

Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

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

1. Important Policy Decisions Taken and Major Achievements During December, 2019

A. Improving access

- i. **18th SWAYAM Board Meeting** was held on 09.12.2019: Review of Swayam local chapters, credit transfer, swayam examination, translation of swayam courses, Social media strategy. The following decision were taken:
- to include introductory videos in Swayam Prabha Portal and use UGC's Jingles broadcast over radio under Social Media Campaign.
 - under Orchestration of Online Programmes by Universities through SWAYAM, the online Degree Programme should start in January, 2020.
 - permission to Publish e-content in the form of a Book/Other Distribution Material for Commercial Purpose as per Creative Commons License requirements
 - approved the proposal of publicizing SWAYAM courses through Community Service Centre, MeitY through their Kiosks
- ii. **Meeting of Expert Committee for Streamlining SWAYAM Examinations** was held on 04.12.2019. Discussion were held on smoothening the SWAYAM examinations.
- iii. As a part of "RISE (Revitalising Infrastructure and Systems in Education) by 2022" initiative, Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) has been financing construction/development of physical infrastructure and laboratories etc. in higher education institutions, school education institutions and medical education institutions. As on 30th December, 2019, cumulatively, projects worth Rs. 37,001.21 crore have been approved under HEFA; for which a loan amount of Rs. 25,744.82 crore have been sanctioned and Rs. 5,828.34 crore have actually been disbursed. The number of educational institutions that have availed funding through HEFA stands at 75.
In the month of December, 2019 alone, an amount of Rs 400.73 crores have been disbursed by HEFA to 26 educational institutions of MHRD and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare."

B. Quality Improvement

- i. Third Party Evaluation of SWAYAM, NMEIC Phase-II, e-Shodh Sindhu (eSS) Projects are underway.
- ii. **University Grants Commission (UGC)**
The status of implementation of Quality Improvement Programme of UGC in Non Technical Education is attached as Annexure 1.

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

S.N o.	Initiative	Present status
1.	Induction programme for students.	'Deeksharambh – A guide to Student Induction Programme' has been launched formally by Hon'ble Minister of HRD on 18.07.2019. 8 Regional Workshops on Training of Teachers (ToT) for Student Induction Programme has already been held at Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Pune, Guwahati, Bhopal & Lucknow which were attended by 1650 Participants. 400 HEIs have implemented the Student Induction Programme.
2.	Learning outcomes based curriculum framework (LOCF) revision.	New curriculum in 19 subjects which is based on LOCF has been developed. Comments of Stake holders has been received and updated. Uploading of above 19 subjects has been done on UGC website to facilitate universities to revise the curriculum. 06 more LOCF subjects have been uploaded on UGC website for seeking stake holders comments. All Central Universities would be requested to implement the new model curriculum.
3.	Use of ICT based learning tools for effective teaching learning process	The updated Status of the MOOCs is as below:- One Hundred Thirty three (133) Universities have come on board for accepting credit transfer for MOOCs courses done through SWAYAM platform. 1,20,000 learners enrolled in 43 UGC Non-Technology Post-Graduate MOOCs Course offered on SWAYAM Platform in session July-October, 2019. UGC has successfully conducted 4 one day regional workshops on "Awareness, Adoption & Promotion" of the MOOCs Courses offered on SWAYAM Platform. The participants include Vice Chancellors, Principals, SWAYAM Coordinators and Swayam Mentors and Education representatives from the States. A two day MOOC development workshop

		<p>programme was organized from 15th -16th October, 2018 at IIM Bangalore for Course Coordinators developing Fresh MOOCs for the SWAYAM platform.</p> <p>UGC has prepared three 30 seconds radio spots and three TVCs in the following 10 regional languages:- Bengali, Telugu, Marathi, Tamil, Gujarati Kannada, Malayalam, Odia , Assamese & English plus Hindi.</p> <p>Approximately 210 SWAYAM Coordinators and Approximately 1700 Plus SWAYAM Mentors have been identified by the universities so far, who will act as single Point of Contact for the SWAYAM Programme.</p> <p>Social Media like Twitter is also regularly used for promoting SWAYAM.</p>
4.	Life skills (Jeevan Kaushal) for students.	<p>The curriculum on JeevanKaushal (Life Skills) has been launched on 11th September, 2019 and uploaded on UGC website.</p> <p>A letter requesting Vice-Chancellors of all the universities to adopt curriculum on Life Skills (Jeevan Kaushal) has been uploaded in UGC website on 25.11.2019. Manual for teachers will be ready shortly. Development of 4 MOOCs courses has been initiated.</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.	<p>UGC has constituted a working group to formulate a concept note and scheme on University- Industry Linkage Programme.</p> <p>The Working group had finalized the concept note on "Enabling and Enhancing University Industry Linkage Programme". The concept note was placed in the Commission meeting and as per the decision of the Commission the same was uploaded in UGC website for seeking comments from stakeholders and the comments received is being forwarded to the chairperson of the committee for consideration.</p> <p>Two credit course curriculum developed on, "Fostering Social Responsibility Community Engagement of HEIs in India", is available on UGC website.</p>

6.	Evaluation Reforms.	<p>Five Regional Workshops on Evaluation Reforms have been held at Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Pune, Bhopal & Guwahati for 800 participants.</p> <p>Evaluation Reforms guidelines have been launched by Hon"ble Minister of HRD on 26.12.2019.</p>
7.	Tracking of student's progress	<p>A task force has been constituted to formulate a policy document on 'Student Career Progression and Alumni Network'. The policy document has been finalized and placed in the Commission and as per the decision of the Commission the same was uploaded in UGC website for seeking comments from stakeholders and the comments received is being forwarded to the Committee.</p>
8.	<p>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.</p>	<p>Guidelines for Teacher Induction Programme "Guru Dakshata" has been finalized and has been launched by Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development on 26.12.2019.</p>
9.	<p>Promoting quality research by faculty and creation of new knowledge.</p>	<p>Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE) was launched on 01.07.2019 by the Hon'ble Union Minister for Human Resource Development. Operational Guidelines have been printed and uploaded on the UGC Website. The task of implementing the Scheme has been assigned to Banaras Hindu University (BHU).</p> <p>A STRIDE Cell has been created at BHU. The process for reviewing proposals received under three components of STRIDE has been initiated. Recently, the task of reviewing proposals (round 1) of Component-1 under STRIDE was completed and an interface meeting of the Expert Committee headed by Prof. P. Balram, former Director, IISc, Bangalore with the representatives of universities and colleges was held on 26 and 27 November, 2019. Out of 58</p>

		<p>shortlisted proposals, 35 institutions were finally selected for Component-1 under STRIDE.</p> <p>CARE guidelines have also been launched by Hon'ble Minister of HRD on 26.12.2019.</p>
10.	<p>Mentoring of non-accredited institutions, so that every institution can get accreditation by 2022.</p>	<p>PARAMARSH- a scheme of UGC to mentor institutions seeking National Assessment and Accreditation Council accreditation has been launched by Union Minister for Human Resource Development on 18th July, 2019. The scheme intends to promote well performing accredited institutions to mentor the NAAC accreditation aspiring institutions to upgrade their academic performance and get accredited. A well designed scheme of Mentor-Mentee relationship will not only benefit both the institutions but also lead to quality education to the 3.6 crore students who are enrolling to Indian Higher Education system at present.</p> <p>UGC has approved 167 mentor institutions which shall provide mentoring to 936 identified mentee institutions.</p>