

सत्यमेव जयते

DEPARTMENT OF  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
MHRD  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

# द न्यूजलैटर THE NEWSLETTER ON HIGHER EDUCATION

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*“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.”*

- Mahatma Gandhi

*The participants of more than 100 countries present at the Education World Forum 2013 in London between January 9-11, 2013*

## HRM Attends Education World Forum 2013

Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, led a delegation to attend the Education World Forum (EWF) from January 9-11, 2013 in London. The Forum had senior representatives from about 100 countries, including more than 50 Ministers of Education, who shared their country's experiences and ambitions in policy-making and maintaining quantity, quality and impact of their respective education systems.

The EWF, an internationally recognized forum to debate future policy and practice in education is supported by the following UK bodies:

1. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)
2. The Department of Education (DfE)
3. The Department of Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS)
4. The British Council
5. EWF industry partners.

### Focus on Policy

The main focus of EWF 2013 was on “policy making for quantity, quality and impact”, wherein Education Ministers from various countries gave a fair assessment of countries' common issues and problems. The discussions were true to the theme and various participants put forth their views on the topic. In effect, decision makers representing more than three-quarters of the world population brought their own debates to the Forum and helped others see their point of view.

### The highlights of the EWF 2013 are:-

1. Realizing the importance of engaging learners in the development of education policy.
2. The role that technology can play not only in education in schools but also in reinforcing life outside with families learning together.
3. Recognition of the importance of collaborative efforts between governments, agencies and corporations in supporting learning.

## THIS ISSUE

- CU Vice Chancellors' Conference Sets Forth Agenda for Quality
- XII Five Year Plan (2012-17) – An Insight

## SECTIONS

- Events
- Campus Notes
- Exchange of Ideas
- Vichaar Vimarsh
- Appointments / Retirements

The Twelfth Five Year Plan envisages many ambitious projects to rejuvenate the Higher Education system for the benefit of the students, the teachers and the socially disadvantaged. The schemes such as the National Mission on Teachers & Training, the Rashtriya Uchhatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) and the National Initiative for Socially Disadvantaged will only carry forward the Government's aim to make the Indian HE system world-class. All the three schemes, still at the proposal stage, seek to make a big difference to their respective areas. Use of ICT and skill development, particularly, integration of skill in higher education is going to get special attention during the twelfth plan period

A number of Universities celebrated their Annual Convocation ceremonies for conferring degree on their passed-out students. These graduates, post-graduates and doctorates are about to enter the mainstream of professional India and contribute towards the building of the nation besides earning their livelihood with dignity and concern for the society.

At the World Book Fair 2013, in New Delhi, the National Book Trust of MHRD took some new initiatives, which worked well with the public too. Features such as Author Corners, Guest of Honor Country, Book Art and Cosplay had more people thronging the Fair.

A two day international conference on community colleges provided an opportunity to the Indian stakeholders to gain from the experience of the managers of the community colleges across the world and to determine their pathways for skill development.

The Council of IITs held its 46th meeting in January 2013 and took a number of decisions to improve the standards of technical education in India. In addition to this, India and the UK also signed MoUs in the fields of Community College and School Leadership.

This is all that happened over the course of past quarter of the year and as said before, these are exciting times for Higher Education in India.



(Anant Kumar Singh)

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## CU Vice Chancellors' Conference Sets Forth Agenda for Quality



Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the President of India, attending the Conference of Vice Chancellors of Central Universities at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on February 5, 2013. Also seen are Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister of India and Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, the Minister of HRD.

At the one-day conference of Vice Chancellors (VCs) of Central Universities (CUs), held on February 5, 2013 at Rashtrapati Bhawan, a detailed set of recommendations were put forth on main agenda items. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the President of India, who is the Visitor of the CUs, thanked the VCs for their recommendations and said that the Ministry of HRD would examine them in detail for their speedy implementation. He also announced that the VCs conference would be made an annual exercise and a committee of VCs would be set up to follow up on the recommendations. VCs of the CUs exchanged their views in presence of President Mukherjee as well as Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister of India and Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD.

