

## Launch of 'Paramarsh'- for Mentoring NAAC Accreditation Aspirant Institutions to promote Quality Assurance in Higher Education

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has recently launched Paramarsh' – A University Grants Commission (UGC) scheme for Mentoring National Accreditation and Assessment Council (NAAC) Accreditation Aspirant Institutions to promote Quality Assurance in Higher Education.

The Scheme will provide a change in the concept of mentoring of institution by another well performing institution to upgrade their academic performance and enable them to get accredited by focusing in the area of curricular aspects, teaching-learning & evaluation, research, innovation, institutional values & practices etc. Thus, the scheme is expected to have a major impact in addressing a national challenge of improving the quality of Higher Education in India.

The scheme will be operationalized through a "Hub & Spoke" model wherein the Mentor Institution, called the "Hub" is centralized and will have the responsibility of guiding the Mentee institution through the secondary branches the "Spoke" through the services provided to the mentee for self improvement. This will bring a centralized control over operational efficiency, resource utilization to attain overall development of the mentee institution. This will increase the exposure and speedier adaptation to best practices.

## **Expected Outcomes of the Scheme**

The scheme will also facilitate sharing of knowledge, information and opportunities for research collaboration and faculty development in Mentee Institutions and will target 1000 Higher Education Institutions for mentoring with a specific focus on quality as enumerated in the UGC "Quality Mandate". The Mentor-Mentee relationship will not only benefit both the institutions but also provide quality education to the 3.6 crore students who are enrolling to Indian Higher Education system at present.

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