NEW PLAN SCHEME
HIGHER EDUCATION STATISTICS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (HESPIS)

The Government has accorded high priority to the development of education sector and for this purpose a number of flagship programmes are being implemented to build the infrastructure. However, in the absence of an effective institutional mechanism, the statistics reflecting the outcomes of these initiatives of the Government become available only after a considerable time lag and with a number of limitations.

To prepare a sound data-base on Higher Education, Ministry launched All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) to collect data from all the institutions of higher learning in the country through electronic mode. Keeping in view the need for generating reliable data on regular basis, the Ministry further decided to continue the survey on an annual basis and for which creation of a scheme was needed.

The XII Plan categorically highlighted the need for a strong current and comprehensive data for evidence-based policy making and effective planning. The Plan document also took note of the All India Survey on Higher Education initiated by the Ministry of Human Resource Development and indicated that it can provide useful insights and can be the first step towards creating a comprehensive higher education data management system.

Keeping this in view, a new plan scheme Higher Education Statistics & Public Information System (HESPIS) was proposed in XII Five Year Plan. The meeting of the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) was held on 05.12.2013 under the chairmanship of Secretary (Higher Education) in which the scheme was approved. The total cost of the scheme is Rs. 99 crores for the duration 2012-17.

Objectives of the Scheme

- Strengthening official Statistical system to produce Education Statistics periodically with timeliness and quality so as to assess and review the performance of education sector and regional divergences across the country.
- Encouraging all producers of official Statistics to adopt common geographic referencing and coding standards to provide statistical aggregates/ estimates at State, District and Block level.
- Promoting collection of data in electronic mode
- Periodically reviewing all regular surveys by undertaking in-house reviews of actual results over time and identifying data-gaps.

- Developing techniques that reduce burden on data providers
- Strengthening Institutional Coordination between Ministry and other data producing agencies such as University Grants Commission, All India Council for Technical Education, National University of Educational Planning & Administration, Medical Council of India, State Government Departments, Examination Boards etc.
- Benefiting students by creating Centralized portal which can provide updated information to students which may be useful for their decision making.
- To conduct some special surveys and longitudinal studies for more detailed insight of Higher Education in the country.

Key Features of the Scheme

- HESPIS is an umbrella scheme catering to the need of various kinds of Statistics related to higher education sector.
- Steering Committee will be constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary (higher Education) with the representation of heads of various stakeholders from all the sectors including Planning Commission, UGC, AICTE, NUEPA etc. to address various issues relating to higher education statistics.
- Technical decisions related to Higher Education Statistics will be taken by Steering Committee.
- Setting up of AISHE Unit in the State and AISHE cell in each Affiliating University to coordinate All India Survey on Higher Education.
- Norm-based and Output-based funding.
- States and Institutions to ensure uploading of data and its authenticity for receiving funds.
- Funds would flow from the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) to the Higher Education Institutions, through the AISHE State Unit/ AISHE University Cell.
- AISHE State Unit will be the key institution at the state level to channelize resources to the institutions.
- State wise allocations would be decided on the basis number of Higher Education Institutions located in the State.
- Remuneration to the Institutions would be based on the workload per Institution.

Component-wise Details of the Scheme

1. **All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)**
   - All India Survey on Higher Education is the major component of the scheme for which approximately 80% of the total fund has been allocated.

- Year-wise Database on higher education is developed by collecting data from all the Higher Education Institutions (approximately 50,000).
- The survey is being conducted through electronic mode for which a centralised portal (http://aishe.gov.in) has been developed wherein each Institution has to register and upload the data. This will reduce time-lag in availability of Statistics to the bare minimum.
- For coordinating the activity, a unit is proposed to be set up in each State and a cell in each of the Affiliating universities. AISHE State Unit and University Cell will work in tandem.
- AISHE State Unit will coordinate with all the higher education institutions located in the State and AISHE university cell will coordinate with the colleges. These Units and Cells will also conduct training cum sensitization workshops for the nodal officers.
- Instead of hiring the persons to collect the data from the Institutions, a nodal officer is appointed in each of the Institutions who collects, compiles and enters the data for the Institution in the centralised portal. To perform this work, nodal officer will be given financial incentive on the basis of prescribed norms.
- Remuneration to the nodal officers of the Institutions will be purely output based and will be calculated as per the prescribed norms.
- Allocation to AISHE State Unit and University cell will be based on the Number of Institutions.
- Funds would Flow to the Institutions and University Cell through State Unit or through MHRD if State Unit is not constituted.
- A working Group has been constituted under the chairmanship of JS (HE) and all stakeholders as members to monitor the survey and to provide Technical Guidance. Financial Norms for the survey is to be reviewed by the Group, whenever required.

