

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
Department of Higher Education

**MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR THE MONTH OF
OCTOBER 2024:**

**Important Policy Decisions Taken and Major Achievements During
October, 2024**

(i) Three Centers of Excellence (CoE) in Artificial intelligence (AI) with a total financial outlay of Rs. 990.00 Cr over the period of FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28 has been announced by Hon'ble EM on 15.10.2024. An Apex Committee consisting of Industry leaders and experts examined all proposals from academic institutions. Based on the recommendation of the Apex Committee, Ministry of Education approved three academic institutions for establishment of three Centre of Excellence (CoE) - CoE of AI in Health at AIIMS Delhi - IIT Delhi, CoE of AI in Agriculture at IIT Ropar and CoE of AI in Sustainable Cities at IIT Kanpur.

(ii) High-Level Committee of Experts (HLCE) constituted in June 2024 under the Chairmanship of Dr. K Radhakrishnan to suggest reforms to ensure "transparent, zero error and tamper-free" conduct of examinations by NTA submitted its Report to the Ministry of Education on 21.10.2024. While arriving at the recommendations, the HLCE had several rounds consultations with relevant stakeholders such as Exam Conducting Agencies, Member of Parliament, representatives from States/ UTs, Police officials of Centre/States Police/investigating agency, regulatory bodies, technology solution advisors, Academicians, Student groups, Media groups, Central/ State Investigation teams, and Global testing agencies. The immediate action points recommended by the Committee include strengthening of NTA, hiring of domain-specific human resources, involvement of test indenting agencies as knowledge and examinations partner among others. The recommendations of the Committee is under process of implementation. Steering Committee has been constituted to oversee implementation of recommendations.

(iii) A meeting dated 23.10.2024 was taken by PMO for review of implementation of National Education Policy (NEP 2020) at IISc Bengaluru. During the meeting, several issues related to effective implementation of NEP

2020 were discussed and key issues were prioritised which includes finalization of the Higher Education Commission of India Bill.

(iv) Government of India in the Budget 2022-23 had announced the establishment of a Digital University to provide access to students across the country for world-class education with personalised learning experience at their doorsteps. The PIB/CEE Note for the establishment of e-Vishwavidyalaya at the financial implication of total Rs. 537.80 Crore, has been approved by the combined Committee on Establishment Expenditure (CEE) - Public Investment Board (PIB) on 24.04.2023 under the Chairmanship of Finance Secretary & Secretary (Expenditure), O/o Expenditure, M/o. Finance. A Bill, namely, the Digital Vishwavidyalaya Bill, 2023 has been prepared in consultation with the Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs and Legislative Department). Approval of the Cabinet is awaited to introduce the Digital Vishwavidyalaya Bill, 2023 in the Parliament and for creation of eleven 11 posts/positions at level 14 and above as per UGC norms for the University.

(v) The EFC approval for PM- One Nation One subscription (PM-ONOS) initiative led by the Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA) to Hon'ble PM, for providing access to scholarly journals to about 6300 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and R&D institutions for research, has already been received. Now, the Cabinet Note for the same will be submitted for kind approval of the Union Cabinet.
