



# BIMSTEC

Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral  
Technical and Economic Cooperation

## *Regional Accreditation, Ranking of Universities, Journal Indexation, Research and BIMSTEC Cooperation*

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***“The world is now more complex, more connected and changing more rapidly”***



**BANGLADESH**



**BHUTAN**



**INDIA**



**MYANMAR**



**NEPAL**



**SRI LANKA**



**THAILAND**



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# Accreditation in Higher Education

- Neighboring countries in many regions have been establishing organizations to intensify economic integration for their mutual benefits.
- The BIMSTEC is one such regional organization established on 06 June 1997.
- Purposeful connectivity ensuring free movement of peoples, goods, and services have been found from experience as one factor vital for quicker development of member states, overall well being of their peoples, and closer regional integration.



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# Accreditation in Higher Education

- Accreditation enhances educational quality by improving the effectiveness of institutions and ensuring that institutions meet the established standards. It harmonizes the shared values and practices among diverse institutions. Therefore, accreditation relies on integrity, thoughtful judgment, rigorous application of requirements, and trust. It provides an assessment of an institution's effectiveness in the fulfillment of its mission, its compliance with the requirements of its accrediting body, and its continuing efforts to enhance the quality of student learning.



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# Regional Accreditation

- **Accreditation** is the process by which *government or private agency evaluates the quality of a higher education institution as a whole or a specific study program in order to formally recognize it as having met certain predetermined minimal criteria or standards.*

## Assessment

*The process of systematic gathering, quantifying, and using of information in view of judging the instructional effectiveness and the curricular adequacy of a higher education institution as a whole or academic program. Assessment is necessary in order to validate a formal accreditation decision, but it does not necessarily lead to an accreditation outcome. It also means a technically designed process for evaluating student learning outcomes and for improving student learning and development as well as teaching effectiveness.*



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# Necessity of Accreditation

- The overwhelming objective of the accreditation process is to recognize and acknowledge the value-addition in transforming a student admitted to a program/institution into a graduate with enhanced knowledge and an acceptable level of professional and personal competence. Some of the important aspects of QAA are listed in terms of following questions and answers.



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# Bangladesh Initiative

- The government approved in principle the draft rules of **Accreditation Council Act-2016** to ensure quality and standard of higher education in Bangladesh.
- A chairman will be recruited by the government who lead the 11-member council.
- No university can offer certificates of higher education without the approval of the council.



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# Accreditation Council Act-2016

- To improve standards of higher education and upgrading educational institutions to international standards.
- To accredit the operations of higher institutions and set conditions of issuing accreditation as well as confidence certificates.
- To deal with application process of gaining accreditation certificates, approval of applications or their denials, legality and cancellation of accreditation certificates.



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# Regional Accreditation and BIMSTEC

- Bhutan

**Bhutan Accreditation Council (BAC)** is the national accrediting agency, which shall accredit institutions of higher learning in Bhutan.

- India

A set of professional councils established by statute and other autonomous coordinative or regulatory bodies established or recognized by **the University Grants Commission** of India.



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# Regional Accreditation and BIMSTEC (Contd.....)

- Nepal

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has launched the Quality Assurance and Accreditation (QAA) program as an important aspect of reform in higher education in Nepal. Accordingly, a Quality Assurance and Accreditation Committee (QAAC) has been formed for the development and implementation of QAA activities in higher education in Nepal in 2007



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# Regional Accreditation and BIMSTEC (Contd.....)

- Sri Lanka

The University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka empowered by Section 4(2) of the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978, as and when required appoints Standing Committees for specific purposes,. As such Sri Lanka formed **Standing Committee on Quality Assurance and Accreditation** which functions as the advisory body to UGC - QAAC and vigorously pursue/promote QA programmes according to universities.



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# University Rankings

University ranking basically focus on determining definitive list of the world's best universities, evaluates across teaching, research, international outlook, reputation and more. In general, data are trusted by governments and universities and are a vital resource for students, helping them choose where to study.

During recent years, university rankings have gained a considerable importance not only among the academia but also amongst students, parents, industry and businesses. Common stakeholders, the students and their parents, may not be aware of the intricacies of ranking processes and elements / criteria of rankings but they are definitely keen to know the position of the University of their Interest in the ranking lists.



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# Some ranking system of the universities

- **QS World University Ranking**
- **Times Higher Education World University Ranking**
- **Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU – often referred to as the “Shanghai Jiao Tong”)**
- **CWTS Leiden Ranking**
- **Webometrics Ranking**



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# Journal Indexing

- Indexation of a journal is considered a reflection of its quality. Indexed journals are considered to be of higher scientific quality as compared to non-indexed journals.
- Over the years, many other popular indexation services have developed. These include MedLine, PubMed, EMBASE, SCOPUS, EBSCO Publishing's Electronic Databases, SCIRUS among others.



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# Research

- One of the important roles of universities has been to make changes possible.
- They have done this by educating an ever greater proportion of the population and broadening its perspectives; by performing research that creates new understanding, new technologies and the potential for action; and by providing a store of knowledge and capabilities that society as a whole has been able to draw upon.



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# Research (Contd.....)

- A significant proportion of our better health, wealth and general wellbeing (whether environmental, cultural, social or spiritual) was made possible by the research performed by universities and through the actions of people who were drawing on the benefits of their university education.



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# BIMSTEC Cooperation

- An unique platform can be established for all Accreditation Councils of BIMSTEC countries.
- Research collaboration need to be augmented amongst the BCIM member countries
- Exchange of journals
- A regional rankings naming. ‘BIMSTEC Higher Education Ranking’ may be established .
- ‘BIMSTEC Education Fund’ may be created.
- ‘Education’ sector need to be addressed in BIMSTEC flagship.



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**Thank you all  
for patient hearing**



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