Paramarsh Scheme

The Union Minister for Human Resource Development launched the University Grants Commission **(UGC) scheme** 'Paramarsh'.

- **Objective:** To mentor National Accreditation and Assessment Council (NAAC) accreditation aspirant institutions for promoting quality assurance in **higher education.**
- **Implementation:**

  - The scheme will be operationalized through a **"Hub & Spoke"** model wherein the **Mentor Institution,** called the "Hub" is centralized and will have the responsibility of guiding the **Mentee institution** through the secondary branches the "Spoke" i.e. through the services provided to the mentee for self improvement.
  - This will allow a centralized control over operational efficiency, resource utilization to attain overall development of the mentee institution.
- **Target:** The scheme will target **1000 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)** for mentoring with a specific focus on quality as enumerated in the UGC "Quality Mandate".
- **Expected Benefits:**

  - It will lead to enhancement of overall quality of the mentee institutions and enhance its profile as a result of improved quality of research, teaching and learning methodologies.
  - It will **help** the mentee institution in getting **NAAC accreditation.**
  - It will also facilitate the sharing of knowledge, information and opportunities for research collaboration and faculty development in Mentee Institutions.
  - It will help in providing quality education to the 3.6 crore students who are enrolling to Indian Higher Education system at present.

National Accreditation and Assessment Council

- It was established in the year **1994** as an **autonomous** institution of the **UGC** with its Headquarter in Bengaluru.
- The mandate of NAAC is to make quality assurance an integral part of the functioning of HEIs.
- It makes arrangement for periodic **assessment and accreditation** of institutions of higher education or units thereof, or specific academic programmes or projects.

University Grants Commission

- The University Grants Commission (UGC) came into existence in 1953 and became a **statutory organization** of the Government of India by an Act of Parliament in 1956, for the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of teaching, examination and research in university education.
- The **head office** of the UGC is located in **New Delhi.**