Report on ONE DAY WORKSHOP ON NIRF RANKING conducted on 17-10-2019 at L. Venugopal Reddy Auditorium, Acharya Nagarjuna University Campus

The APSCHE conducted one day workshop on NIRF inviting all the State Universities, Degree colleges and Professional colleges who have registered for NIRF rankings on 17-10-2019. The IQAC coordinators of Universities, Professional colleges and Government degree colleges and the faculty members involved in the NIRF work participated in the workshop. Two resource persons were invited for the programme. Prof. B. Rajasekhar, Pro-Chancellor, University of Hyderabad and Prof. K. Subbarao, NITTTR, Kolkata served as resource persons. The workshop was attended by 140 Participants representing 113 HEIs across the state.

Inaugural session was started at 9.30 am which was presided by Prof. K. Rama Mohana Rao, Vice-Chairman, APSCHE. Prof. K. Rama Mohana Rao welcomed the participants on behalf of APSCHE and appreciated the enthusiastic participation of many HEIs in the workshop. Highlighting the need for quality focus in the present day changing dynamics, he pointed out that the HEIs of Andhra Pradesh should prepare to face fast emerging challenges. Referring to the competition scenario at the national and global level, Prof. Rao advised all the HEIs to create institutional visibility by displaying quality

[Image of participants at the workshop]

[Image of the workshop setup]
performances consistently. NIRF is one such opportunity to know the position of the institution at the national level and to inform all the stakeholders the relative rank of the institution. He advised all the participants to make use of the workshop to share their views and to find better ways to present their institutions.

Prof. T. Lakshmamma, Vice-Chairperson, APSCHE congratulated all for participating institutions for their interest in the workshop. Prof. B. Sudheer Prem Kumar, Secretary, APSCHE remembered his experiences when he visited MIT in USA. He pointed out quality in teaching learning is essential and we have to work hard to improve further. Chief Guest of the occasion Prof. K. Ramji quoted different ranking agencies and how they can be achieved. He also insisted that all institutions must get ready to face the challenges in a new era. Getting NIRF ranking will not only enhance the status of institution but also helps in getting funds from Government agencies. He advised the institutions to give special focus on extension activities and undertake measures for becoming more socially responsible institutions.

TECHNICAL SESSION – I: NIRF Quality parameters

Technical Session – I began after the inaugural session. The session is focused on the preparatory work related to NIRF and the design of internal organization system in HEIs and
NIRF quality parameters. Prof. B. Rajasekhar, Pro-Chancellor, University of Hyderabad was the key resource person. He explained the importance and methodology of NIRF. He pointed out the gaps in preparatory works and the difficulties being faced by the colleges and universities in collecting and collating the data and information. He also pointed out that there are no separate wing in colleges/Universities for preparing documents and data for rankings. Even most of the colleges are very reluctant to upload their college details in website. Most of the data available in websites are not consistent and not properly updated. He insisted that prime responsibility of colleges is to update their websites. In future ranking agencies are going to directly extract the data rather than asking to submit application. He also explained how to achieve more marks from the ‘perceptions’ sub component. He told that unfortunately most of the south institutions are not known to public and stakeholders, hence they are getting less marks in perception category. The institutions in Tamilnadu are getting good marks in this category by promoting the brand image of their institutions.

All the faculty members who are publishing research papers should be asked to submit their papers in open access agencies like Research Gate, Google scholar etc. Such measure will ensure the institution identity on the research front. Also by conducting international conferences, seminars, by inviting eminent persons across the country and also from abroad, institutions name will be known to stakeholders across the country and it helps in scoring high under the head ‘perceptions’.
TECHNICAL SESSION – II: Ranking Process and Data Uploading:

Technical Session-II started after lunch break. Prof. K. Subba Rao, NITTTR, Kolkata was the key resource person. He explained all the parameters and functions used in NIRF ranking. He also elaborated how to calculate the functions according to the respective colleges’ data. He interacted with all the participants and clarified the doubts.

INTERACTION SESSION

The last session was Interaction session. The session was chaired by Prof. K. Rama Mohana Rao, Vice Chairman, APSCHE. Prof. E. Sreenivasa Reddy, DEAN, Faculty of Engineering, ANU, Prof. K. Subba Rao, NITTTR, Kolkata, Dr. S Nagakishore Bhavanam, Assistant Professor, ANU served as resource persons.
Many participants shared their experiences and problems faced in uploading the data for NIRF. They also shared opinions on the workshop. Some of the doubts expressed by the participants in filling various forms were clarified. A user friendly App was developed by APSCHE to give online support for ranking process. Queries posted on App will be answered by renowned resource persons immediately, so that the doubts can easily be clarified.

Dr. S.P Malarvizhi from Vasavi Engineering College expressed her doubts about functions and parameters while calculating formulas and after the session – 1, she realized that it is somewhat related to research area.
**Distribution of certificates to the participants:**

Professor K. Rama Mohana Rao, Vice Chairman of APSCHE, T. Lakshmamma Vice Chairperson of APSCHE distributed certificates to the participants.

The one day workshop was coordinated by Prof. E. Sreenivasa Reddy, DEAN, Faculty of Engineering, ANU, and Dr. S Nagakishore Bhavanam, Assistant Professor, ANU.
They were assisted by Dr. Chaitanya, Er. Charan, Er. Satheesh Kumar, Er. Yugandhar Reddy of ANU and Miss. Dharani of APSCHE. The participants were given participation certificates.