Accreditation in Higher Education: Why it matters

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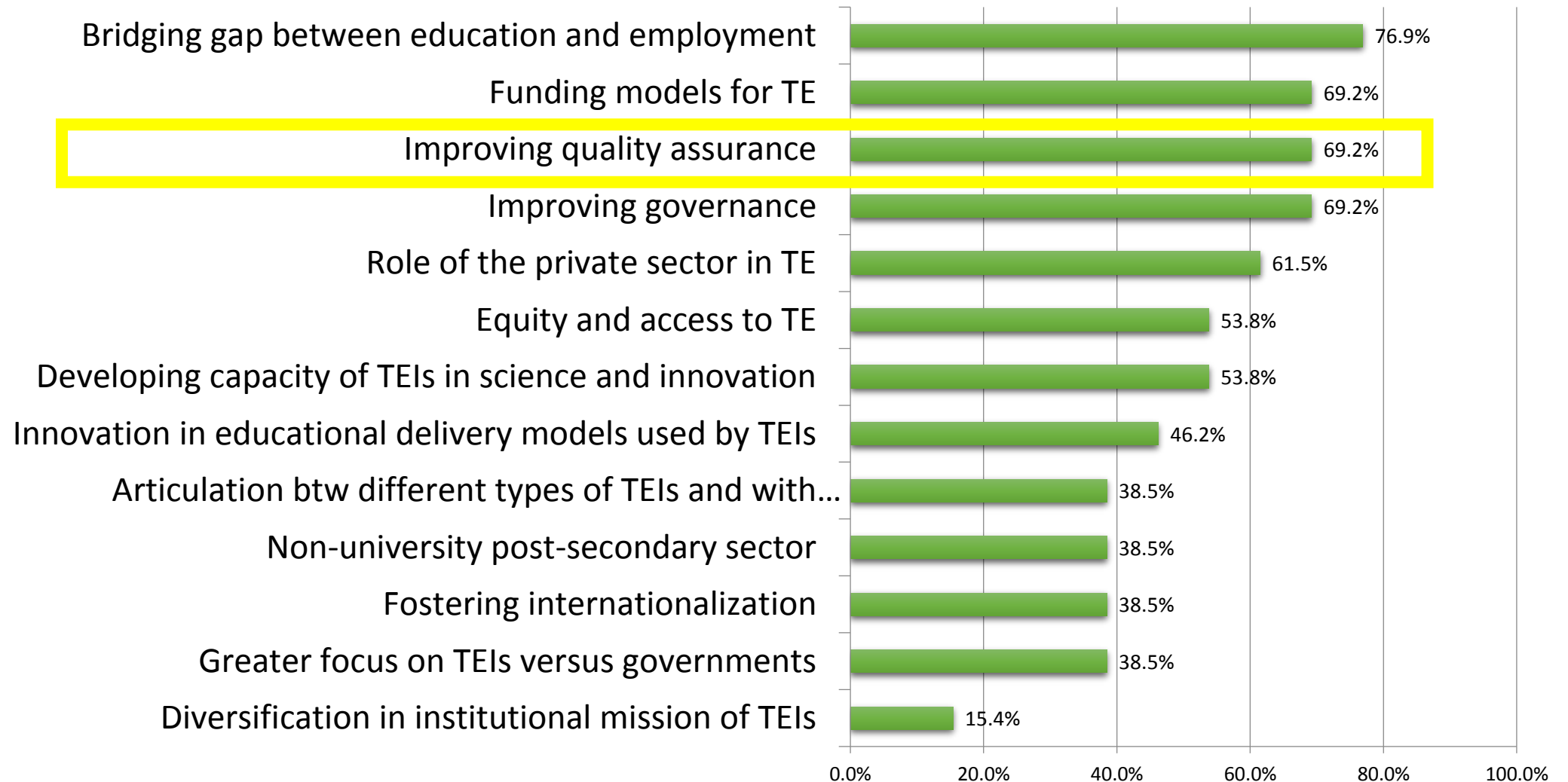
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Top Issues : Higher education survey:

