

ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY
(Accredited with A+ Grade by NAAC)
Karaikudi

Address by the Vice-Chancellor Prof.S.Subbiah
to the Press Reporters on 15.5.2017

Alagappa University, Karaikudi, gets the first place among the State/Central Universities, with A+ grade by NAAC securing 3.64 CGPA score

The Alagappa University, Karaikudi, has been awarded prestigious A+ Grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in the third cycle of accreditation for a further period of seven years with effect from 2.5.2017. The result was declared at the 24th meeting of the Standing Committee of the NAAC held on 2.5.2017 and the official communication has been received by the University from the NAAC office.



Of the **86** Universities and Deemed Universities assessed by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council after the introduction of **New Grading System** during the period from 1st July 2016 to April 2017, **nine** Universities obtained **A+ grade**. Among these nine Universities, four are State Universities and the other five are Deemed Universities. Alagappa University, Karaikudi, is the **First State University in South India** to obtain the first place with **3.64 Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) on the four-point scale**, among the four State Universities accredited with A+ grade in India. It is pertinent to note that Alagappa University is one of the youngest institutions to be awarded with A+ grade and to obtain the First Place in Tamilnadu.

The other three State Universities which obtained A+ grade include Savitribai Phule Pune University of Maharashtra, Utkal University of Odisha and University of Jammu of Jammu and Kashmir State, with CGPA of 3.60, 3.53 and 3.51 respectively.

While referring to overall strengths of Alagappa University, the NAAC Peer Team has pointed out five salient points, which include, (1) Sophisticated Science Laboratories (2) Experienced and Committed Faculty (3) Good Physical and IT Infrastructure (4) Eco-Friendly Environment and (5) Good Alumni Support.

Making a reference to excellent opportunities that the University provides to enhance its performance, the NAAC Peer Team reports that (1) Linkages with Local Industries (2) Augmented Placement Services and (3) Skill Training across several sectors would serve as versatile avenues.

The NAAC Peer Team assessed the performance of various departments, centres, common facilities and cells, etc. in respect of curricular aspects, teaching, learning and evaluation, research, consultancy and extension, infrastructure and learning resources, student support and progression, governance and leadership, innovative practices, etc.

Taking note of the consistently the highest NAAC grade, namely, 'A' achieved by Alagappa University in the 1st and 2nd accreditations done earlier in 2005 and 2011, the NAAC has intimated that validity period of the present 3rd accreditation for the University would be 7 years, instead of usual 5 years.

The steady and uninterrupted performance enhancements decisively exhibited by the University in all dimensions -- (1) Curricular Aspects (2) Teaching-Learning and Evaluation (3) Research Consultancy and Extension (4) Infrastructure and Learning Resources (5) Student Support and Progression (6) Governance Leadership and Management and (7) Innovations and Best Practices -- enabled the University to stand tall amongst its peers.

The NAAC Peer Team has highlighted and commended the superior merits of Alagappa University in detail in its accreditation and assessment report on the University.

The Criterion-Wise highlights of the NAAC Peer Team Report.

1) Curricular Aspects

The CBCS patterned curricula of the University up-dated regularly, designed with expertise drawn from overseas and industry as well and enriched with feedback from all-stakeholders including parent-peer groups.

- i) The curricula providing for academic flexibility with inter-departmental mobility, add-on features, extended optional courses
- ii) With need based strategy driven orientation, many programs get launched.

2) Teaching-Learning & Evaluation

- i) Transparency in admission, inclusive admission policy and access to quality education for the rural & less privileged population
- ii) Good Mentor-mentee system, special facilities for persons with disability and larger proportion of women students.
- iii) Regular monitoring of student performance, maximum learning opportunities and facilities for students, supplemental learning opportunities and ICT enriched learning platform.
- iv) Almost all Faculty with doctoral degrees, close to 45% with national/international awards and facilitation for attending quality conferences/seminars- national/international.
- v) Double valuation, ICT oriented examination system with photo copying of answer scripts ensuring legitimacy, speed and transparency.
- vi) Consistent Pass and Placement performance linked to graduate attributes.
- vii) Automation of Examination Process has resulted in the timely publication of exam results and it has helped to reduce the examination expenditure.

