

# Innovative Practices in Teaching, Learning and Evaluation

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## **Abstract :**

The NAAC assesses the affiliated Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) through the following seven criteria viz:

- Curricula aspects.
- Teaching, Learning and evaluation.
- Research, consultancy and extension.
- Infrastructure and learning resources.
- Student support and progression.
- Governance leadership and management.
- Innovations and best practices.

Out of seven criteria, the second criterion, that is, Teaching Learning and Evaluation holds the highest score in which maximum efforts are to put by the institutions to secured good CGPA (Cumulative Grade Point Average).

The paper puts forward and discusses a few points of effective teaching, learning and evaluation process such that the institutions can show better academic performance.

## **Key Words :**

Teaching, Learning, Evaluation **Introduction :**

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is an autonomous institution of UGC which was established in Bangalore on Sept-1994. NAAC was assigned the task of performance evaluation, assessment and accreditation of Universities and Colleges all over the Country.

The NAAC proposes to establish an Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) to each university and College for monitoring the efforts towards sustenance and enhancement of quality of education in their own institution.

Teaching, Learning and Evaluation method plays the most vital role in the education system which requires frequent modifications .The IQAC of all colleges are incessantly trying to make Teaching, Learning and Evaluation process effective. In this direction some measures are mentioned below which will be fruitful and innovative to the HEIs.

## **Objective :**

All HEIs in India including the technical institutions are trying their best through IQACs to secure a better grade or CGPA through the NAAC's visit .The objective of the paper is to discuss some tips to make

teaching, learning and evaluation effective which would be fruitful to the institutions as well as the students.

### **Methodology :**

The paper was prepared after studying a few sources in the form of articles in different books and internet browsing and adding own thoughts. It is confined in qualitative study and the informations are secondary in nature.

### **Innovative Teaching :**

Teaching is a systematic and scientific process which intends to bring about desired learning. It is a complex process followed by the teacher and execute on students who are certainly complex because of continually changing teaching process. The teacher should guide or inspire the students in such a way that they become encouraged to practice creative thinking by following their curiosity. Innovative teaching is such a way of teaching which raises the degree of attention, curiosity, interest, optimism and passion of the students. It plays a significant role in motivating the students to a high level and improve academic outcomes. It extends learning beyond the class room and include knowledge building and problem solving ability of students. A few of the innovative teaching techniques are discussed below :

- ❖ One of the important innovative method of teaching involves encouraging student collaboration for various projects. The globalised world today demands collaboration as an essential life skill that is important for all careers and enterprises. Teachers can help faster this skill in the class room by allowing students to learn, study and work in groups. Students can develop sympathy, negotiation skill, teamwork and problem solving through working in collaboration.
- ❖ The technology of virtual reality helps students to learn through interactions with a 3D world. For example, a history teacher can take the students to explore ancient civilization in a less interesting history class by using 3D technology or a science teacher can take a trip to outer space in a class on Physics. This technology offers a valuable opportunity to learn in an immersive manner which creates a lasting impression on learners mind.
- ❖ An effective teaching method is the use of mind maps, It is a simple techniques in which the information is depicted in diagrams, instead of describing through writing sentences. Mind map is a very effective tool to enhance the memory power. By remembering the shape and structure of mind map a student can easily recollect the information within it.
- ❖ In innovative teaching the sense of humor of the teacher can play a very positive impact on the students. Students by nature like a teacher with such a personality. Such a teacher can easily draw attention of students though the number of the later is much more greater in the classroom. Humor has the power to feel relaxed and it can reduce stress and tension of a person. Thus, the sense of humor can create a congenial atmosphere for teaching and learning.
- ❖ Though one cannot deny the usefulness of a digital classroom with all facilities of modern information and communication technologies (ICT) yet the use of chalk or pen on black or

white boards by the teacher beside the projector screen to some extent is also useful in effective teaching learning process.

