

## REVISED NAAC FRAMEWORK: A STUDY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND LEARNING RESOURCES CRITERIA IV

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**Abstract:** *In this article the researcher has highlighted the revised framework of NAAC and also the importance of criteria IV in every college of NAAC process. Criteria iv is related to physical facilities, library as a learning resource, IT Infrastructure and maintenance of campus infrastructure.*

**Keywords:** NAAC, ICT, HEI

**Introduction:** NAAC is an organization that assesses and accreditation all institutions in higher education in India. It is an autonomous body funded by the UGC of Govt. of India headquartered in Bangalore. Accreditation is basically providing recognition to any university or institute and is an appealing factor. The main aim of NAAC is to make a quality defining elements of higher education in India by combination of self and external promotion and substance initiatives. There is periodic assessment and accreditation of institutions to higher education or units, or specific academic programme or project.

### Revised Accreditation Framework

NAAC has launched Revised Accreditation Framework since July, 2017 and hence AQAR format also modified, in cognizance with the new methodology. The tools and parameters are designed in the new AQAR format are in such a way that the preparation of AQAR would facilitate the HEI's for upcoming cycles of Accreditation. Data collected/prepared infuses quality enhancement measures undertaken during the years. Further, it also adds quality enhancement and quality sustenance measures undertaken in teaching, learning, research, extension and support activities of the Institution. It is hoped that new AQAR would facilitate Educational Institutions for creating a good database at Institutional level for enhancing the quality culture.

### Quality Indicator Framework (QIF)

The criteria based assessment forms the backbone of A&A process of NAAC. The seven criteriarepresent the core functions and activities of a HEI. In the revised framework not only theAcademic and administrative aspects of institutional functioning but also the

emerging issues have been included. The Seven Criteria to serve as basis for assessment of HEIs are:

1. Curricular Aspects
2. Teaching-Learning and Evaluation
3. Research, Innovations and Extension
4. Infrastructure and Learning Resources
5. Student Support and Progression
6. Governance, Leadership and Management
7. Institutional Values and Best Practices

Under each Criterion a few Key Indicators are identified. These Key Indicators (KIs) are further delineated as Metrics which actually elicit responses from the HEIs. These seven criteria along with their KIs are given below explicating the aspects they represent.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE AND LEARNING RESOURCES CRITERIA IV

To using technology as a learning resource, managing the activities of the institution in a technology-enabled way will ensure effective institutional functioning. For example, documentation and data management in the HEIs are areas where the process of assessment by NAAC has made a significant impact. Moving towards electronic data management and having institutional website to provide ready and relevant information to stakeholders are desirable steps in this direction. In other words, effective use of ICT in HEIs will be able to provide ICT literacy to the campus community, using ICT for resource sharing and networking, as well as adopting ICT-enabled administrative processes. Therefore, NAAC accreditation would look at how the HEIs have put in place their electronic data management systems and electronic resources and their access to internal and external stakeholders particularly the student community. Most important tools of NAAC are Weightages, Criteria, key aspects and grade points. Criteria IV

Criteria and key aspects	Weightage	Key aspects Grade points 4/3/2/1/0	Key aspect Wise Weightage Grade Points
Infrastructure and Learning Resources ( 100)			
Physical Facility	30	2	60
Library as Learning Resource	20	4	80
IT Infrastructure	30	2	60
Maintenance of Campus Infrastructure	20	2	60
Total	100		240

Criteria IV covers Infrastructure and Learning resources and under it section

**4.1 is Physical facilities** its weightages are 30 points its include the institution has adequate facilities for teaching –learning as per the minimum specified requirements of statutory bodies, like. Administrative block Classrooms, Multilanguage laboratory, Audio visual media centre, as per UGC and University norms. For the enhancement of ICT Institute have ICT teaching aids like OHP, Slide projector, video camera, CCTV Cameras.

4.1.1 The institution has adequate facilities for sports, games (indoor outdoor) gymnasium, yoga centre etc. and cultural activities like

4.1.2 The institution has adequate facilities for sports, games (indoor, outdoor) gymnasium, yoga centre etc. and cultural activities like Gymkhana, Auditorium, Red Cross and NSS, the Open Air Theatre, Grievance Redressal unit, Women Empowerment and Anti Sexual Harassment Cell, Counselling and Career Guidance Placement Unit, Canteen, Safe drinking water facility, inverter backup facilities and bank facilities.

#### **4.2 Library as a Learning Resource**

It can be found that in the overall criteria wise AQAR marking format learning resource centre holds only 20 marks under the criteria IV. 4.2 holds the complete mandate about the importance of libraries or it goes beyond. There opportunities for the LIS professionals to make their presence and contributing role in all the seven criteria by their resourcefulness and essential role and contribution due to their practical exposure to the new ICT developments in their working pattern and learning resources. IT includes, Library is automated using Integrated Library Management System (ILMS), Collection of rare books, manuscripts, special reports or any other knowledge resource for library enrichment. The institution has the INFLIBNET or any other databases, Average annual expenditure for purchase of books during the last five years, Expenditure on the purchase of journals during the last five years and make their audited statements. Availability of remote access to e-resources of the library, Percentage per day usage of library by teachers and students.

#### **4.3 IT Infrastructure**

It can include college and library websites provide necessary information. The institution implemented IT component for smooth conduct of administration in and academic activities. The admission process has been computerized, All the departments connected with internet, Wi-Fi facilities, teaching learning process have ICT based.

4.3.1 IT Facilities including WI-FI

Smart Class rooms with LCD Facilities, Digital Databases, CD. VIDEO, Computer Labs, Seminar Halls with ICT Facilities.

#### 4.3.2 Student Computer Ratio

No. of Computers, No. of Computers in working condition, Total no of students, Available Internet Bandwidth, Facilities for e-content development, Recording Facility, Lecture Capturing System

#### 4.4 Maintenance of Campus Infrastructure

In this maintenance of campus infrastructure in Physical Facilities, required Sports, Gymnasium, Yoga Centre, Class rooms expenditure and maintenance of IT infrastructure and their audited statements, Academic support Facilities like xerox machine, library and others software, computers, Books/Journals and required their maintenance policy documents and audited statements, and expenditure on maintenance of physical facilities and academic facilities.

#### Conclusion

NAAC has been regularly updating and revising its assessment process to fine tune its grading pattern and assessment process in terms of the local, regional and global scenario as well as standardization of the practices which ultimately will lead to quality sustenance in the educational field. Criteria IV is a learning resource centre which is important for library and librarian also. So in this paper explain all process of criteria IV with intellectual manner and attempt to suggest opportunities for learning resource center to showcase their unending importance in higher educational institution framework.

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