

## NIRF 2018 and Goa University

### Methodology

The NIRF methodology uses five criteria to obtain ranks for Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). Based on the performance in each of these criteria an HEI gets its rank. These are:

Table: Criteria and weights

Item	Weight
1. Teaching, Learning & Resources (TLR)	30
2. Research and Professional Practice (RPP)	30
3. Graduation Outcomes (GO)	20
4. Outreach and Inclusivity (OI)	10
5. Perception (Per.)	10

In the first year of NIRF (2016) not much details were made available on the data used for the ranking. Goa University was ranked 20<sup>th</sup>. In the next year (2017), GU was ranked 64<sup>th</sup> and in 2018 GU was ranked 68<sup>th</sup>. While at first glance this does look at a slide on closer analysis the result is to the contrary. Goa University has actually improved its Overall ranking from 100-150 band in 2017 to the 98<sup>th</sup> position in 2018. We place below a more detailed analysis.

A comparison of the marks obtained on each of the parameters and the total score Goa University obtained during 2017 and 2018 ranking is shown in Table 1 (below):

**Table 1: Ranking weights and scores in 2017 and 2018**

Item	TLR	RPC	GO	OI	PER.	TOTAL SCORE
<b>Ranking weights</b>	30	30	20	10	10	100
<b>2018</b>	59.83	13.77	66.09	51.58	2.01	40.66
<b>2017</b>	43.69	11.65	68.15	64.16	5.09	37.16
<b>Increase (+) or decline (-) in 2018 over 2017</b>	+16.14	+2.12	-2.06	-12.58	-3.08	+3.5

*Legend: TLR: Teaching, Learning & Resources; RPC: Research and Professional Practice; GO: Graduation Outcomes; OI: Outreach and Inclusivity; Per: Perception*

The marks under different categories records that Goa University has, in fact, improved its overall performance in total score from 37.16 (in 2017) to 40.66 (in 2018) by 3.5 points. GU improved on the parameters such as Teaching, Learning & Resources and Research & Professional Practice to which NIRF gives highest weights (30 each).

The categories under which Goa University dropped points are Graduation Outcomes, Outreach & Inclusivity and Perception. Our understanding for the reasons of each of these are as follows:

#### a) Graduation Outcomes (GO)

In the 2017 ranking exercise, NIRF used 5 parameters to measure Graduation Outcomes (GO).

- Combined metric for Placement, Higher Studies, and Entrepreneurship (GPHE)

- Metric for University Examinations (GUE)
- Median Salary (GMS)
- Metric for Graduating Students Admitted Into Top Universities (GTOP)
- Metric for Number of Ph.D. Students Graduated (GPHD)

In 2018, these were reduced to only two: GUE and GPHD.

### **b) Outreach and Inclusivity:**

The scores under this component are based on the percentage of students from other states/countries (to measure Regional Diversity). Goa University, being the only State University is mandated to keep very few seats for students from outside the state. Therefore, the percentage of our student body from outside the state is small. National and private institutions score significantly more in their regional diversity as they can recruit across the nation.

### **c) Perception:**

The NIRF provides ten marks based on perception (relying on a sample survey conducted by them). This is a fuzzy measure to start with as perception may not be fact based and bigger universities have a natural advantage here (Mukhopadhyay, Sudarsan, and Tapaswi 2017). Apart from that NIRF has changed its methodology in 2018.

In 2017, the NIRF used to give equal weights for:

- Peer Perception: Employers and Research Investors
- Peer Perception: Academic Peers
- Public Perception
- Competitiveness

In 2018, this criterion was changed. All the marks in 2018 for this category of Perception has come from Peer Perception: Employers and Research Investors alone (100% weight).

### **Comparison with New Entrants**

There were 20 new entrants in the top 100 in 2017, of which 9 HEIs are placed ahead of Goa University in NIRF-2018.

### **Goa University improves ranking**

Even though the ranking among “universities” has declined marginally from 64<sup>th</sup> to 68<sup>th</sup>, it is a fact that GU actually increased its Total score from 37.16 in 2017 to 40.66 in 2018. This helped Goa University to move up to the 98<sup>th</sup> place (from among 957 Higher Educational Institutions, HEIs, <https://www.nirfindia.org/2018/OverallRankingALL.html>). This is a significant improvement over its ranking in 2017 when Goa University was placed in the 100-150 band (from among 724 HEIs <https://www.nirfindia.org/OverallRankingAll.html>). It may be worth noting that among state universities GU is in the top 25 universities in the country (at 24). If one only takes the multi-faculty universities into consideration, then GU is in the top 20 state universities nationally.