**Some of the recommendations made at the Conference are:**

**Agenda No. 1** - Steps required for **improving the quality of education and faculty** in Central Universities to bring it on par with the top universities of the world -

**Recommendations:**

- Freedom to recruit short term faculty and young faculty from India and abroad at various levels as well as

institution of post-doctoral positions.

- Relaxation, in terms of experience, in the case of outstanding scholars for recruitment purposes.
- Set up an independent Council for Central Universities

**Agenda No. 2** - Steps needed to **extend the reach of education** through extension work in contiguous areas -

- Each University to connect itself with the community - identify a cluster of affiliates - create a consortium of stakeholders.

- Universities will nurture and develop “Lok Vidya”, traditional knowledge and skills.

- Universities to reach out to discover and prepare a Directory of innovators, project and facilitate grass root innovators, help them with production, protection of property rights.

- Establish Innovation Centres/ research parks in Central Universities where possible.

- Tap the local cultural reservoir and institutionalize the University's support to local arts, establish specific programmes with help of private sector.

**Agenda No. 3** - **Use of National Knowledge Network** effectively in the Central Universities -

- Creating greater awareness about the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) programmes of the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the National Knowledge Network (NKN).

- Establish education technology cells in each Central University to devise programmes for the maximum use of the education technology tools and to focus on content development.

- Utilize video conferencing facilities; set up e-class rooms; hold workshops on the use of ICT; use e-content in regular curriculum transactions; and host class room teaching videos on the university website for access by other institutions.

**Agenda No. 4** - Suggestions to **improve the Visitor-University interface** within the existing statutory framework of each Central University -

## Agenda for Quality

- Creation of an 'Inspired Teachers' Network' and an 'Innovators Club' within each Central University.
- Periodic interaction between the Visitor and the inspired teachers and innovators.
- Instituting Visitor's Awards for exceptional performance in research.
- Exceptional students from each Central University to have an opportunity to interact with the Visitor at Rashtrapati Bhawan on a periodic basis.
- Technology enabled interface/interaction between the Visitor and the Central Universities through regular tele- and video-conferencing.

### XII Five Year Plan (2012-17) - An Insight

The Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) will continue to focus on the three E's of Expansion, Equity and Excellence with a greater emphasis on quality of Higher Education, while consolidating the gains of the XI Plan. During the XII Five Year Plan, it is intended to achieve an additional enrolment capacity of 10 million students including 1 million in open and distance learning. This would raise the country's Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher Education from 18.8 % at present to 25.2% by 2017 and reach the target of 30% GER by 2020. Of the targeted additional 10 million, 1 million will come from Open & Distance Learning, 3.3 million through large scale expansion of skill-granting diploma programmes and remaining 5.7 million will come from further expansion of degree programmes with accelerated expansion of post graduate and doctoral programmes.

There will be greater emphasis on funding of state institutions through a new umbrella Scheme of **Rashtriya Uchhatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)**. A **National Mission on Teachers and Teaching** will be launched to address issues relating to availability, recruitment and retention of qualified people to meet the growing need for quality faculty; upgrade the skills of existing faculty; and, build synergies between teaching and research to promote excellence in both.

The **National Mission in education through ICT** will provide a platform for greater collaboration amongst students and teachers. The **Open and Distance Learning** will be rejuvenated so that higher education could be made accessible to aspiring learners.

To ensure equity in higher education by reducing regional imbalances and social disparities through the National Initiatives for greater inclusion of socially disadvantaged sections of SCs, STs, Minorities, Backward classes, girls and PWDs will be accorded priority. It is also proposed to implement a **National Initiative in Indian languages** so as to ensure balanced linguistic growth. In keeping with the spirit of fostering social responsibility, a National Initiative is proposed for community engagement of our youth which will cover NCC, NSS and other co-curricular activities.

Focus on skills within the Higher Education, setting up of community colleges and polytechnics are also on the agenda in the XII Plan.



Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju releasing the annual report at the meeting of the Hindi Salahkar Samiti, in New Delhi on January 21, 2013

### HRM Presides Over Panjab University's 62nd Annual Convocation



Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD and Smt. Preet Kaur, Minister of State for External Affairs, among the dignitaries who shared the dais at the 62nd Annual Convocation of Panjab University, in Chandigarh on March 10, 2013.