➢ **Quality Assurance/Governance**

➢ **Employability of Graduates**

➢ **Financing**

➢ **Diversification of TE**

➢ **Equity and Access, and Innovation**

What priorities will be emphasized in higher education in the next 5 years? *

Priority	Percentage
Bridging gap between education and employment	76.9%
Funding models for TE	69.2%
Improving quality assurance	69.2%
Improving governance	69.2%
Role of the private sector in TE	61.5%
Equity and access to TE	53.8%
Developing capacity of TEIs in science and innovation	53.8%
Innovation in educational delivery models used by TEIs	46.2%
Articulation btw different types of TEIs and with…	38.5%
Non-university post-secondary sector	38.5%
Fostering internationalization	38.5%
Greater focus on TEIs versus governments	38.5%
Diversification in institutional mission of TEIs	15.4%

Improving quality assurance — 69.2% (highlighted)

* Multiple responses

A mixed picture…

THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY

Accreditation as a major enabler of…

Quality

Recognition of value of higher education

Competition among HEIs

Sense of proud, recognition, prestige, status

Accountability and openness

Something intriguing about it

A "role model" which is here to stay.

An aspiration for institutions engaged in change

A concept that has captured the imagination of parents, students, faculty members, stakeholders, companies and governments.
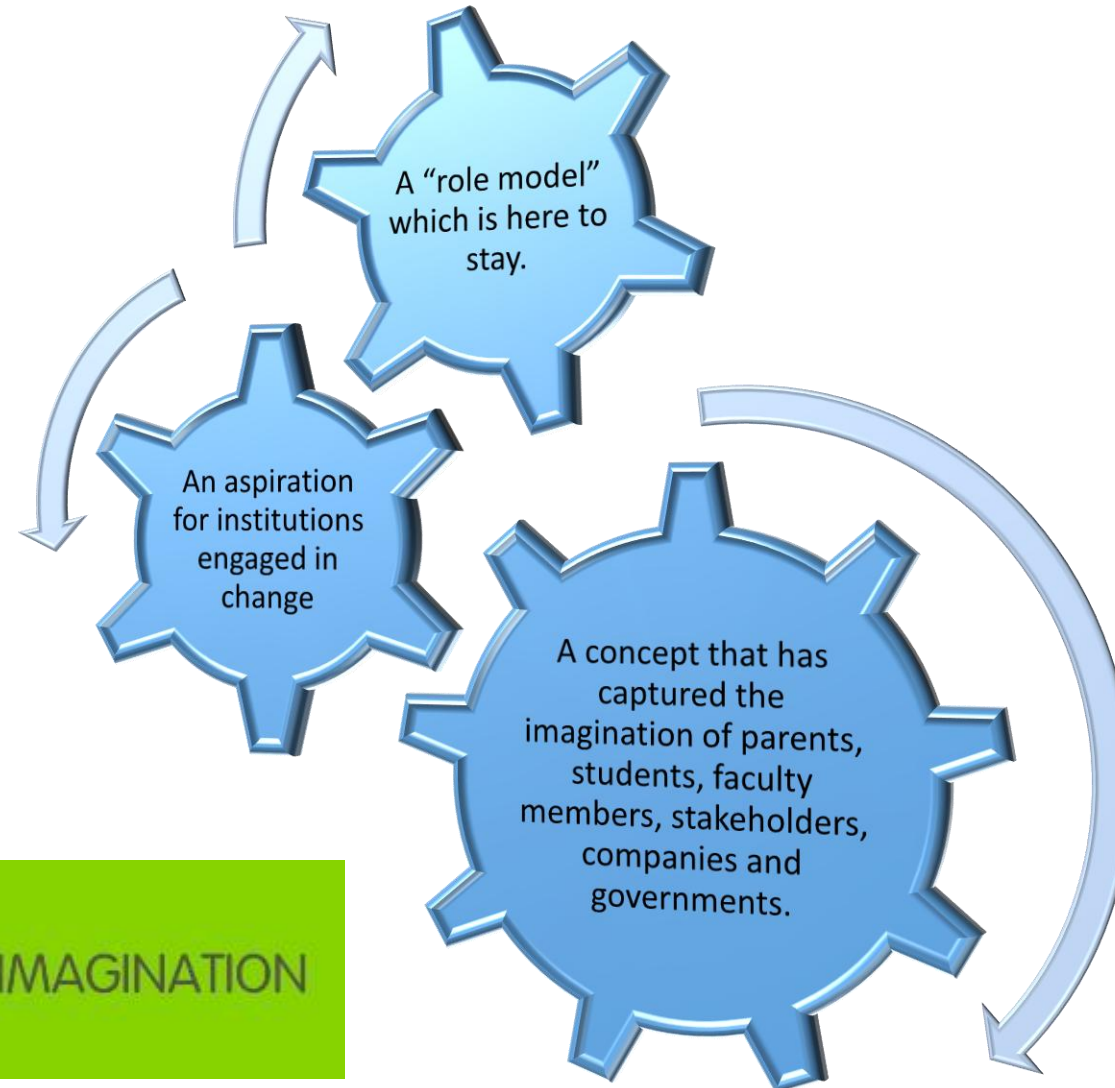
CAPTURING YOUR IMAGINATION

THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY

The not so good (or bad)…

Is accreditation an adequate proxy of good higher education institutions?
Accreditation as a goal or as a means?

What?

Why?

How?

THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY

Some "ugliness"

Misleading facts and manipulating numbers?

About quality or about capacity to "sell" better?

Brutal reallocation of internal funding and priorities just for the sake of improving the rankings

A distortion of the ultimate goals of tertiary education

Does the end justify the means no matter what?

Some newspapers' headlines

A Gift Unearths a Rift

University confirms rampant plagiarism

The need for more transparency in higher education

Confidence crisis: Who appoints the President?

Ethics Flap at a University

University Ends Illegal Job Requirement

Teaching Ethics in a Morally Compromised World

The Corrosion of Ethics in Higher Education

The End of College

A donor provided funds for an Endowed Chair…Now he uses it

Graduates ill prepared: Employers can't find skilled workers

Guidance on Stem Cells

Freedom of research vs national security

Clamping Down on Corruption

University Adopts Conflicts Policy for Trustees

Changing social perception about higher education: Accreditation or rankings?

Some critical considerations

QA is here to stay. A worldwide phenomenon:

- Agencies
- HEIs
- Consultants

Still it is an elusive concept:

- Playing the game?
- What for?
- Source of prestige, legitimacy or improvement?
- Is accreditation the end or the means?

Quality Assurance or Quality Enhancement?

From centrally controlled to decentralized

Avoiding the temptation to associate quality just with rankings

Building a culture of institutional effectiveness

Accreditation and QA is not an office

It is not only about teaching or research but about institutional behavior

Shifting the paradigm

A good idea, but..

↓

Too complex

↓

About compliance with requisits

↓

Marginal

↓

A priority for "tomorrow"

A critical need

↓

Means for better education

↓

About institutional effectiveness

↓

Mainstreamed

↓

A priority for "yesterday"

What is the way forward…..Accreditation

- Accreditation: A simple definition
- **It is a Process by which**:

  - *The Institution being looked at is given a SEAL of approval by stakeholders in its activity - as meeting their **expectations**.*

Accreditation:Beyond Certification

- *However, its aim is not mere certification.*

- *It is a process which encourages continuous look at how you teach, what is its impact, and how to achieve the set objectives better.*

- *It should lead to a Continuous Improvement System.*

Accreditation: Definition

- Formal recognition of the quality of an educational programme/ Institution by an external independent agency on the basis of an impartial assessment on the basis of a well defined criteria

Significance of Accreditation

➢Significance: National level / International level

❖National Level

✓Students/Parents: To select programme/Institution for admission

✓Employer: To decide about Institution/Programme for recruitment

✓Institution: To avail the benefit from regulatory bodies/funding agencies

❖International Level

✓Mobility of students for pursuing higher studies and employment in other countries

Advantages of Accreditation

➢Demonstrates accountability and commitment to excellence.

➢Facilitates Continuous Quality Improvement(CQI).

➢Improves morale of the faculty.

➢Inculcate the culture of R & D in the institution

➢Recognizes the achievements/innovations.

➢Facilitates information sharing.

➢Priority in getting financial assistance.

➢Helps the Institution to know its strengths, weaknesses and opportunities.

➢Initiates Institutions into innovative and modern methods of pedagogy.

➢Institutions gets a new sense of direction and identity/Branding.

➢Provides society with reliable information on quality of education offered.

➢Promotes intra and inter-Institutional interactions.

