

Monthly Updates-June 2025

Centre for Higher Education Quality Upgradation and Excellence (CHEQUE)

Overview

The **Centre for Higher Education Quality Upgradation and Excellence (CHEQUE)** Project is a strategic initiative by CRISP aimed at **strengthening the overall quality and performance of higher education institutions** across India. Through a focus on academic mentoring, institutional engagement, and capacity building, the project supports colleges and universities in their pursuit of excellence and accreditation. CHEQUE is designed to **enhance student retention and graduation rates, promote the integration of educational technology (EdTech), and boost graduate employability** by aligning programs with industry needs. In addition, the project encourages institutions to improve their extension activities and community engagement, contributing to a more socially responsive education system.

Project Goal

To enhance quality, governance, and employability in state higher education institutions by **leveraging the university-college affiliation system** for academic strengthening, curriculum improvement, and better curricular and co-curricular outcomes.

To foster inclusive and equitable learning communities by ensuring minimum learning levels, and **improving student access, retention, and graduation**, particularly among students from remote and underserved regions.



Strategy and Approach



Experienced Mentors

Retired academicians are appointed Academic Mentors (AMs) to guide colleges in quality improvement.



Mentorship Scope

Each AM supports 10–15 colleges, driving targeted quality enhancement initiatives.



Focus Areas

Mentors help improve teaching, student outcomes, and institutional performance.

As part of its strategic implementation, the **CHEQUE Project engages experienced Academic Mentors (AMs)** to support higher education institutions in quality improvement. These retired academicians, appointed for their expertise in academics and administration, are each assigned 10–15 colleges. They work closely with **institutional teams to implement quality enhancement initiatives** focused on teaching, student outcomes, and institutional performance.

Major Highlights

- A workshop on **NAAC accreditation and Institutional Development Plan (IDP)** was held at St. Mary's Degree College on June 3rd. The session provided the college with a **clear understanding of the NAAC accreditation process**, equipping them with the necessary tools to align their practices with accreditation criteria.
- Baseline data from 10 colleges was reviewed using **NAAC parameters, and each institution was given tailored recommendations to address gaps** in their data. This feedback is now helping these colleges to refine their institutional data and better align with NAAC's quality indicators.
- Two **SWAYAM workshops were held on 9 and 21 June, 2025 for colleges** in the CHEQUE Project. The sessions covered SWAYAM's courses, credit system, and enrolment process.
- A strategy meeting for **Telangana Academic Mentors** was held on June 23rd at RBVRR Women's College. The focus was on prioritizing SWAYAM enrolment, IDP preparation, and setting up domain-specific clubs. These actions will help **colleges strengthen their academic frameworks and student engagement** next quarter.

Learnings and Way Forward



Most institutions are unaware of key quality improvement initiatives like MOOCs, IICs, NDL, NAAC accreditation, and IDPs. A **gradual and targeted approach** is needed to introduce these interventions and enhance institutional quality.

In the coming quarter, additional workshops on SWAYAM and IDP will be conducted to further strengthen institutional readiness. Mentors will also engage in discussions to finalize priority action areas for their colleges, with a focus on SWAYAM enrolment, IDP preparation, and the establishment of domain-specific clubs.

Photo Gallery