The Panjab University, Chandigarh, held its 62nd Annual Convocation ceremony on March 10, 2013. Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, presided over the event, which was also attended by Smt. Preet Kaur, Minister of State for External Affairs and other distinguished personalities.

The Minister emphasized upon the significance of technology in the country's progress. He also pointed out that the young people today are more comfortable with the new technology. He said, "Technology does more than allow us to develop more and finer technology - ultimately it is to be geared to the higher ends of human upliftment."

In his address at the Convocation, Dr. Raju also said, "Today, our country has a greater percentage of young people, and they are crucial to the nation's progress in the next twenty years. These young people - who include the young students present here - are now very much aware that they have the power to make a difference. However, the challenge for them is to find out the ways in which they can do this - how they can channelize their energies and their knowledge in a creative and constructive manner in the field that they choose to work in."

He stressed that the youth of today have a "greater social responsibility" to shoulder. Citing social issues, the Minister said that the youth needed to "exercise judgment ... and be a part of the traditions of tolerance

and respect that are characteristic of our pluralistic culture."

### Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan's Fourth Annual Convocation



Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, addressing the 4th Annual Convocation of Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, in New Delhi on January 21, 2013.

The Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan (RSS) held its fourth Annual Convocation on January 21, 2013, where Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, gave the presidential address lauding the role of Sanskrit not just as a language but as a cradle of culture and civilization merged together.

Explaining the need to make Sanskrit education more relevant in today's scenario, Dr. Raju also told the gathering that an Expert Committee, set up under the Chairmanship of the former Supreme Court judge Dr. Mukundakam Sharma, had submitted its report to the Government and its recommendations are under consideration.

The Minister appreciated the role of the Sansthan in providing multi-linguist and culturally plural teaching and research with regard to Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit languages.

On the occasion, Justice Dr. Mukundakam Sharma talked of Sanskrit being a “reservoir of a priceless heritage and valuable storehouse of science and knowledge systems which are for the benefit for the entire humanity.”

Vice Chancellor of the Sansthan, Prof. Radha Vallabh Tripathi, enlisted the steps taken by the Institution to promote Sanskrit. About 9,000 students received the award during the Convocation.

### Dr. Raju Releases NBT Calendars on Swami Vivekananda, Indigenous Voices



Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, releasing the National Book Trust's Desk Calendar to commemorate 150th Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902), in New Delhi on January 9, 2013.

In order to inculcate a sound value system among today's youth, Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, emphasized upon character-building, which goes beyond education and skill sets. Dr. Raju said this while releasing a Ministry of HRD Desk Calendar to commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902) in New Delhi on January 9, 2013. Pointing at the recent incidents of violence against young women in the society, the Minister said that the rising instances of this kind reiterate the need to strengthen the ethical foundations of the society.

Dr. Raju also released an NBT Wall Calendar 2013 based on the theme “Indigenous Voices of India.” The Calendar is a collage of 12 different aspects of tribal life in India, as already depicted in the theme “Indigenous Voices: Mapping India's Folk and Tribal Literature,” presented at the New Delhi World Book Fair 2013. The Book Fair was held between February 4 and 10, 2013. The Calendar includes works of some of the celebrated photographers like Raghu Rai, Ashok Dilwali, Prafulla Chandra Dhir, M.C. Shekhar and Prasanta Biswas.

### MHRD's New Initiatives at the New Delhi World Book Fair 2013

The New Delhi World Book Fair 2013, co-organized by the National Book Trust (NBT), India, and India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) from February 4 to 10, 2013, showed a new face of book culture in the country, thanks to a number of new initiatives undertaken by the MHRD, of which NBT is an apex body. Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Minister of State for HRD, inaugurated the Fair on February 4, 2013, and the major highlights of this event were:

**1. Guest of Honor Country** - This year's Guest of Honor country was France and this partnership focused on the present glimpses of the industry as well as writings attributed to a large contingent of French publishers, authors and scholars. Another major component of the French presentation at the Fair was the vibrant cultural heritage of the country, symbolized in its music, food and cinema.

