

Proceedings of XXVIII National Agricultural Education Accreditation Board held on 17 August, 2021

The XXVIII meeting of National Agricultural Education Accreditation Board was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. Trilochan Mahapatra, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR) on 17 August, 2021 at 3.00 PM under virtual mode. The following members present in the meeting:

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| 1 | Dr. Trilochan Mahapatra, Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi | Chairman |
| 2 | Dr. R. C. Agrawal, DDG (Agrl. Education), ICAR, New Delhi | Vice-Chairman |
| 3 | Dr. N. S. Rathore, VC, MPUAT, Udaipur, Rajasthan | Member |
| 4 | Dr. M. B. Chetti, VC, UAS, Dharwad, Karnataka | Member |
| 5 | Dr. P. K. Bisen, VC, JNKVV, Jabalpur, MP | Member |
| 6 | Dr. A. Padma Raju, Former VC, ANGRAU, Hyderabad, AP | Member |
| 7 | Dr. Gopal Krishana, Director, CIFE, Mumbai | Member |
| 8 | Dr. M. Prabhakar Rao, Managing Director, Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd, Telangana | Member |
| 9 | Secretary, VCI, Bikaji Cama Palace, New Delhi | Ex-Officio member |
| 10 | Dr. K. P. Tripathi, Coordinator (Accreditation), Education Division, ICAR, New Delhi | Member Secretary |

Dr. R. C. Agrawal, DDG (Agricultural Education) warmly welcomed the Chairman and Members of the Board and briefly mentioned about background of convening the meeting. Dr. Trilochan Mahapatra, Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, in his remarks, pointed out extremely tough situation in the backdrop of second phase of COVID for both ICAR and NARES including higher agricultural educational institutions in the country. Chairman further mentioned that the Council, during COVID time, has been taking student centric decisions as many universities could not submit accreditation documents well in time and also ICAR side found difficult to move forward in Peer Review Processes. After his brief remarks, Chairman invited agenda note for discussion.

After detailed deliberation on each agenda item and considering remarks of the Board, the agenda wise decisions are presented as below:

1. Confirmation of the proceedings of the XXVII meeting of the NAEAB held on 24/02/2021 in virtual mode

Since no comments have been received from any member therefore, the proceedings was approved.

2. Action Taken Report on the XXVII meeting held on 24/02/2021 in virtual mode

2.1 Review of ATR submitted by RLBCAU, Jhansi

Considering Peer Review Team recommendations (presented in XXVII meeting of the Board) and report of review committee constituted to examine Action Taken Report submitted by the University, the decision of the Board is given below:

- a. College of Agriculture, RLBCAU, Jhansi along with following programmes was approved for accreditation for a period of five years:
 - B. Sc. (Hons) Agriculture
 - M. Sc (Ag) Agronomy
 - M. Sc. (Ag) Plant Breeding
- b. RLB, CAU, Jhansi was approved for accreditation for a period of five years with a **Grade C (Score 2.51)**
- c. College of Horticulture and Forestry and its programmes and other programmes in College of Agriculture which are not listed at point **a.** were not approved for accreditation as these could not obtain bench mark score of 2.5.
- d. RLBCAU, Jhansi should address recommendations given in PRT assessment for University/Colleges/Programmes and appoint faculty as per norms of Deans'/BSMA committees for all its degree programmes within two years period and thereafter resubmit Action Taken Report to the Board for further extension of accreditation for next three years.
- e. Board suggested that issues related to non-accredited programmes should be addressed by the University on priority

2.2 Mid-Term Review Committee report of the private university/colleges held on 12th August 2021

Mid-Term Review Committee while examining the documents presented for discussion recommended the following:

1. Private universities while claiming faculty/technical staff strength in accredited programmes/ colleges should also submit ITR Form-16 (TRACES) to verify the faculty placement as per guidelines of accreditation. Cadre-wise faculty data should be given.
2. All information made in the form of mere statement must be substantiated with facts/figures/records/orders/proceedings etc.
3. Regarding Experiential Learning Units established by the University/College the required information should be submitted:
4. Feedback from students about teacher after each semester be obtained and necessary corrective measure, if any, taken by the University.
5. Students should attend at least two tours outside the State. Virtual tours may be arranged.
6. Record of student's placement should be furnished.
7. Information about land allotment for each student should be provided

8. Universities having increased number of student intake after getting accreditation from ICAR should justify their proportional increase in facilities/faculty. Before increasing seats, approval of NAEAB is essential.
9. DPR copy for training to entrepreneurship be provided
10. Once universities got accreditation from ICAR, they must comply with all instructions from the NAEAB/ICAR. Committee viewed the non-compliance attitude of two Universities namely Lovely Professional University, Punjab and College of Agriculture and Technology, Theni seriously. Further, non-compliance may lead to strict action including cancellation of accreditation.
11. All Universities should submit revised ATR considering above points (1-10) by August 31, 2021.