Process of Accreditation

Register with NBA

Apply for Accreditation

Pre-Qualification

Self Assessment

Evaluation Team Visit/Report

Decision Taken at NBA through Hierarchy of Committees

Apply for Accreditation

- Once Registered with NBA, apply anytime for accreditation/ re-accreditation of specific programs

- Maximum 5 programs on each application

- AICTE approval letters uploaded up to Current Academic Year (CAY)

- On approval, deposit 10% of Total Fee (within 15 days)
  - **Total Fee for first program = Rs. 5,00,000 + 18% GST**
  - **Total Fee for subsequent programs = Rs. 2,00,000 each + 18% GST**

- Pre-qualifiers link gets activated

Pre-Qualification

- Screening Process
- Fill Pre-qualifiers for each applied program
- If approved by NBA, deposit balance 90% of total fee (within 15 days)
- Self Assessment Report (SAR) Link gets activated

Two Tier System

Tier-I Institutions: Academically autonomous institutions, university departments and constituent colleges of universities

- Institutions of National importance –
  - Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Indian Institute of Information Technology Design and Manufacturing (IIITDM), Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT)

- National Institutes of Technology (NITs)

- Central/ State Universities

- Private Universities, Deemed-to-be Universities

- Institutions declared as Autonomous

Tier-II Institutions: Non-autonomous institutions affiliated to a university

ESSENTIAL PRE-QUALIFIERS UG ENGG. (TIER-I & TIER-II)

S N	Pre-Qualifier	TIER-I	Tier II
1	**Vision, Mission** of Dept & **PEOs availability in Prospectus/ Website**	**Yes**	**Yes**
2	**AICTE approval** for program for **all years** incl. CAY	**Yes**	**Yes**
3	**Min Admissions** in **UG** programs at **Institute level** (avg. for last 3 AY incl CAY)	**60%**	**50%**
4	**Min Admissions** in **program** (avg. for last 3 AY incl CAY)	**60%**	**50%**
5	**Minimum FSR** in program avg over previous 3 AY (incl CAY)	1:20	1:20

ESSENTIAL PRE-QUALIFIERS UG ENGG. (TIER-I & TIER-II)

S N	Pre-Qualifier	TIER-I	Tier II
6	**Minimum Prof/Assoc. Prof** availability in Dept during Previous 2 AY incl CAY	**2 PROF.** OR **(1 P + 1 Asc. P)**	**1 PROF** OR **1 Asc. P**
7	**Available Ph.Ds** in dept as % of required no. of faculty during Prev 2 AY incl CAY	**>= 20%**	**>= 10%**
8	**Placement ratio** (Pl + HS + entrepreneur) (avg of 3 AY-CAYm1, CAYm2 & CAYm3)	**>= 40%**	**>= 40%**
9	**Min. Batches passed out** in the program	**2**	**2**
10	**HOD PhD**	**Yes**	**NR**

Self Assessment Report

- Institution to upload Self Assessment Report (within 6 months of Link activation)

- First impression to evaluation team

- Preparedness status for NBA visit

- Presents crisp program status

- Presents the extent a program meets each criterion

- Documentary evidence for evaluation team to match with visual / oral evidences during visit

SAR ACCREDITATION CRITERIA UG ENGG

Criteria	Number	Weightage
Program level	07	78%
Institute level	03	22%

SAR Accreditation Criteria

SN	Criteria (UG Engg)	Marks	
		Tier-I	Tier-II
	Program level Criteria	**(780)**	
1.	Vision, Mission & Program Educational Objectives (PEOs)	**50**	**60**
2.	Program Curriculum and Teaching – Learning Processes	**100**	**120**
3.	Course Outcomes (COs) & Program Outcomes (POs)	**175**	**120**
4.	Students' Performance	**100**	**150**
5.	Faculty Information and Contributions	**200**	
6.	Facilities and Technical Support	**80**	
7.	Continuous Improvement	**75**	**50**

SAR Accreditation Criteria

S N	Criteria (UG Engg)	Marks	
		Tier-I	Tier-II
	Institute level Criteria	**(220)**	
8.	**First Year Academics**	**50**	
9.	**Student Support Systems**	**50**	
10	**Governance, Institutional Support & Financial Resources**	**120**	
	TOTAL	**1000**	

