

**Dr Guaranga Chandra Mohanta ndc, Project Director (Additional Secretary), HEQEP Speech for the workshop of QAU held on 14.05.2015**

Respected session chair, Professor Dr. Muhammad Mahboob Ali, Pro-Vice chancellor Professor Dr. Md. Golam Rahman, respected Vice chancellor Professor Dr. Yousuf Mahbubul Islam, self assessment committee members of institution Quality Assurance Cell of Daffodil international University, my colleagues from HEQEP, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

I am delighted to be here among the University luminaries. It's encouraging that the Quality Assurance Cell is following its action plan meticulously.

**Higher Education:** Higher Education decides the quality of human resource in a country. Higher education is a complex system that encompasses teaching, research, understanding and facilitation of international cooperation.

**Quality:** 'Quality' is a much-debated term. A relativist can say that it is something like beauty. But an objectivist would say that Quality is a totality of specific attributes which can be identified. There are many definitions of quality.

We have

1. Transcendental definitions.
2. Product-based definitions.
3. User based definitions.
4. Manufacturing based definitions.
5. Value based definitions.

**Quality Movement: Quality as a concept is a 20<sup>th</sup> century phenomenon. It has its roots in industry management.**

Among the leading thinkers I.W. Edward Deming, Joseph Juran And Philip B. Crosby are remarkable. The impact of their contributions on education is considerable.

**Quality Assurance:** U.S.A: Quality Assurance is viewed differently in different countries.

In the USA, Quality Assurance in higher education is done through accreditation process. The commission of Accreditation which was formed in 1949 involved non- governmental agencies.

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology: Boston**

Industrial Liaison Program (ILP) and MIT Energy Initiative

- Over 700 Companies are included
- \$ 143 Mil. U.S Dollars are invested in Industry sponsored research in FY 2014

Technology Licensing Office (TLO) FY 2014

- The number of new invention disclosures are 743
- 304 U.S patents, 80 licenses issued
- The number of startup companies are 22
- 78mil. U.S Dollars earned in licensing income

**UK:** The Quality Assurance Agency was established in 1997 in the UK. It's the centralized independent body financed by the universities and colleges dedicated for higher education in the United Kingdom. Before the establishment of this agency the quality of higher education was assured by organizations like Higher Education Quality Council and others. This Agency checks on standards and quality in UK Higher Education. Its mission is "to safeguard standards, improve the quality of UK Higher Education wherever it is delivered around the world". Its four strategic aims are:

1. to address the needs of students
2. to safeguard standards
3. to drive improvements
4. to improve public understanding of UK Higher Education

**Finland:** The Finnish education evaluation centre was established in 2014 to assure the quality of higher education in Finland. Before that the Finnish Higher Education Evaluation Council, The Finnish Education Evaluation Council and the Ministry of Education took on the responsibilities of assuring quality of education in Finland.

- Jyväskylä University.
- General Universities and polytechnics
- The criteria for accrediting virtual courses would still need to be developed.

Now what we need are continuous improvement and culture of Quality. The Japanese term 'Kaizen' denotes incremental improvements of on-going process.

I think the objectives of this workshop will completely be achieved.

I promise that you will get unstinting support from us. The government of Bangladesh and World Bank are funding HEQEP from which we will support financially to implement this project within stipulated time.

**Ladies & Gentlemen,**

You know our ultimate goal is to enhance the Quality of higher education in our country.

With this end in view, our Honorable Prime Minister and Honorable Education Minister have made noble endeavor; they have been showing great diligence in their kind activities.

The idea of establishing institutional Quality Assurance Cell is novel in our country. So let us recognize the project, let us a part of Quality Assurance history in our country.

I feel that the importance of the Workshop is enormous. We need to manage our funds in a manner so that the objectives of Institutional Quality Assurance Cell are accomplished. The arrangement of cash and credit should be transparent. Financial management includes Preparation of Budgets, Financial Transaction, Utilization of Fund, Payments from Operating Account, Maintaining Books of Accounts and Supporting Documents, Petty Cash, Financial Reporting, Audit, Internal Audit, External Audit, Maintenance of fixed assets etc. These are included in Institutional Quality Assurance Cell Fund Operations Manual.

Please note that without receiving any training on procurement, it is not proper to procure anything. Two of my colleagues who will be facilitating sessions today are experienced in their fields. Please try to pool much information from them to be equipped with the know-how.

I wish this workshop a stunning success.

I am grateful to respected VC, Pro VC, and Director IQAC for their valuable time they kindly spent to affirm the importance of this event. I thank the distinguished professors for being devoted to this noble job. Thank you very much for bearing with me.