Board directed that the Mid-Term-Review committee should first complete review process and then put up recommendations to the Board for final decision.

3. Accreditation to Agricultural Universities/Colleges

3.1 Vanavarayar Institute of Agriculture, Pollachi (Tamil Nadu) affiliated to Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore

3.1.1 Based on Self Study Report, report submitted by the PRT and detailed deliberations, Board approved the accreditation of following for a period of five years

- Degree program: B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture
- Vanavarayar Institute of Agriculture, Pollachi (Tamil Nadu)

3.1.2 Board recommended that the following points (in addition to the assessment) to be addressed by the University/College within two years and ATR should be submitted to the Board for further consideration:

- a) Appointment of Principal may be done for a longer duration preferably for more than three years.
- b) Recruitment of Professors, Associate Professors and the non-teaching staff may be done as per the minimum requirement prescribed by ICAR.
- c) The faculty should be offered competitive salaries to attract talented people.
- d) The Institute may have a well-defined promotion policy for the staff.
- e) The hostel room may be made three seated with required furniture rather than four seated to avoid congestion.
- f) More classrooms of bigger size may be added.
- g) The whole accreditation process including verifications was conducted online only due to present COVID pandemic situation. It is very important to do the physical verification to avoid possible lapses in understanding and verification through online meeting.

3.2 Bhagwant University, Ajmer, Rajasthan

Based on the Self Study Reports, online verification conducted by Peer Review Team (PRT), assessment report and subsequent calculation of grade point average, the Board did not approve accreditation of Faculty of Agriculture and its B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture programme.

3.3 Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad

Based on Self Study Report, report submitted by the PRT and detailed deliberations, Board approved the accreditation of following for a period of five years:

3.3.1 Programmes across the colleges

| S.No. | College | Programme |
|-------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | CoA Rajendranagar | B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture |
| 2. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Agri Business Management |
| 3. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Agricultural Economics |
| 4. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Agricultural Extension |
| 5. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Agronomy |
| 6. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Plant Physiology |
| 7. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Soil Science |
| 8. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Agricultural Statistics |
| 9. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Entomology |
| 10. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Genetics and Plant Breeding |
| 11. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Microbiology |
| 12. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Plant Pathology |
| 13. | CoA Rajendranagar | M.Sc. Seed Science and Technology |
| 14. | CoA Rajendranagar | Ph.D Agricultural Economics |
| 15. | CoA Rajendranagar | Ph.D Agricultural Extension |
| 16. | CoA Rajendranagar | Ph.D Agronomy |
| 17. | CoA Rajendranagar | Ph.D Entomology |
| 18. | CoA Rajendranagar | Ph.D Genetics and Plant Breeding |
| 19. | CoA Rajendranagar | Ph.D. Plant Pathology |
| 20. | CoA Rajendranagar | Ph.D Soil Science |
| 21. | CoA Rajendranagar | Ph.D Seed Science and Technology |
| 22. | CoA, Aswaraopet | B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture |
| 23. | CoA, Jagtial | B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture |
| 24. | CoA, Jagtial | M.Sc. Soil Science |
| 25. | CoA, Jagtial | M.Sc. Agronomy |

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| 26. | CoA, Jagtial | M.Sc. Genetics and Plant Breeding |
| 27. | CoA, Palem | B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture |
| 28. | CoA, warangal | B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture |
| 29. | CoAE, Sangareddy | B.Tech. Agricultural Engineering |
| 30. | CoAE, Sangareddy | M.Sc./M.Tech soil and Water engineering |
| 31. | CoFST, Rudrur | B.Tech Food Technology |
| 32. | CoCS, Saifabad | B.Sc. (Hons) Community Science |
| 33. | CoCS, Saifabad | M.Sc. Home Science Extension &Community Management |
| 34. | CoCS, Saifabad | M.Sc. Human development and Family studies |
| 35. | CoCS, Saifabad | M.Sc. Textiles and Apparel designing |
| 36. | CoCS, Saifabad | M.Sc. Family Resource Management |
| 37. | CoCS, Saifabad | M.Sc. Food and Nutrition |
| 38. | CoCS, Saifabad | Ph.D. Family Resource Management |
| 39. | CoCS, Saifabad | Ph.D. Food and Nutrition |
| 40. | CoCS, Saifabad | Ph.D. Home Science Extension &Community Management |
| 41. | CoCS, Saifabad | Ph.D. Human development and Family studies |
| 42. | CoCS, Saifabad | Ph.D. Textiles and Apparel designing |