**2. Author Corners** - The four Author Corners were installed for the first time by the NBT, in various halls where more than 75 authors and other literary personalities active in English, Hindi and other Indian languages had reading sessions as well as interactions with readers.

**3. Book Art** - This initiatives was undertaken by the NBT in association with the College of Art, Delhi and this was also the first-ever show of Book Art in India at the Fair. At this event, a collective exhibition of Book art installations was exhibited at the Fair.

**4. Cosplay** - NBT in association with Khublei (an organization engaged in literary activities) and the Tadpole Repertory Group organized “Cosplay” competition during which the participants donned costumes and accessories to represent literary characters and enact the role for a couple of minutes.

### IIT Bombay's 54th Foundation Day celebrated



Awardees at the IIT Bombay Foundation Day celebrations ceremony in Mumbai on March 11, 2013.

The Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, organized the celebration ceremony of its 54th Foundation Day Anniversary on March 11, 2013. The day was symbolized by honoring the significant contributions made by the Institute's teachers and alumni in their chosen fields of profession. Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, former President of India, was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

On the occasion, nine Distinguished Alumnus Awards were conferred, which are - 3 Young Alum Achiever, one S. C. Bhattacharya Award for Excellence in Research in Pure Sciences, 2012; one H. H. Mathur Award for Excellence in Research in Applied Sciences, 2012; and a Lifetime Achievement Award.

### AICTE Signs MoU with BSNL

Responding to the timely need of providing State of art Telecom equipment to improve operational skills of the engineering students, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has signed an MoU with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). Under this MoU, the BSNL training facilities and faculty would be utilized to facilitate skill up-gradation of the students in AICTE-approved institutions. Under AICTE's Employability Enhancement Training Programme (EETP), this training will be provided through 44 training centers of BSNL.

Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for HRD, signed this MoU on behalf of the Ministry in the presence of Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD.

According to AICTE, the programme will facilitate practical hands-on training in field or laboratory work, which is necessary to supplement the academic learning of the students. These practical sessions shall be held over weekends or other suitable times under the flexi-mode.

### 2-day International Conference on Community Colleges



Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, lighting the lamp to inaugurate the International Conference on Community Colleges in New Delhi on February 6, 2013. The Ministers of State for Human Resource Development, Dr. Shashi Tharoor and Shri Jitin Prasada are also seen.

The International Conference on "Mainstreaming Skills in Education: Creating relevant Human Resource" was held in New Delhi February 6 and 7, 2013. While inaugurating the conference, Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, said that in the wake of the role of education in capacity building of youth, the Government has decided to launch 200 community colleges in the country from the next academic session, 2013.

Pointing out the decline in the quality of education, the Minister informed that only 1/4th of the 30 lakh people added to the education system, were employable as per the industry standards. He expressed concern over the shortage of skilled workforce in the growing economy like ours and attributed this to the mismatch between the outdated syllabus and the changing needs of Indian industrial sector.

Speaking about the Community Colleges, Dr. Raju said that these institutions would offer flexible short-duration, credit-based curriculum, which would be developed in consultation with the industry and conform to the standards of the National Vocational Education Qualifications Framework (NVEQF) in so far as skill learning is concerned. As regards general education component, it will conform to the University norms.

Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Minister of State for HRD, pointed toward the huge demographic advantage that India enjoys in comparison to countries like China, South Korea and Japan. However, he said, in order to ensure that this demographic advantage reached its full potential, the country needs to promote quality education by putting up the necessary infrastructure.



Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Minister of State for HRD, addressing the International Conference on Community Colleges, in New Delhi on February 6, 2013.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for HRD, emphasized upon the changing needs of education for migrating population in the country. He also stressed upon the importance of creating employment opportunities for the 80-lakh strong workforce added to the country every year.

The event was well-attended by about 500 delegates representing the policy makers, academic leaders, regulators, industry and their associations and managers of community colleges. Of them, about 100 delegates were from 6 foreign countries, namely USA, UK, Canada, Germany, Australia and New Zealand.

