



# THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS



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## Well-performing colleges can take in more students

The initiative by the Higher Education Department is to promote quality education in institutions across the state

### Validity of NAAC accreditation extended

The NAAC has passed a resolution giving an extension for high-performing institutions. As per the decision passed at an executive committee meeting held on March 17, the validity period of accreditation will be extended from 5 years to 7 years.

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HIGHER education institutions which perform well can get incentives in the form of permission to increase their intakes.

This policy of the Higher Education Department is aimed at promoting the quality of education by incentivising well-performing institutions across the state.

The basis for the incentive is consistency in the performance—the results in the final year of courses. Another parameter is that the institutions should have secured A+ or A grade from the National Assessment

and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The incentive comes with a rider: A 25 per cent of the additional intake rewarded to the institutions should be reserved for economically poor students. Institutes seeking the incentive should submit requests to the Principal Secretary to Higher Education Department mentioning the proposed increase in the intakes in the courses in question.

The proposal should be submitted by December 31 of the year preceding the academic year. Interestingly, the state government will communicate the “acceptance” of the request to the institution without an inquiry with-

in 15 days. “If no communication is received from the government, it may be deemed to have been accepted,” said an official of the Higher Education Department.

Once the proposal is accepted, a copy of the acceptance letter will be forwarded to the university concerned. The university can send a Lo-

cal Inquiry Committee to the colleges seeking the incentive. The university can forward its comments on the infrastructure and teaching staff to the Principal Secretary of the department, the official said.

In fact the policy came into effect from the academic year 2016-17.

Recently, St Joseph’s Commerce College of Bengaluru had applied for an increase in its intake for BCom course from the existing 490 seats to 690 and for BBA course from 150 to 300 under the incentive policy. The same was approved by Bangalore University at its syndicate meeting held on Monday.

**“The basis for the incentive is consistency in the performance and the institutions should have secured A+ or A grade from the National Assessment and NAAC**

Higher Education Department