3.3.2 Colleges in the Universities:

| S.No. | Name of the College |
|-------|---------------------|
| 1. | CoA, Rajendranagar |
| 2. | CoA, Aswaraopet |
| 3. | CoA, Jagtial |
| 4. | CoA, Palem |
| 5. | CoA, Warangal |
| 6. | CoAE, Sangareddy |
| 7. | CoFST, Rudrur |
| 8. | CoCSc., Saifabad |

3.3 Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Rajendranagar,

Hyderabad was approved for accreditation with Grade A (Score 3.35)

3.4 Teerthankar Mahaveer College of Agriculture Science, Moradabad, U.P.

Based on Self Study Report, report submitted by the PRT and detailed deliberations, Board approved the accreditation of following for a period of five years:

- Degree program: B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture

3.5 Dr.Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, Himachal Pradesh

Based on Self Study Report, report submitted by the PRT and detailed deliberations, Board approved the accreditation of following for a period of five years:

3.5.1 Programmes in the Colleges

1. College of Horticulture at Nauni, Solan

- B.Sc. (Hons)-Horticulture
- M.Sc. (Hort)-Vegetable Science
- PhD in Vegetable Science
- M.Sc. (Hort)-Fruit Science
- PhD in Fruit Science
- M.Sc. (Hort)-Floriculture and Landscape Architecture
- PhD in Floriculture and Landscape Architecture
- M.Sc. (Ag)-Plant Pathology
- PhD in Plant Pathology
- M.Sc. (Ag)-Agricultural Entomology
- xi. PhD in Agricultural Entomology
- M.Sc. (Ag)-Seed Science and Technology
- PhD in Seed Science and Technology
- M.Sc. (Food Technology)
- PhD in Food Technology
- M.Sc. (Molecular Biology & Biotechnology)
- PhD in Molecular Biology & Biotechnology
- MBA (Agribusiness Management)
- PhD in Agribusiness Management

2. College of Forestry at Nauni, Solan

- B.Sc. (Hons)-Forestry
- M.Sc. (Forestry) in Silviculture & Agroforestry
- PhD in Silviculture & Agroforestry
- M.Sc. (Forestry) - Tree Improvement & Genetic Resources
- PhD in Tree Improvement & Genetic Resources
- M.Sc. (Forestry) in Forest Products
- PhD in Forest Products

3. College of Horticulture and Forestry, Neri, Hamirpur

- B.Sc.(Hons)-Horticulture
- B.Sc. (Hons)-Forestry

3.5.2 The Following PG/PhD Programmes were not approved for accreditation as they

did not get the minimum score for accreditation, or the Nomenclature of the Degree is not as per ICAR guidelines:

- M.Sc. (Hort)-Spices, Plantation, Medicinal & Aromatic Crops (at College of Horticulture, Nauni, Solan. No separate faculty with this specialization),
- M.Sc. (Ag)- Soil Science & Water Management at College of Forestry, Nauni, Solan.
- M.Sc. (Ag)-Social Science at College of Forestry, Nauni
- M.Sc. (Environment Science) at College of Forestry, Nauni.
- B.Sc. (Hons) Molecular Biology & Biotechnology at College of Horticulture and Forestry, Neri, Hamirpur

3.5.3 The following PG Programmes at College of Horticulture and Forestry, Neri-Hamirpur are **approved** as separate SSRs for PG Programmes were not available /not submitted by the University/College:

- M.Sc. (Hort)-Fruit Science at CoH&F, at Neri-Hamirpur,
- M.Sc. (Hort)-Vegetable Science at CoH&F at Neri-Hamirpur,
- M.Sc. (Ag)-Agricultural Entomology at CoH&F at Neri-Hamirpur,
- M.Sc (Ag)-Plant Pathology at CoH&F at Neri-Hamirpur,
- M.Sc. (Food Technology) at CoH&F at Neri-Hamirpur
- M.Sc (Agroforestry) at CoH&F at Neri-Hamirpur
- M.Sc. (Ag) Agricultural Economics at CoH&F at Neri-Hamirpur
- M.Sc (Molecular Biology & Biotechnology) at CoH&F at Neri-Hamirpur
- M.Sc (Ag) Soil Science at CoH&F at Neri-Hamirpur

3.5.4 The Following three Colleges under Dr.Y.S.Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry were approved for accreditation for a period of five years:

- College of Horticulture, Nauni, Solan
- College of Forestry, Nauni, Solan
- College of Horticulture and Forestry, Neri, Hamirpur

3.5.5 Dr.Y.S.Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, Himachal Pradesh **was approved for Accreditation for five years with (Score-2.98)**

4. Other decisions

4.1 Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru College of Agriculture and Research Institute, Karaikal

Proposal of the College to enhance number of seats in different accredited programmes was discussed and it was directed to get the details about the faculty and instructional facilities additionally created to commensurate with proposed enhanced intake in programmes for review by the Mid-Term-Review Committee.