### UGC's Gender Sensitization Task Force

In order to promote safety of women on educational campuses throughout the country, the UGC has advised the State Governments to encourage gender sensitization. In this regard, the UGC has set up a Task Force to promote gender sensitization as well as safety for women on campuses. Besides, the HRD Ministry has asked the State Governments to include curriculum and textbooks, which are improved for gender positive

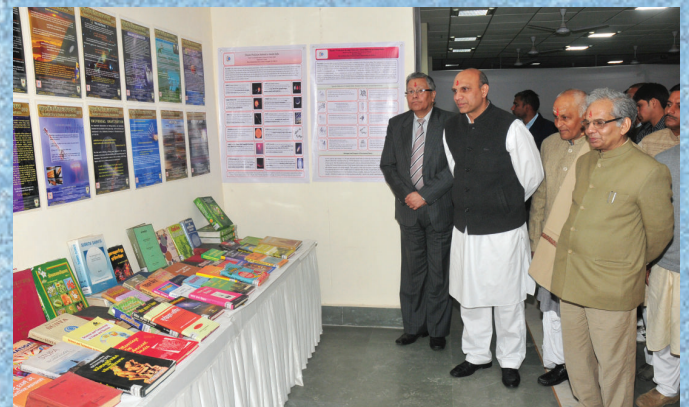
materials with at least a 2-3 day gender module conducted with all the teachers.

The Task Force, constituted by UGC in January, 2013, will review the measures for ensuring safety of women on campuses and programmes for gender sensitization. In addition, the Task Force will also review the present arrangements on campuses for the safety and security of girls and women.

### IIT Kharagpur Ranked Top Indian Institute

The Times Higher Education survey of World University Ranking 2012-13 has ranked IIT Kharagpur as the top Indian Educational Institution. Besides, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Bombay and IIT Roorkee are the only three Indian Institutes to feature among the top 100 universities in Asia. In the Rankings, IIT Kharagpur is ranked 30th, IIT Bombay is 33th and IIT Roorkee is 56th.

The Rankings were decided on the basis of 13 performance indicators, including teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook.



Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, going around an exhibition, after inaugurating the newly constructed administrative-cum-academic block of the Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Vidyapeetha, during the Golden Jubilee Year of the Vidyapeetha, in New Delhi on January 22, 2013.



### India, UK Sign MoUs for Community College, School Leadership



Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for HRD and Mr. David Willetts, Minister of Universities and Science, UK, exchanging the signed documents of the Indo-UK MoU on HRD, in New Delhi on February 20, 2013.

In order to promote development of Community Colleges and implementation of School Leadership programme between India and the UK, two MoUs were signed between the two governments on February 20, 2013. Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for HRD and Mr. David Willetts, Minister for Universities and Science, United Kingdom, signed the MoUs on behalf of their respective governments.

The MoUs were signed during Mr. Willetts' visit to India as a member of a high-level delegation led by the UK Prime Minister Mr. David Cameron. During the discussion preceding the signing ceremony, the two sides discussed the ways and means to strengthen the education sector. Shri Prasada took note of the British PM's statement about increasing the number of Indian students getting admission in UK and making it easier for them to get a Visa. Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, who also joined the Ministry delegation later on, sought the UK government's cooperation in implementation of RTE in India.

Besides the issues of Community Colleges and School Leadership, the two sides also discussed ways to

enhance the mobility of students between the two countries, as well as exchange of researchers, faculty and educationists. Appreciating the institutional linkages to the substantial progress made under the UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI), launched in 2006, both India and UK highlighted the fact that so far, more than 1025 partnerships had been formed in different areas of educational cooperation.

Shri Prasada and Mr. Willetts also expressed satisfaction over the ongoing efforts of collaboration as well as the strong government support offered to various programmes under the UKIERI initiative.



Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Minister of State for HRD, met a Chinese delegation led by Mr. Liu Limin, Vice Minister of Education, China on March 18, 2013. The delegation discussed opportunities of cooperation between the two countries in the field of education. Besides, Dr. Tharoor, the delegation also held discussion with Shri Ashok Thakur, Secretary (HE).

## New Initiatives in Higher Education



Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, interacting with the Print Media, in New Delhi on March 22, 2013.

### National Mission on Teachers & Training

Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, announced that the National Mission on Teachers and Training, to be launched soon, will lay down the roadmap for improvement of quality among teachers as well as the teaching services. As a result, the Mission will also improve the delivery of education in the Higher Education institutions.

