

A GLOBAL DIGEST FOR THE MODERN EDUCATOR

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

NAAC & National Quality Reforms

Official Framework & 90% Target

[NAAC to launch AI-based accreditation system, targets 90% coverage in five years](#) – This report confirms the goal to increase accreditation from the current levels (~40% of universities and 18% of colleges) to over 90% within five years.

Implementation & AI-Driven Process

[New NAAC accreditation system to focus on AI-driven assessment; rollout in August 2025](#) – This article explains the shift to "Accredited" vs. "Not Accredited" and the elimination of physical visits for basic accreditation.

Technical Deep Dive

[NAAC Accreditation Process 2025 Guide: Binary + MBGL](#) – A detailed guide on how the binary system works, including the 5-level Maturity-Based Graded Levels (MBGL) that follow the initial binary phase.

Institutional Readiness

[NAAC announces new accreditation system, MDU says will apply once portal opens](#) – Coverage of how universities are transitioning their IQAC benchmarks to align with these 2026 mandates.

Maturity-Based Graded Levels (MBGL)

For institutions seeking a higher pedigree beyond binary status, the five-level maturity framework (Level 1 to 5) is now active. Level 5 is the peak designation for "Global Excellence" in research and education. [Click here](#)

AI-Driven Verification

Traditional, multi-day physical peer team visits are being phased out for foundational cycles, replaced by AI-driven data verification and "crowdsourced" validation from stakeholders to ensure transparency. [Click here](#)

International Accreditation Milestones (March 2026)

AACSB Initial Accreditations

In a major announcement on February 25, 2026, eight institutions worldwide earned initial AACSB business accreditation. Notably, Great Lakes Institute of Management, Gurgaon was among the new recipients, signaling the continued rise of Indian B-schools on the global stage. [Click here](#)

The "Triple Crown" Expansion

Following the Indian School of Business (ISB) becoming the 100th triple-accredited school globally, both IIM Lucknow and MDI Gurgaon have solidified their positions in this elite 1% club (AACSB, AMBA, and EQUIS) as of Q1 2026. [Source: MBAUniverse 2026]

Regulatory & Ranking Deadlines

NIRF 2026 Data Submission

While the general submission portal closed on February 27, the Data Capturing System (DCS) for Sustainable Institutions remains open until March 15, 2026. [Click here](#)

UGC Equity Regulations 2026

Notified in late January 2026, these regulations mandate that all HEIs establish **Equal Opportunity Centres (EOCs)** and Equity Committees. Compliance reports are required bi-annually, with strict penalties for non-adherence. [Click here](#)

Student Competitions & Awards (Upcoming)

XI Virtual National Client Consultation Competition

A law competition by NorthCap University, Gurugram. *Registration Deadline: March 15, 2026.*

STEM Innovation Challenge

Focused on UN Sustainable Development Goals. *Deadline: March 31, 2026.* [Source: India STEM Mission]

YUVOTSAV 2K26

Inter-collegiate sports and cultural competitions concluding final prize distributions this week in Pune. [Click here](#)

International Awards for Education Excellence 2026

Nominations are currently open for researchers, professors, and students demonstrating innovative teaching or community impact. [Click here](#)

Prime Minister's Award for Yoga 2026

Nominations open via the Government of India portal from February 21 to March 21, 2026. [Click here](#)

Faculty Development & Quality Culture (Upcoming)

Programme	Institution	Dates	Reference
46th FDP in Pedagogy & Research	IIM Ahmedabad	Apr 07 – May 21, 2026	IIMA FDP
International Conference: INSPIRE 2026	SBPIM, Pune	March 13–14, 2026	SBPIM News
Women Thought Leaders Convention	Vigyan Bhavan, Delhi	March 07–08, 2026	UGC Notices

Editor's Note

Quality enhancement today extends beyond compliance—it requires continuous awareness of policy shifts, global trends, and emerging opportunities. We encourage academic departments, faculty members, and students to actively engage with at least one initiative highlighted in this edition.

This publication is by the Office of Quality Initiatives/ IQAC.