

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2906**  
ANSWERED ON 26/03/2025

**Higher Education Reforms and Accreditation**

2906 **Shri Tiruchi Siva:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as of January 2025, only 40 per cent of Colleges have been accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Ministry has considered introducing multiple accreditation agencies under a licensing framework, as recommended by the National Knowledge Commission (2009), and if so, the status of any such proposals; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has a roadmap for phasing out the affiliation system by 2035, as envisioned in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, and the current progress on granting autonomy to well-performing colleges?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(Dr. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (c): As informed by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), it has been proactively conducting various awareness programmes, handholding exercises, seminars, workshops etc. for the Higher Educational Institutions to come forward and apply for accreditation. Consequently, the number of colleges accredited by NAAC has increased from 701 in 2020-21 to 2146 in 2024-25 as of 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2025 thus marking an increase of 206%.

The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 envisions a 'meta-accrediting body', called the National Accreditation Council (NAC). It includes accreditation of institutions by an independent ecosystem of accrediting institutions supervised and overseen by NAC.

The NEP further envisions for all colleges currently affiliated to a university to attain the required benchmarks over time to secure the prescribed accreditation benchmarks and eventually become autonomous degree-granting colleges. Education being in the concurrent list of Constitution, Centre and States are equally responsible for providing quality education to all. Accordingly, Ministry of Education, State Governments, education-related Ministries, the regulatory and implementing bodies of higher education such as UGC and All India Council for Technical Education have taken several initiatives for implementation of NEP 2020.

As on 28.02.2025 there are 1481 Autonomous Colleges.

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