### RUSA

Referring to the proposed Centrally-Sponsored Scheme (CSS), the Rashtriya Uchhatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), to provide financial assistance to state Institutions, Dr. Raju said that such schemes addressed the issue of imbalances within the Higher Education Institutions.

### National Initiative for Socially Disadvantaged

Pointing out the priorities of the Ministry, the Minister said that a national initiative will also be launched for greater inclusion of socially disadvantaged sections of SCs, STs, Minorities, Backward classes, girls and persons with disabilities.

### Akash Tablets

The Minister admitted that there is a gap in supply of the tablets but he informed that the Ministry is concentrating on content rather than hardware. Dr. Raju said that the Ministry wants to create enabling and conducive environment for technology-based education.

## IITs - Strive for Greater Industry Linkage



Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, addressing the 46th meeting of the Council of IITs, in New Delhi on January 7, 2013.

At the 46th Meeting of the Council of IITs on January 7, 2013, Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, emphasised upon the improving standards of technical education in the country, "IITs should strive for greater industry linkages." Dr. Raju, who chaired the meeting, said in his inaugural address that both the quality and quantity of faculty hold the key to better technical education.

At this meeting, a number of decisions were taken with regard to measures seeking excellence and greater relevance for the IITs. Some of these decisions are:-

### Peer Review of IITs

It was decided that the Peer Review of each IIT would be carried out once every five years. The Review Committee would consist of five eminent persons from Industry and Academia. The Committee members would be selected by the Chairman of the Council of IITs from a panel of names given by the Board of Governors of respective Institutes. For the new IITs, similar exercise will be carried out on completion of five years. The Peer Review will be based on similar well-established review systems in world-class institutions and would be rigorous and forward-looking. Besides periodic review of the institution, each IIT will similarly undertake, an in-house, department-wise review before any external Peer Review is carried out. The process, results and the follow-up on Peer Review would be uploaded on Institute/IIT Council's website as a mechanism to foster a culture of transparency and accountability.

## Revision of Fee for UG Students

At present, the Undergraduate students pay an annual tuition fee of Rs. 50,000/-. The fee was last revised from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- per annum from academic session 2008-09. No tuition fee is charged from the students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A number of other facilities like free mess, free hostel facility and free book bank facilities are available to SC and ST students. Besides this, 25 percent of total students, whose parental income is less than 4.5 lakh per year, are given 100 percent scholarships.

## Boost to Ph.D. Programs

With a view to increase the number of Ph.D.s from 3000 at present to 10,000 by 2020, the Council of IITs approved the recommendation of the Empowered Task Force headed by Dr. Anil Kakodkar for “strengthening the Ph.D. Programme in the IITs”. This provides for relaxed conditions for enrolment into Ph.D. program in IITs. The admission would be given without GATE score to students with CGPA of more than 7.0 at the end of the 3rd year but GATE score would be required for scholarship. However, students from Centrally Financed Technical Institutions (CFTIs) with CGPA of more than 7.0 would be eligible for Ph.D. programs and also assistantship/fellowships without requirement of GATE scores. All others will have to appear for GATE to get into M. Tech. and Ph.D. programs in IITs.

## Joint IIT-NIT Trainee Teacher Scheme

The Council of IITs approved the Trainee Teacher Award NIT / IIT Joint Scheme with an aim to enhance the teaching quality and to address the faculty shortage issue. This scheme is open to all graduating candidates who are in top 15% in the Centrally Funded Technical Institutes (CFTIs). All other candidates who are in top 15% from other AICTE/UGC approved institutions / universities (non-CFTIs) and having a valid GATE score would also be eligible. The concerned NITs would identify and implement initial screening criteria for the selection of potential candidates.

## Green Initiatives

The Council of IITs decided that each IIT would establish a Green Office, which would carry out Green Audit and

ensure inclusion of green technology related topics/courses in the curriculum. The Kakodkar Committee Report also emphasizes the need for IITs to be in the forefront of development of technology for sustainable growth. Most of the education and research institutions in Europe and America have adopted Sustainability Agenda and are implementing programs to reduce their Carbon footprint, recycle the resources, adopt energy efficiency measures and include sustainability issues in the teaching programs. As part of this, every student will be required to complete at least one project of technology application relevant to local neighborhood development and related to his/her area of expertise/concern.

