



## **Academic Autonomy for Changing Education**

**Sangeeta Deshmukh**

ARIHANT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

### **Introduction**

Academic Autonomy conferred by UGC is to be considered as an honor for any college. It is positive reflection on the academic excellence nurtured by that college. Large universities with unmanageable number of affiliated colleges are burdened with examination work, evaluation, etc. On the contrary academic autonomy would help to get rid of this problem.

### **Nature of Academic Autonomy:**

The types of autonomy given to a particular institute fulfilling university norms are Academic, Financial and Administrative Autonomy.

Under this the institute can design their curriculum and can focus equally on academic and job-oriented courses. Continuous evaluation of students can be done to improve students' mastery on subject. Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) can set up to improve performance related to education. The performance appraisal of teachers can be based on their research and the institute can provide additional funds for the same.

- **Framing Syllabus**
- **Preparing Study Material:**
- **Methods of Evaluation:**
- **Admission Process:**
- **Review of Autonomy and its functioning**

### **MERITS AND DEMERITS OF AUTONOMY:**

#### **Merits:**

- Autonomous institutions can get place in decision power or freedom in curriculum, teaching evaluation etc.

- Teachers may get major role in generating knowledge and research undertakings based on their creativity, commitment for imaginative and more fruitful action with responsibility in autonomous colleges.
- Autonomous colleges can make MOU with other educational institutes without any permission by university / government.

**Demerits:**

- Degree of excellence can differ from college to college hence the quality can be compromised.
- Autonomy may not be accepted or encouraged by each and every teaching faculty as well as non-teaching staff.
- There can be lack of availability of study material.

**Conclusion:**

Universities are working on the noble task of imparting higher education but because of the increased number of students, it is difficult to manage the issues related to academic & administrative work. However, today those colleges get highest grades in NAAC accreditation are insisted to accept autonomy. If autonomy and accountability go hand in hand, it would definitely, raise quality of Higher Education.

**References:**

- 1) Aikara, J. (1984). Innovations in Higher Educations in India, First edition, Dastane Ramchandra &\* Co. Pune.
- 2) Narkhede, S., *Challenges of Higher Education in India*, New Delhi: Sarup and Sons 2001.
- 3) Education Commission Recommendation of College Autonomy (1964-66).
- 4) The National Policy on Education Formulations of Objectives for Autonomous Colleges (1986-1992).
- 5) Website [http://mhrd.gov.in/schemes\\_imple\\_auto\\_english](http://mhrd.gov.in/schemes_imple_auto_english).