12.	Govt.Degree College Kulgam	B
13.	Govt. M.A Road Women College Srinagar	B+
14.	Govt.Degree College Budgam	B
15.	Govt.Degree College Sumbal	C
16.	Govt.Degree College Bemina	A
17.	Govt.Degree College Bandipora	B
18.	Govt.Degree College Women Kupwara	B
19.	Govt.Women College Pulwama	B
20.	Govt.Degree College Sogam Lolab Kashmir	B+
21.	Govt.Degree College Shopian	B
22.	Govt.Women College (Bhatpora) Srinagar	B
23.	Govt.Degree College Pattan	C
24.	Govt.Degree College Pampore	B+

Table 2: Colleges and their best practices:

S.no	Name of the College	Grade	Best Practices
1.	Govt.Degree College Baramulla	A	1.E-governance: Outcome: Online system adopted for Implementation of admission and support system, CAMES (College attendance monitoring and evaluation system) is used for maintain attendance of students and staff. 2.Promotion of Entrepreneurship through skill Development: Outcome: Linkages with partners in industrial training such as NIELIT Srinagar, and CIIT-Baramulla, encouraging students to sharp their skills, competencies. 3.Technology-enhanced instruction and learning:

			<p>Outcome: Leads to effective teaching and learning, Library services are integrated with ICT based learning, implementation of ICT based teaching pedagogy.</p> <p>4. Institutional support services for local and district government.</p> <p>Outcome: District administration was also given access to the college's male and female dorms for use as administrative quarantine facilities for COVID-19 patients, the adopted schools by the college have seen significant increase in the number of kids registering for admission.</p>
2.	Govt.Degree College Women Baramulla	C	<p>1.Triangular meeting between Parents, Students, and college administration:</p> <p>Outcome: increases rapport between students, parents from diverse backgrounds and college administration</p> <p>2. Centre for Design and Innovation to be Established:</p> <p>Carpet weaving Namdah weaving Crewel making</p> <p>Outcome: leads to economic independence of female students and also helps in skill enhancement.</p>
3.	Govt.Degree College Sopore	A	<p>1.Outreach programmes for social community</p> <p>2.Clean and green campus</p> <p>3.Campaign for drug abuse detoxification.</p> <p>4.Laboratory for Scientific Instrumentation.</p> <p>5.Consciousness regarding the green environment</p> <p>6.Trekking voyage</p> <p>7.Remedial classes</p> <p>8.Instilling qualities like gender sensitization and gender equality</p> <p>9.Complement courses (add on courses)</p>
4.	Govt.Degree College Kupwara	A	<p>1.Recycling waste material</p> <p>2.Management of electronic thrash</p> <p>3.Management of potentially harmful waste and hazardous substances.</p> <p>4. Institutional support services to school, community and administration.</p> <p>5.National integration through institutionalization of initiatives.</p>
5.	Govt.Degree College Pulwama	A+	Data not available on official site
6.	S.P College Srinagar	A+	<p>1.The accessibility and sharing of data on DELNET.</p> <p>Outcome: Resource sharing, provide access to record of books,jounals and articles.</p> <p>2. A school and lakes (Dal lake, Manasbal lake and Hokarsar lake) in the Rangil area of the Ganderbal district of Jammu and Kashmir have been adopted</p> <p>Outcome: creating community awareness.</p> <p>3.Student welfare fund</p> <p>Outcome: Generated financial assistance for poor students.</p> <p>4. On-Site Dewatering Pump Installation.</p> <p>Outcome: Helps in running and maintenance of the dewatering pump, use of resources, both human as well as financial which adds to the responsibilities of the college.</p>
7.	Govt Women College Nawakadal Srinagar	A+	<p>1.Skill enhancement courses</p> <p>Dress designing Papier machie</p> <p>Outcome: development of entrepreneur skills and helping students to establish their own business units.</p>

			<p>2. The SmartTeaching Initiative (Flat Panel Interactive Whiteboard).</p> <p>Outcome: motivates students, makes class interactive, students get visual content and helps in fostering teacher effectiveness.</p>
8.	Amarsingh College Srinagar	B+	<p>1. Promotion of environmentally friendly and sustainable practices</p> <p>Outcome: Green foot printing in college Decrease in non-biodegradable waste</p> <p>2. Psychological Counselling for the Staff's and Students' Mental Health.</p> <p>Outcome: Enhancement of mental competencies, utilization of potential of students and making staff and students aware about different mental issues like anxiety, depression.</p>
9.	Govt. Degree College Anantnag	B+	<p>1. Guidance services for competitive exams</p> <p>Outcome: Students got motivated for appearing in competitive exams and many qualified too.</p> <p>2. Adoption of Gujjar and Bakerwal students and other schedule tribal students for their improved academic development and adoption of schools (Higher Secondary School Wanpoh along with High, Middle, and Primary level schools under its cluster).</p>
10.	Govt. Degree College women Anantnag	B+	<p>1. Spreading institution's core values, particularly gender equality, environmental sustainability, and environmental awareness.</p> <p>Outcome: makes students and society aware about gender equality, environment protection and sustainability.</p>
11.	Govt. Degree College Bijbheria	B	<p>1. Financial Assistance for College Admission:</p> <p>Outcome: Providing financial assistance to poor and economically weak students.</p> <p>2. Mentoring programme at a local school:</p> <p>Outcome: Improved opportunities are provided to students from weaker sections of society.</p>
12.	Govt. Degree College Kulgam	B	<p>1. Ragging must be avoided:</p> <p>Outcome: Ragging is completely banned from college.</p> <p>2. No to use of Polythene:</p> <p>Outcome: develops a sense of sustainable development and environmental friendliness.</p>
13.	Govt. M. A Road women College Srinagar	B+	<p>1. Conversion of traditional classrooms to digital classrooms using Interactive Flat Panel Displays, fibre optic connectivity, and CEC and NPTEL econtent.</p> <p>2. Internal student welfare system to pay student education, healthcare, and other expenses.</p> <p>3. Academic and administrative action plans</p> <p>4. Solar energy and an eco-friendly environment.</p> <p>5. Creation of an Innovation and Incubation Cell.</p>
14.	Govt. Degree College Budgam	B	<p>1. Gender sensitivity in the provision of services such as:</p> <p>1. Safety and Security</p> <p>2. Counselling</p> <p>3. Common Area</p> <p>2. Waste management including, Solid waste management, Liquid waste management, E-waste disposal.</p> <p>3. Campus rainwater harvesting structures and utilization</p>
15.	Govt. Degree college Sumbal	C	Data not available online.
16.	Govt. Degree College Bemina	A	<p>1. Adoption of local orphanage trust for providing infrastructure support and short term courses.</p> <p>2. Engaging local youth and community in sports activities.</p>
17.	Govt. Degree College Bandipora	B	<p>1. Sensitization of community and the children.</p> <p>2. Fund for student compensation and welfare.</p>

