

## **NAAC awarded Grade 'A' to University of Kashmir**

The academic credibility of University of Kashmir, as a centre of Quality Education, has once again been upheld by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), with the conferring of Highest Grade 'A' to the Institution. The grade 'A' has been awarded by NAAC on the basis of the recommendations of the 11 member Peer Team that visited the University of Kashmir from July 17th to 22nd for its re-accreditation.

The NAAC accredited the University of Kashmir with Grade A in 2002, after a similar team visited the institution. Although the re-accreditation was due after the end of 2007, the un-conducive circumstances didn't permit the University to go for re-accreditation. After the reconstitution of Directorate of Internal Quality Assurance (DIQA) at the start of year 2011, a bold decision to invite the NAAC for reaccreditation was taken. The visit concluded on July 22nd, with the team members that comprised of eminent academicians, including four Vice-Chancellors (two former), Deans and other senior faculty members and NAAC officials, by and large satisfied with the working of the Institution.

The University has requested the NAAC to consider the latest assessment for the period 2002-2010, instead of 2002—07, which, in effect will accord Grade 'A' to the University, upto 2015.

The earlier grading system of NAAC comprised of A++, A+, A B++, B+, B and so on. However in 2007, the NAAC devised new methodology for evaluation of the Institutions with A as the highest grade followed by B,C and D. The latest grade of 'A' with the total CGPA of 3.11, from a comparative point of view, is well higher than the earlier A, accorded in 2002.

The news was received with great joy and satisfaction in the University.

Areas of concern that were pinpointed by the visiting team will be taken up by authorities on top priority basis.