6.5.1 Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) has contributed significantly for institutionalizing the quality assurance strategies and processes by constantly reviewing the teaching learning process, structures & methodologies of operations and learning outcomes at periodic intervals.

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) operates to develop an internal culture of quality assurance and generates, regulates and **analyses monthly** information reports related to quality enhancement of the teaching and learning process, structures and methodologies of operations and learning outcomes which is outlined in the Internal Quality Strategy. The improved NIRF and THE rankings are an indication of this effort.

Enhancing IQAC Processes: At the outset, IQAC ensured that the course material is prepared in line with the CUTM Vision and NEP 2020, and in accordance with the global technological advances and the expected outcomes (in terms of POs, PSOs and COs). After review by external experts of Industry/Academia, courses are approved by the BoS and Academic Council, and are made available in the public domain (courseware.cutm.ac.in). IQAC also ensures that it stays updated with the technology, revising the courses to integrate skills as required, intensifying the implementation of CBCS, implementing Theory+Practice+Project (or a combination) in every course and initiating a process of quality checks. Course preparedness sessions and regular monitoring are conducted for all courses. A key initiative is the maintenance of learning records by students which is an evidence of learning through the entire program. The examinations of the University embeds OBE and are conducted by an externally located QA cell.

Further, the University is strengthening its research and consultancy endeavours through its 21 Research Centers by making provision for seed money and other research incentives. CUTM has also entered into MoUs with leading international universities/institutes to facilitate faculty research and engagement and set benchmarks. The University has activated its Alumni Association and has developed a unique IT platform for alumni support.

Important contribution of quality assurance strategy:
Being a Skill University and recognised as a Center of Excellence (CoE) by the MSDE, CUTM primarily focuses on two practices of skill based learnings which the IQAC regularly monitors quality in these areas and suggests improvements and incentives:
a) The University has introduced skill integrated courses to improve learning outcomes and enhance employability as a strategy for institutionalising quality assurance and disruption in the teaching learning process. Gateway driven projects have been mainstreamed for students to develop Products/ Solutions to problems that are real, scalable, and impact driven. Skills for Success (SFS) and NSQF-aligned Job-role based courses and World Skills Competition aligned curriculum nurture the passion and interest of students. The University has also incubated numerous skill-based training blended certificate and diploma programs for different private and government organizations through the Centurion Capability and Competency Development Center.
b) 1000 in-house Internships with an objective to recognise the best product and project was initiated to translate University's vision of providing skill integrated higher education leading to product oriented student projects. The projects aimed at domain specific action research leading to innovations, incubation and entrepreneurship. This programme also aimed at identifying the practical problems faced in the community and creating suitable products, solutions and services. Periodic reviews were conducted to assess the progress of internships and for providing suitable guidance.