

Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2019:

Important Policy Decisions Taken and Major Achievements During April, 2019

A. Improving access

(i) Meeting of National Coordinators (NCs) on Features of SWAYAM 2.0 with Prof. Andrew Thangaraj, IIT Madras and Software Development team scheduled was held on 08.04.2019:

(ii) 13th Meeting of SWAYAM Board was held on 08.04.2019: Monthly Review undertaken by SWAYAM Board.

(iii) Meeting with Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Using SWAYAM for e-Vidya Bharati and e-Aarogya Bharati (e-VBAB) Project was held on 08.04.2019

(iv) Meeting for Popularising & Increase of Utilisation of NDL was held on 09.04.2019: A dedicated Campaign is to be launched for creating NDL Clubs and target to have 1000 NDL Clubs in HEIs & 500 NDL Clubs in Schools by 16th July, 2019 (Guru Purnima Day).

(iv) Workshop on Digital Initiatives was held at Governor's Secretariat, Patna, Bihar on 11.04.2019 and 12.04.2019: 2 Day Workshop on "Digital Initiatives in Higher Education" jointly conducted by D/o HE, MHRD & Governor Secretariat, Patna, Bihar. More than 190 participants from 12 State Universities and its affiliated Colleges attended the Workshop.

B. Quality Improvement

(i) Meeting of Education Quality Upgradation & Inclusion Programme (EQUIP) Expert Group No. 8 was held on 08.04.2019 & 16.04.2019: A Road Map is being evolved for "Using Technology for Better Outreach of Higher Education"

(ii) Meeting regarding the Training of Course Coordinators (CCs) of SWAYAM was held on 10.04.2019:

(iii) Workshop on SWAYAM 2.0 was held in NITTTR Chennai from 23.04.2019 to 25.04.2019:

(iv) 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. The status is attached as Annexure-I

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

S.No.	Initiative	Present status
1.	Induction programme for students.	Organization of workshop of 3 days Training of Teachers (ToT) for Student Induction Programme is scheduled to be held at UGC's Regional offices- Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Pune in the month of May-June.
2.	Learning outcomes based curriculum framework (LOCF) revision.	29 LoCF reports have been received. Out of these 29 reports, 18 reports have been peer reviewed and the balance 11 reports are under process. Out of the 18 LoCF reports, 8 have been finalized.
3.	Use of ICT based learning tools for effective teaching learning process	47 UGC MOOCs Courses offered in the semester July-December, 2018 in which 40311 students enrolled. 1848 certificate & Transcripts have been issued for these courses. For the semester January-June, 2019, 58 UGC MOOCs Courses offered in which 40711 students enrolled. The examination of these 58 MOOCs Courses is scheduled for 22 nd -23 rd May, 2019. 123 Universities have given consent to adopt MOOCs Course through SWAYAM Platform.
4.	Soft skills for students.	Soft Skill Curriculum comprises of 4 modules (a) Communication Skills (b) Professional Skills (c) Leadership and Management including Entrepreneurship and (d) Universal Human Value, has already been developed and approved by the Commission in its 540 th meeting held on 09.04.2019.
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 has constituted a working group to formulate a concept note and scheme on University- Industry Linkage Programme. The draft National Curricular framework and Guidelines for "Fostering Social Responsibility Community Engagement of HEIs in India" has been developed and approved by the Commission in its meeting held on 26.02.2019. The framework recommends that each HEI conduct a compulsory course to provide community engagement to all Undergraduate &

		Post Graduate students so that their appreciation of rural field realities is holistic, respectful and inspiring.
6.	Evaluation Reforms.	Report of the Committee on "Evaluation Reforms in Higher Education Institutions in India", has been approved by the Commission in its 540 th meeting held on 09.04.2019.
7.	Alumini Association Platform	A task force has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. Abhay Karandikar (Director, IIT Kanpur) 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 final module of Faculty Induction Programme has been submitted for approval to Competent Authority alongwith the minutes of the meeting of TOT held from 27 th – 29 th March, 2019 at IISER, Pune.
9.	Promoting quality research by faculty and creation of new knowledge.	The guidelines of Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for Development in Education (STRIDE) have been approved by the Commission. An Expert Committee has been constituted to operationalize the guidelines. A cell for Journal Analysis has been established in Pune University with four regional universities as CARE universities.
10.	Mentoring of non-accredited institutions, so that every institution can get accreditation by 2022.	UGC has developed a scheme namely "Mentoring of NAAC Aspirant Institutions to promote Quality Assurance in Higher Education under the name of "PARAMARSH". The detailed guidelines of the scheme are being finalized. UGC has written to eligible institutions to identify their mentee institutions and convey their willingness to be mentors. Nearly 125 institutions have conveyed their willingness to be mentor and they have also submitted their respective mentee institutions. Commission has approved Budget of Rs.2404.04 crore for Quality Improvement Programme.