4.2 . Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur

Considering the decision of Academic Council, Board approved B.Tech. (Food Technology) students to apply for AIEEA (PG) and AICE-JRF/SRF (Ph.D.)-2021 Examination.

4.3 Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu:- Extension in Accreditation beyond two years

Considering guidelines of accreditation, Board directed to seek detailed justification for enhancing seats (over and above Board approval) in programme (B. Sc. (Hons) agriculture) during accreditation period (2019-2021) and put up to Mid-Term-Review Committee for discussion and recommendation.

4.4 All India Admission through ICAR and pending accreditation of AUs/Colleges

Considering acute pandemic COVID 19 situation and its impact on applicant universities, accreditation secretariat, mobility of peer reviewers in the past and students' future prospect, Board considered and approved proposal that students may appear in AIEEA for the Session 2021-22 from those non-accredited colleges/programmes where SSRs for eligible programmes (following Deans' Committee/BSMA/VCI recommendation) have been submitted to the Council on or before 17th August 2021.

4.5 Board directed Accreditation Secretariat to compile all decisions/directives/recommendations related to accreditation issued by the Board and Governing Body over the years in one document. This document will be considered as part of the main guidelines of accreditation. Board further advised to offer uniform interpretation of clauses of guidelines at appropriate place.

4.6 Meeting of PRT Chairpersons held on 25 June, 2021

Board approved the following recommendations of the meeting with a direction to make it part of the main guidelines for accreditation:

- 1) Time limit for submission of PRT reports should be fixed. Looking into the mobility issues due to COVID 19 and other related inbuilt problems, PRT should submit report within 8 weeks of its constitution. All pertinent records such as SSRs, PRT guidelines, University based records should be provided to the PRT immediately by the NAEAB Secretariat.
- 2) As far as possible, SSR verification should be arranged off-line (on-spot), if situation permits, otherwise process may be completed in on-line mode. After preparing draft assessment report, to the best extent, part of PRT members, if duly agreed by applicant University in writing and accepted by respective member/members, may visit Universities/colleges and rest of the team members shall join in on-line mode.
- 3) Possibilities to develop separate assessment/score card forms for universities applying for re-accreditation may be explored. A committee should be constituted to make deliberations in the matter while aligning with the main-frame guidelines (2017) i. e. three-tier accreditation process (programme/college/university) and based on scoring/grading as per recommendations of CCEA note (2015).

- 4) Applicant universities should reduce the size of SSRs strictly based on guidelines in the matter so that assessment by PRT should be prepared timely without any hassle.
- 5) Recorded video presentations will not be allowed during online presentation by the University. **On-line interactive meeting** with all requisite places/facilities such as instructional farm, laboratories, classrooms etc. should be arranged by the university as per instruction of PRT.
- 6) It was decided that to make assessment of private college uniform and to ascertain minimum requirements as contained in Guidelines (Chapter 6.4), Peer Review Teams should examine following documents additionally submitted by the universities/colleges.
 - In case of faculty/other staff verification only ITR issued by Income tax department (TRACES) will be considered as per guidelines (Chapter 6.4) for private colleges.
 - Universities applying for accreditation of their colleges should essentially have registered land in their name. Lease land may not be considered for accreditation. Only records issued by the local authorities regarding instructional farm will be considered for land verification. Prior to formal PRT presentation with the university, it is essential that University should send scanned copy of land records registered by revenue authorities (in the name of Turst/University) to the Member Secretary of PRT. Record on Land utilization pattern should be provided by the universities. Possibilities of Geo-tagging of land available with colleges should be explored.
 - Time table for last five years (mentioning courses against name of faculty) should be submitted by the colleges prior to the PRT meeting with the university.
 - Student: Teacher ratio for private colleges is a matter of concern. While recommending accreditation, PRT should ensure Deans' Committee guidelines and other pertinent records.

4.5 Letter from President, VCI

Board decided that colleges approved by VCI should apply for ICAR accreditation to become eligible for AIEEA PG/Ph. D programmes.

Meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.