18.	Govt.Degree College Women Kupwara	B	1.Bringing students' attention to women entrepreneurship 2. Outgoing students seeking admission to various universities got benefit from free tutoring and library assistance 3.Solid waste management system adopted by the college.
19	Govt.Womencollege pulwama	B	1.Vocational courses for girls. 2.Pickle making for food preservation Outcome: Making mixed pickles mixed jam, garlic pickle, making green chilli pickle and Making tomato sauce 3.Community help serves during covid-19 pandemic.
20.	Govt.Degree College Sogam Lolab Kashmir	B+	1.Initiative for maintain green campus. Outcome: Climate change mitigation programmes organized in the college, campus became eco-friendly, green landscaping and continuous recycling etc. 2.Finacial assistance to economically weaker section students: Outcome: College provides financial assistance to orphanages, handicapped and economically backward students.
21.	Govt.Degree College Shopian	B	1.Contributing to social responsibility by assisting Covid patients: provided campus for quarantine service to district shopian. 2. Providing logistical support to schools, carrying social responsibility and community outreach.
22.	Govt.WomenCollege(Bhatpora) Srinagar	B	1.Smart and innovative methods of Teaching 2.Initiatives for skill development 3.Adopting paper less goverance. 4. Community awareness programmes regarding maintaing cleanliness of water bodies.
23.	Govt.Degree College Pattan	C	Data not available online
24.	Govt.Degree College Pampore	B+	1. Wellness and drug abuse prevention counseling. 2. Providing financial aid to poor students.

Discussion:

Out of 24 Govt.Degree colleges only 21 Degree colleges have displayed their data related to best practices on their electronic window except three colleges Govt.Degree college Pulwama, Govt.Degree college Sumbal and Govt.Degree College pattan (throughout the study process). Among 24 Govt.Degree Colleges 8 colleges displayed more than two best practices and all of these colleges are A, B and B+ and C grade colleges accredited by NAAC. According to the grades, out of these 24 Degree Colleges 3 colleges are having A+ grade these are Govt.Degree College Pulwama (A+), S.P college Srinagar (Grade A+),Govt.Degree College Nawakadal Srinagar (Grade A+),4 Degree Colleges are having A grade these are Govt.Degree Baramulla (Grade A),Govt.Degree Kupwara (Grade A),Govt.Degree college Bemina(Grade A),Govt.Degree College Sopore(Grade A). 6 colleges are having B+ grade these are Amarsingh College Srinagar (Grade B+),Govt.Degree college Pampore(Grade B+),Govt.Degree College Lolab Sogam (Grade B+),Govt.Degree College Anantnag (Grade B+),Govt.Degree College Women Anantnag (Grade B+),Govt.M.A Road Women college Srinagar(Grade B+),8 Degree College are having B grade such as Govt.Degree college Bijbehria (Grade B),Govt.Degree college Budgam (Grade B),Govt.Degree College Bandipora (Grade B), Govt.Degree college women Kupwara (Grade B),Govt.Women college Pulwama(Grade B), Govt.Degree College Shopian (Grade B),Govt.Degree College Bhatpora Srinagar (Grade B) and Govt.Degree College Kulgam (Grade B) and finally 3 colleges are having C grade like Govt.Degree College Pattan (Grade C),Govt.Degree College Sumbal (Grade C) and Govt.Degree College Women Baramulla (Grade C).Among these 24 Degree Colleges 9 Degree Colleges are taken from North Kashmir,8 colleges are taken from South Kashmir and 7 are taken from Central Kashmir. All of these colleges have taken best practices such as Grade A+ colleges focuses on Technology enhanced learning and instruction which can enhance the motivational level of their students,make teaching learning process interactive and interesting and get visual content which helps them to get good learning outcome, similarly Grade A colleges focus on skill enhancement courses which can make their students economically self reliant and self dependent, grade B+ colleges mainly focus on promoting environment friendly and sustainable practices which decreases non-biodegradable wastes in the college campuses. B grade colleges of valley mainly laid emphasis on providing Financial Assistance for College Admission which help poor and economically weak students to pursue their studies and grade C colleges laid emphasis on conducting meetings between Parents, Students, and college administration which increases rapport between students, parents from diverse backgrounds and college administration.All these best practices adopted by these colleges have positive impact on their assessment and accreditation process. It has created conducive impact on stakeholders as well as on society.

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