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A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF TRENDS IN QUALITY IMPROVEMENT APPROACHES IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN EUROPE AND INDIA

Jitendra P Shreemali*

The study was carried out to examine how institutions of higher education in Europe and India are addressing the changing quality needs of knowledge based economies. The initial part examines the approaches adopted in Europe as well experience of European Universities and institutions in implementing internal and external quality assurance and points out the interplay between internal and external quality assurance. Quality assured mechanism can also be created by educators of higher education institutions adopting certain best practices to assessing student learning and understanding. The study presents limitations of course and faculty evaluation as well as institutional rankings despite these being a necessity in a global scenario where stakeholders need to compare institutions based on independent assessment. Ranking criteria of premier rankings is presented along highlighting lack of direct relevance to quality. The latter part of this paper examines the rapid growth in the number of institutions of higher education and its impact on quality. The study finally focused on the role of accreditation and assessment bodies in India and the increasing acceptance of NAAC accreditation for monitoring and assuring quality in higher education.

Key words: Higher Education, Management Education, University, Quality Assurance, Assessment, Accreditation, AICTE, NBA, NAAC, Accreditation.

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