2. **Centralised Student Portal**

As the higher education system is likely to grow rapidly, it is essential that a centralised portal be made available which can provide some basic information to the students and their parents in a manner that is useful for them for their decision making. The Student Portal will be developed on the basis of data collected under AISHE.

3. **Longitudinal and Specialized surveys**

The web-based higher education data management system may be used for tracking the progress of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) and for carrying out a variety of analysis leading to improved performance of HEIs. Also, the data collected under AISHE can be the baseline data, which will be used for conducting Special & Longitudinal surveys and generating additional data from educational institutions that could be used as inputs for micro level higher education planning at the Central, State and Institutional levels. The

survey/study would be conducted by outsourced agencies under the technical guidance of MHRD.

4. **Support to Other Agencies for regular Data Collection on specific parameters and on parameters incidental to Higher Education.**
5. **Capacity Buildings of States/ Institutions**
6. **Conducting various studies including seminars, sensitisation/ awareness generation, workshops etc.**

Resource Allocation

The Ministry of Human Resource Development is the nodal agency for implementing the scheme. Fund flow for AISHE would be through AISHE State unit. Other Components of the scheme will be directly implemented from MHRD. Item-wise, proposed recurring and non-recurring, estimated expenditure, during XII Plan is indicated below:

	Particulars	Total Amount (Rs. In Lakhs)
A	**Recurring**	
A.1	**Software Maintenance**	590
A.2	**Annual Maintenance of IT infrastructure and software packages**	20
A.3	**Travel Expenses-Head Quarter**	75
A.4	**Office Expenses-Head Quarter**	40
A.5	**Other Administrative Expenses including Expenditure on training/ workshops--Head Quarter**	70
A.6	**Expenditure on seminars including International seminars**	50
A.7	**Hiring of Consultants by MHRD**	150
A.8	**Support to other agencies such as NUEPA, COBSE, AIU, etc. for data collection/ survey/ studies**	130
A.9	**Lump-sum grant to States for AISHE and related activities based on output**	**7600**
	Units in States	6000
	Cells in Affiliating Universities	1600
	Total (Recurring)	**8725**
B	**Non-Recurring**	
B.1	**Software Development**	585
B.2	**Procurement of IT infrastructure including software packages**	80
B.3	**Special and Longitudinal surveys**	510
	Total (Non-Recurring)	**1175**
	Grand Total	**9900**

DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR AISHE STATE UNIT

- The AISHE Unit in the States may be comprised of Director/Commissioner level officer from the Department of Higher Education and/ or Technical Education, State Nodal Officers, Sectoral Nodal Officers (Teacher Training, Nursing, Technical) and any other officials engaged in AISHE work as decided by the State.
- If there is only one or two Affiliating Universities in the State, University Nodal Officer and Registrar may also be part of AISHE State Unit, instead of creating a separate cell in Affiliating Universities.
- In no case payment of salary of regular employees should be made from the scheme.
- The Government officials involved in the Unit may be given honorarium as per the existing/prevalent rule.
- AISHE Cell set up in the Affiliating University should work under the ambit of AISHE State Unit. The fund to AISHE cell will flow through AISHE State Unit. In case, State Unit is not set up, the fund may flow to AISHE cell directly from MHRD.
- AISHE cell is to be created only in affiliating university i.e. universities having attached colleges.
- Remuneration to University and Stand Alone Institution Nodal Officers will be made through AISHE State unit. As regard to Colleges, it will be through Universities.
- The expenditure under the scheme may be made on IT equipments including software and internet connectivity, Traveling, workshop, payment of remuneration, Contingency etc
- Other than IT equipments, no asset should be created under the scheme.
- Remuneration for uploading of data will be on the basis of outcome.
- Amount other than remuneration will be released in two installments, 50% in advance and rest of the amount after utilization of 60% of the opening balance plus funds released in the first installment.
- State Units should send a formal proposal before the release of the amount under the scheme alongwith formal order of composition of AISHE Unit.
- The entitled amount for a State/UT will be calculated on the basis of number of institutions during the previous year survey while releasing the first installment.
- 50% of the forms of each kind (DCF-I, II and III) should be scrutinized by AISHE State Unit and monthly scrutiny report may be sent to MHRD.
- The unit may identify Resource persons for providing training and technical guidance and honorarium of the trainer and other expenditure for this purpose may be made under the scheme.

DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR AISHE CELL IN AFFILIATING UNIVERSITY

- The AISHE Cell in Affiliating Universities may be comprised of Registrar, University Nodal Officer, in-charge college cell and any other officials as decided by the University.
- If there is only one or two Affiliating Universities in the State, University Nodal Officer and Registrar may also be part of AISHE State Unit, instead of creating a separate cell in Affiliating Universities.
- In no case payment of salary of regular employees should be made from the scheme.
- The remuneration to the college nodal officers will be made through AISHE cell of the University.
- AISHE Cell set up in the Affiliating University should work under the ambit of AISHE State Unit. The fund to AISHE cell will flow through AISHE State Unit. In case, State Unit is not set up, the fund may flow to AISHE cell directly from MHRD.
- AISHE cell is to be created only in affiliating university i.e. universities having attached colleges.
- The expenditure under the scheme may be made on IT equipments including software and internet connectivity, Traveling, workshop, payment of remuneration, Contingency etc
- Other than IT equipments, no asset should be created under the scheme.
- Remuneration for uploading of data will be on the basis of outcome.
- Amount other than remuneration will be released in two installments, 50% in advance and rest of the amount after utilization of 60% of the opening balance plus funds released in the first installment.
- University cell should send a formal proposal before the release of the amount under the scheme alongwith formal order of composition of Cell.
- All the forms uploaded by the Colleges (DCF-II) should be scrutinized by AISHE cell and monthly scrutiny report may be sent to State unit.

All India Survey on Higher Education - Financial Norms

AISHE State Unit

Sl. No.	Particulars		Maximum Limit per State (in Rs.)	Remarks
1	Support to State Unit	Number of Institutions Less than 100	250000	Training workshop/ Seminar @ Rs. 100000, Travel Maximum upto Rs.200000
		Number of Institutions 100 - 499	500000	
		Number of Institutions 500 - 1999	1200000	
		Number of Institutions 2000 - 4999	2000000	
		Number of Institutions 5000 and above	2500000	
2	Travel Expense of Unitary Universities		Rs. 10000 per University	
3	Workshops for Stand Alone Institutions		One workshop @ Rs. 20000 for 100 Institutions	
4	Support to AISHE University Cell		As per Annexure II	
5	Remuneration to Institutions (Universities & Stand Alone Institutions)		As per Norms (Annexure III)	

All India Survey on Higher Education - Financial Norms

AISHE University Cell

Sl. No.	Particulars	Norms	
1	Co-ordination with Colleges including Contingency Expenditure	Upto 20 Colleges	Rs. 20000
		20 or more Colleges	Rs. 20000+ Rs. 100 per college
2	Travel Expense	Rs. 40000	
3	Workshops	One workshop @ Rs. 20000 for 100 Colleges	
4	Remuneration to colleges	As per Norms	

All India Survey on Higher Education - Financial Norms for Remuneration

Sl. No.	Particulars	Unit Cost (in Rs.)	Criteria
1	**University/ University Level Institutions for uploading DCF-I**	20000	Large (100 or more Programmes)
		15000	Medium (50 - 99 Programmes)
		10000	Small (less than 50 Programmes)
		5000	University Constituted from Colleges
2	**Colleges for uploading DCF-II/ Stand Alone Institution for uploading DCF-III**	5000	Large (10 or more Programmes)
		3000	Medium (5 - 9 Programmes)
		1000	Small (less than 5 Programmes)

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