Evaluation Team Visit/Report

- After uploading of SAR, NBA constitutes Evaluation Team
- **One Chairman and 2 expert members for each program**
- Each expert is an eminent academician / Industry expert (serving or retired) from the panel of NBA
- Institute to give five options for visit dates. **Final date approved by NBA with mutual consent**
- **Three day visit (Fri, Sat & Sunday)**
- Institute to confirm & ensure regular classes /activities are conducted during visit
- **Chairman submits its report to NBA**

Decision Taken at NBA through Hierarchy of Committees

- **Accreditation:**
  - Moderation Committee
  - Evaluation & Accreditation Committee
  - **Decision by Sub-Committee of Academic Advisory Committee**
  - **Result** communicated to institution **enclosing Report of Chairman & Experts**

- **Appeal:**
  - Appellate Committee
    - Unsatisfied Institution to **appeal within 1 month**
    - Appeal Fee Rs. 1,50,000 per program + GST
    - **Institution presents their case in Person**
  - Decision by Academic Advisory Committee
    - Decision Communicated to Institution
    - **No provision of Second appeal**

	Award of Accreditation -TIER II (UG)		
S N	Mandatory Requirements	6 Yrs	3 yrs (Prov)
1	Min Marks/1000	750	600
2	Min Marks in Criteria 4 (Student Performance)	60%	…
3	Min Marks in Criteria 5 (Faculty info/Contribution)	60%	40%
4	Min Marks in Criteria 6 (Facilities & Tech Support)	60%	…
5	Min Admissions in UG programs at Institute level (avg. for last 3 AY incl CAY)	50%	50%
6	Min Admissions in program (avg. for last 3 AY incl CAY)	75%	75%

Award of Accreditation -TIER II (UG)

S N	Mandatory Requirements	6 Yrs	3 yrs (Prov)
7	**Minimum FSR** in program avg over previous 3 AY (incl CAY)	**1:15**	**1:20**
8	**Minimum Prof/Assoc. Prof (Full time/Regular) with PhD** availability in Dept during Previous 2 AY incl CAY	**2 PROF. OR (1 P + 1 Asc. P)**	**1 PROF. OR 1 Asc. P**
9	**Available Ph.Ds** in dept as % of required no. of faculty during Prev 2 AY incl CAY	**>= 30%**	**>= 10%**
10	**Placement ratio** (PI + HS + entrepreneur) (avg of 3 AY- CAYm1, CAYm2 & CAYm3)	**>= 40%**	**>= 40%**
11	**HOD PhD**	**Yes**	**…**

Some thought provoking points to ponder

- Can we survive without accreditation?
- Whether the institutes of Bihar can be qualify for accreditation with the present state?
- Do we have any Choice of avoiding Accreditation now?
- What is the way forward: Attitude with a conviction that we can do it.

ATTITUDE, best described:

An old man lived alone near Jaipur. He wanted to spade his potato garden, but it was very hard work. His only son, who would have helped him, was in prison (Jail) in Mumbai. The old man wrote a letter to his son and mentioned his situation.

Dear Beta ,

I am feeling pretty bad because it looks like I won't be able to plant my potato garden this year. "I hate to miss doing the garden, because your mother always loved planting time. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. If you were here, all my troubles would be over. I know you would dig the plot for me, if you weren't in Jail".

Love, **Papa**

Shortly, the old man received this Letter:

For Heaven's sake, Papa,
Don't dig up the garden!! That's where I buried the GUNS!" At 4 a.m.

The next morning, A dozen STF and local police officers showed
up and dug up the entire garden without finding any guns. Confused, the old man
wrote another note to his son telling him what happened, and asked him what to do
next.

His son's reply was:
**"Go ahead and plant your potatoes, Papa: It's the best I could do for you from
here."**

Moral Of the Story:

NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE IN THE WORLD, IF YOU HAVE DECIDED TO DO SOMETHING DEEP FROM YOUR HEART, YOU CAN DO IT.

IT IS THE THOUGHT THAT MATTERS NOT WHERE YOU ARE OR WHERE THE PERSON IS!

Acknowledgement

All the known or unknown sources used during making the presentation are duly acknowledged, without the use of their data/information, the presentation would not have been so informative.