3) Research, Consultancy and Extension

- i) The Alagappa University Research Fund (AURF) for internal funding of research projects with state grants, publication awards, and research degrees.
- ii) Close to 500 plus national/international conferences, most departments with national/international research linkages with

- Government/Corporate funding and good project culture with completed projects.
- iii) Sophisticated Research instruments like Confocal Microscopy, HR-SEM, Maldi-Tof-Tof, VSM, etc. supported by quality journals and commendable ICT and other infrastructure including many scholarships to scholars and students.
 - iv) Good Patent culture, Great Project and Publication culture with high impact.
 - v) Consultancy with University-Industry cell, faculty with good consultancy outcome.
 - vi) Extension activities with concern, social outcome, help-the-needy attitude through village adoption, special schools, etc.
 - vii) Collaborations with good number of national/international MoUs with institutions of repute, involvement with NGOs/Government Agencies, Alumni Association, etc.

4) Infrastructure and Learning Resources

- i) Adequate Physical infrastructure, Good Sports facilities - (both indoor and outdoor) and Up-graded ICT, WiFi, RFID-automated Library with INFLIBNET/DELNET/Internet etc.
- ii) Both Central and Faculty-wise libraries to make accessibility at comfort/will with collections exceeding 1 lakhs including enough e-resources/course ware.
- iii) Secured internet with National Knowledge Network, latest version computers, 80 Smart Class rooms, over 250 laptops, IT centre with Computer network, WiFi, etc.
- iv) AMCs for maintenance, enough allocation for maintenance and sound estate management.

5) Student Support and Progression

- i) Career Guidance, Counselling services, University-wide and Departmental Placement centres, Coaching classes, remedial coaching, etc. for student mentoring and progression, Campus placement of appreciable level.
- ii) Earn-while-you-learn scheme, Alumni Association, Grievance Redressal Cell, anti-ragging cell, etc.
- iii) Less than 0.5% student drop-out indicating good progression, 90% progression rate from UG to PG, 40% from PG to Research.
- iv) Student development through effective cultural as well as academic talents, international/national/state level medals by students and maximum exposure to students by many meaning celebrations of national/international days.

6) Governance, Leadership and Management

- i) Pro-active and effective leadership, supportive administration to all stakeholders including affiliated colleges and participative management.
- ii) Vision, Mission, Perspective plan, etc. in order; Resource deployment of a large scale for enhanced/enriched infrastructure
- iii) Performance appraisal of both teaching and non-teaching in style with Academic/Gender/Internal/External audits
- iv) Time bound utilization of funds, methodical financial administration appreciated by the State Government.
- v) IQAC with Scales for Measuring Quality and Quantity of achievements by all.
- vi) Academic audit system is adhered to.

7) Innovations and Best Practices

- i) Lush-green, spacious Green Garden with alumni contribution
- ii) Environmental friendly and enhancing measures like regular tree plantation, bio-gas plants in hostels, solar energy installations, water harvesting, pro-active e-waste/waste management.
- iii) Innovations in Skill development through the Institute of Skill Development, AURF for research culture facilitation/propagation,
- iv) Best Practice, ASSURES, ensures sports utilities shared with the youngest LKG to the Oldest, Youth and their Parents, etc.
- v) Best Practice, ACT NE&T conducts deliberative lectures, every year, on all the six Nobel Prize topics.
- vi) A School for Physically Challenged and PARA Sports Centre established by the University are functioning well.
- vii) A Museum attached to the Centre for Tamil Culture showcases the objects, implements and articles used by the ancient Tamils.

During the Press Meet, Prof. V. Balachandran, Registrar i/c., Syndicate Members, Dr. M. Selvam, Convener, IQAC and Dr. H. Gurumallesh Prabu, Controller of Examinations, were present.