- ❖ The use of mnemonic words in the class room makes the teaching effective as it raises the curiosity and intuitivity of the students. By adopting this skill the teacher can impart a basic understanding to the students in the beginning and then he will explain the topic in detail.
- ❖ Multimedia (text, audio, images, animation, video and interactive content) is another effective method of teaching. This method makes the students more motivated and they pay more attention to the information presented and thus the students become able to learn better.
- ❖ All learners have different mindset, though the educational presentations for all of them are generally the same. So, it creates a problem in learning. The method of adaptive teaching which uses data of previous and current learning of a student to create a personalized way through educational content. This technique recommends the right places to start new content and when the review old one. There are various tools for monitoring students' progress.

### **Innovative learning :**

It is a kind of learning which is similar with creative learning in meaning. Innovative learning expands the mind of learners and develop skills outside the textbook. It basically depends on the learning environment and effective teaching. The teacher has to create such and environment in the class room which foster love of learning to the students. Effective learning mainly depends on effective teaching. A few points to make learning effective are mentioned below :

- ❖ Learning a process which can't be conducted for single student as it is a social process. Groff Said, "By our nature we are social beings and when we learn by interacting." The Student learn by pushing and pulling on concepts with one another.
- ❖ Emotions are an integral part of learning. Students understand ideas better when there is interplay between emotions, motivation and cognition. Most teacher know that is a student is upset about something that happened at home or in school he would not learn well. Thus keeping students motivated should be the starting point of learning.
- ❖ Learners should engage themselves actively such that, they become self regulated and can control their emotions. Such learners are able to monitor their own learning process. To elevate the learners to this level, they have to be at the centre of the interests of the teacher.
- ❖ Students in a class room need to be stretched but within a limit. Teachers should try to prevent both coasting and overloading. Group work in a diverse class room can help achieve both academic success and the challenge of discovery to the students.
- ❖ Learning should be meaningful such that the students can understand why the knowledge will be useful to them and how it can be applied in their lives.

- ❖ By arranging educational excursions to place of historical or geographical importance or a technology centre the learners get opportunity to collect data and compare it with classroom experiences. It creates great interest and also enhances motivation to learn.

### **Innovative Evaluation :**

In the present education system, the proper evaluation of teaching learning process is a challenge. A right evaluation process begins with planning of how to start, how to continue and finally come to the end of the process. It makes the evaluation easier.

An evaluator has many tools at his possession just like a mechanic has many tools in his tool box. The evaluator has to select the right tool at the specific stage of evaluation. Of course, there is no hard and fast rules in selecting the methods of evaluation. But some general approaches may be followed by the evaluator which are useful for the process. Some methods of evaluation which are innovative to some good extent are discussed below.

- ❖ To know or test the level of learning of students questionnaires can be used. The evaluator can discover the weak points of learners where improvements are necessary. Questionnaires is much more useful at the beginning and at the end of an evaluation.
- ❖ Group discussions among the students is an useful tool to evaluate the students. It is also less time consuming.
- ❖ Open book examination is another useful and effective tool to evaluate the learners. This ❖ makes the students more prepared to their main examination.
- ❖ Observation of behavior during informal discussion with students and with staff involved is a vital tool of evaluation in some circumstances
- ❖ For some stages in the beginning of evaluation process a set of progress markers or progress statements can be presented to the students about their performance. The statement should express the expectation of the evaluator had on the students before starting the process.
- ❖ In science subjects the performance in various laboratory experiments may be an useful tool to measure the level of understanding of the theoretical background of the students.

### **Conclusion :**

From the above discussion, it is observed that the teachers play the key role in the whole process of teaching, learning and evaluation. Today's Students and children are tomorrow's citizen of the country. They have huge potential to change our nation and make the country a better place to live in. Therefore the teachers have the most vital role to play in the educations system of the nation. Their untiring and relentless efforts is highly desirable in shaping the vast human resource of our country in the form of today's students community.

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