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## Key Education Bills Awaiting Parliament Approval This Year

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In the ongoing Budget session of the Parliament, five key Bills are likely to be tabled and passed. The session, which will continue till May 10, 2013, is likely to allow the following Bills with regard to various aspects of Higher Education sector:

- Regulating Entry and Operations of Foreign Education Providers
- Unfair Practices in Higher Education
- Independent Accreditation Authority for Higher Education
- National Educational Tribunal/State Educational Tribunal

According to the Committee report of a Parliament Committee to look into the Bills, “Parliament scrutiny of all these proposed legislations has been completed. The committee observes that enactment of all these legislations will bring about major transmission in the Higher Education sector and thus restructure and reorient our Higher Education system... in a globalized world.”

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## Copyright Rules 2013 Notified for HE Deptt.

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The Copyright Division, Department of Higher Education, MHRD, has notified the Copyright Rules, 2013 on March 14, 2013. The amendments to the Copyright Rules, 1958 were necessary after

amendments were made to the existing provisions of the Copyright Act, 1957 and new provisions were introduced under the Copyright (Amendment) Act, 2012. The Copyright (Amendment) Act, 2012 was implemented on June 21, 2012.

The new rules cover the following:

1. Statutory license for cover versions and broadcasting of literary and musical works and sound recording.
2. Compulsory licenses for works withheld from public, unpublished and published works, for the benefit of disabled.
3. Registration of Copyright Societies and Performer's Right Societies.
4. Storage of Transient or incidental copies of works.
5. Making and/or adapting the work by organizations working for the benefit of persons with disabilities.
6. Importation of infringing copies and technological protection measures.

Before the new Copyright rules were made public, the draft Rules were posted on the website of the Copyright Office on August 28, 2012, seeking comments of all stakeholders and experts till September, 2012.

A copy of the detailed Rules is available on the website - ([copyright.gov.in](http://copyright.gov.in)).

### IIM Kashipur's First Convocation



Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the President of India, at the First Convocation of Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kashipur, in Kashipur, Uttarakhand on March 17, 2013.

The Indian Institute of Management, Kashipur, held its first-ever Convocation on March 17, 2013. On this occasion, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the President of India was the Chief Guest.

Addressing the students at the Convocation, Shri Mukherjee advocated "inclusive growth" for the country, for which, he said, every citizen has to contribute. He called upon the faculty and students of the Institute to focus on development of innovative solutions for the problems that the country faces today.

### DU celebrates 90th Annual Convocation Ceremony



Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the President of India, at the 90th Annual Convocation of University of Delhi, in New Delhi on March 19, 2013.

The University of Delhi held its 90th Annual Convocation on March 19, 2013, which was attended by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the President of India and a host of other dignitaries.

President Mukherjee conferred medals to meritorious students and also addressed them on the occasion. Speaking to the students, the President said that the country needs to redefine the way education is imparted in the educational institutions. He also emphasized on the need to develop Indian Universities as global leaders in higher education.

## Appointments

Shri Manik Mandal, Under Secretary (US)

Shri H. M. Sonkusare, US

Shri Verghese Yohanan, US

Shri Saurabh Bhattacharya, US

Shri D. P. Singh, US

Shri Ram Niwas, Section Officer (SO)

Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh, SO

Smt. Taramat Nipane, SO

Smt. Anita Utreja, SO

Shri V. K. Ahluwalia, SO

Professor M Aslam joined as the Vice Chancellor of the Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi on 20.3.2013

## Transfers

Shri Rajendra Kalwani, Under Secretary (US)



Dr. M. M. Pallam Raju, Minister of HRD, met a delegation of officials from Sweden, led by former Swedish Prime Minister and presently Minister of Education of Sweden, Mr. Goran Persson, on March 22, 2013.



Shri Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for HRD, receiving Mr. David Cameron, Prime Minister of United Kingdom, at Palam, New Delhi, on February 19, 2013.