

No. C.29011/03/2018-CDN
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

C-Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 16 January, 2018

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Subject: Monthly summary for the Cabinet for the month of December, 2018-
regarding**

The undersigned is directed to circulate herewith a copy of the Monthly Summary for the Cabinet related to the significant activities of the Department of Higher Education for the month of December, 2018.



(N. C. Ragtah)

Director

Tel No: 23074080

Encl: As above

To

All Member of Council of Ministers

Copy with enclosures, forwarded to:

1. All Secretary to the Government of India (All Ministries/Department)
2. Cabinet Secretariat, (Attn: Sh Bhaskar Dasgupta, Director), Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi

Copy for information to: Sr.PPS to Secretary (HE)

Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2018:

Important Policy Decisions Taken and Major Achievements During December, 2018

A. National Academic Depository(NAD)

As on 28th December, 2018, around 1.80 crore academic awards including degrees, marks-sheets, certificates etc have been lodged by various academic institutions on NAD. This scheme to digitally store academic degrees and awards was launched by the Hon'ble President on 9th July, 2017. A meeting was held on 21.12.2018 under the chairpersonship of Joint Secretary (HE) to review the progress of implementation of NAD in 26 select State Universities.

B. Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan(RUSA):

A review meeting with the Principal Secretaries of State Governments, Vice-Chancellors and Registrars of 26 Select State Universities was held on 10.12.2018 under the chairpersonship of Joint Secretary (Higher Education). The issues discussed in the meeting included expediting utilization of grants, physical progress of projects and readiness of Projects for a proposed digital launch.

An amount of Rs.4718.1 crore including Rs.1050 crore during the current financial year 2018-19 has been released to State Governments since the incepting of the Scheme.

C. This Ministry vide its Notification No. 9-1/2016-U3(A) dated 13th December, 2018, declared Central Institute of Technology, Kokrajhar, Assam as an Institution Deemed to be University under de-novo category under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956 for a provisional period of five years.

D. UGC, for the first time, has brought in a Quality Improvement Framework for Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) on its mandate to improve quality and promote excellence. Status of implementation is given below:

Status of implementation of Quality Improvement Programme of UGC in Non Technical Education:

| S.No. | Initiative | Present status |
|-------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Induction programme for students. | The University Grants Commission (UGC) informed that a task force has been constituted to develop the strategy and action plan for proper implementation of the programme. It has been informed that the guide to Student Induction |

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| | | <p>Programme has been finalized.</p> <p>The first meeting of the Task Force was held on 18th December, 2018. It was recommended that the following may be arranged in the month of January – March, 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) One day sensitization programme for Vice-Chancellors and Principals. (ii) Three day ToT programme for selected teachers. (iii) 7 day TOT programme for further short-listed teachers. (must be held before July i.e. the commencement of next Academic Session) |
| 2. | Learning outcomes based curriculum framework (LOCF) revision. | <p>It has been decided to introduce a system of Peer Review for the LOCF Curriculum submitted by the Committees. The LOCF for 16 subjects have been received and are sent for peer review. LOCF of 13 subjects is expected in first week of January, 2019. All the LOCF Committees have been categorized into green, yellow and red depending upon their performance. The LOCF Committees in Red Group are being reconstituted.</p> <p>The file has also been sent for suggesting LOCF in PG for all the subjects.</p> |
| 3. | Use of ICT based learning tools for effective teaching learning process | <p>UGC successfully runs 47 PG non-technology MOOCs courses on the SWAYAM portal and total 40,311 learners have enrolled in the same. The examination (CBT) in 8 MOOCs courses out of 47 was scheduled on 1st December, 2018. At presently, 92 Universities have adopted MOOCs courses from SWAYAM Platform with the provision of Credit Transfer, Total 13,444 Students have registered in the MOOCs Courses from different Universities for Credit Transfer. For improvising the quality of MOOCs workshop was held at IIM, Bangalore to train Course Coordinators in development of quality MOOCs. Gap areas have been identified by LOCF and efforts are being made to cover gap areas.</p> |
| 4. | Soft skills for students. | <p>The task force has been constituted for developing curriculum for Soft Skills for UG and PG programmes. The first meeting of the task force is scheduled to be held on 21st January, 2019.</p> <p>The draft curriculum prepared by a NPIU, NASSCOM, ICT Academy will be placed before the Committee.</p> |

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 5. | Social and Industry connect for every institution: Every institution shall adopt at least 5 villages for exchange of knowledge and for the overall social/economic betterment of the village communities. | UGC guidelines for establishing University - Industry Inter-Linkage Centres in Universities are being revisited. The UGC is the Subject Expert Group (SEG) for preparing curriculum for university social responsibility. The next meeting of the SEG is scheduled on 3 rd January in which it is expected to finalize the Curriculum Report. |
| 6. | Examination Reform. | A new system of examination, assessment, credit transfers will be tested as a pilot project for 5 to 10 LOCF courses from the academic year 2019. Final report from the committee has been received by UGC and sent for peer review to Prof Vasudha Kamat and Prof Anchal Chomal. |
| 7. | Tracking of the students' progress after completion of course. | A task force is being constituted to frame policy in this regard. |
| 8. | Induction training for all new teachers, and annual refresher training for all the teachers – role of the NCRs; and mandatory leadership/management training for all educational administrators. | The modules have been prepared and sent to IISER, Pune & NIEPA for review. IISER, Pune has been contacted for TOT programme. A public notice has been issued circulating ARPIT Courses with refresher courses. This will provide a boost to annual refresh training for all teachers. The next meeting of the task force for preparing Teaching Induction Programme will be held shortly. |
| 9. | Promoting quality research by faculty and creation of new knowledge. | The Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for Development in Education (STRIDE) is being developed. UGC had sent letters to Category I institutions to get information regarding establishment of Cell on Publication ethics. In this matter reply has been received from 6 Institutions. Two meetings of CARE have been held and the CARE Centre is expected to be inaugurated on 4 th January, 2019, at Pune. |
| 10. | Mentoring of non-accredited institutions, so that every institution can get accreditation by 2022. | The list of institutions with good NAAC score / NIRF ranking has been identified. High performing institutions are being considered as MENTORS so that they may identify their mentee institutions. The suggestions to the scheme are also being sought from proposed Mentor institutions. |