

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
Department of Higher Education

MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2023:

Important Policy Decisions Taken and Major Achievements During September, 2023

- (i) The President of India Conferred National Awards for teachers from across the country at a function held at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on September 5, 2023 on the occasion of Teachers' Day. National Teacher' Award has been revamped from the year 2023 and it has been expanded to include teachers of Higher Education, School Education Skill Education. 50 School Teacher, 13 teachers from Higher Education and 12 teachers from Skill Institutions were awarded National Teacher's Awards this year.
- (ii) Hon'ble Minister for education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship launched the Malaviya Mission- Teacher Training Programme and its portal on 5th September, 2023. This programme is intended for capacity building of faculty members in higher educational institutions. It will ensure continuous professional development and help in building capacities of 15 lakh teachers of HEIs through 111 Malaviya Mission Centres across India in a time-bound manner.
- (iii) 3-year partnership "Education to Entrepreneurship Empowering a generation of students, educators and entrepreneurs" between Ministry of Education, Ministry Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Meta was launched in New Delhi on 04.09.2023. 3 Letters of Intent (LoI) were exchanged between Meta and NIESBUD, AICTE and CBSE. "Education to Entrepreneurship will build capacities of talent pool, seamlessly connect students, youth workforce & micro-entrepreneurs, with futuristic technologies and transform our Amrit Peedhi into new-age problem solvers and entrepreneurs. Meta also signed an MoU. This was followed by an additional set MoUs on 5th September 2023 with four major industries CISCO, ADOBE, Microsoft and Salesforce. These MoUs shall facilitate skill development by engaging students in a diverse area of courses for Skilling reskilling and upskilling. It will also foster innovation, research and the exchange for knowledge across various domains. Both the MoUs signing events were chaired by Hon'ble Minister of Education, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.
- (iv) The two-day Technology & Bharatiya Bhasha Summit was organized as a part of the Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav, on 30th September and 1st October 2023 in New Delhi. Hon'ble Minister of Education, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship launched the inaugural session of the Summit on 30th September 2023. The aim of the Summit was to facilitate a seamless transition from the current education ecosystem to one rooted in Bharatiya languages in line with vision of NEP 2020 and to set the course for a technologically enriched future for Bharatiya languages in education. An exhibition was also set up by the AICTE-Anuvadini, Central Institute of Indian Languages, NCERT, Crystal Lab, and Multilingual Hub of states, which showcased Bharatiya Bhasha technology product and their applications by the industries, government organization and start-up. The Summit encompassed three pivotal thematic sessions, in which industry experts, academician and technologists shared their insights and participates in engaging discussions with the audience and answered their queries. With active participation from stakeholders across various sectors, including academia, students research scholars, Edutech and InfoTech industry professionals, technical experts, media representatives, and freelancers, a comprehensive roadmap for realizing the vision of education Bharatiya Lanaguages ws charted during the two-day Summit. Hon'ble

Union Minister of State (Ind. Charges) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, PP/DOPT, Atomic Energy and Space Presided over the valedictory session of the Summit on 1st October, 2023.

(v) The IIT Council representing Indian institutions and Associations of American universities have recently signed an MoU for setting up an Indo-US Global Challenges Institute. The Global Challenges Institute will bring together leading research and higher-education institutions from across our two nations, including beyond AAU and IIT membership, to advance new frontiers in science and technology, spanning collaboration in sustainable energy and agriculture, health and pandemic preparedness, semiconductor technology and manufacturing, advanced materials, telecommunications, artificial intelligence, and quantum science. In addition to this, Indian institutions have entered into a number of other multi-institutional collaborations in academics and research for example IIT Bombay has joined the Chicago Quantum Exchange as an international partner. New York University Tandon School of Engineering and Indian Institute of Engineering Kanpur have launched the New York University-Tandon School of Engineering and Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur have launched the New York University University-Tandon and IIT Kanpur Advanced Research Center in critical and emerging technologies; Multi-institutional Joint Research Centers involving State University of New York at Buffalo and IIT Delhi, Kanpur, Jodhpur, and BHU are also being setup in the areas of critical and emerging technologies. A novel initiative of academia-startup partnership, under the India-U.S. Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X), was recently kicked-off through a Joint Accelerator Program workshop with Indian Startups and multiple higher educational institutes.

These MOUs between Indian Universities and American Universities was part of the joint statement from India and US issues on 08.09.2023.

(vi) 'Swachhta Hi Sewa' (SHS) campaign was launched with administering of the Swachhta Pledge to the officers and staff of the Department of Higher Education on 19.09.2023. Secretary, Higher Education also held a meeting with Vice Chancellors/Directors of the centrally funded HEIs to sensitize them about the ongoing Special Campaign 3.0, the SHS campaign, and about mainstreaming of 'Mission LiFE' in Higher Education. Participants of approximately 170 HEIs, UGC and AICTE joined the meeting virtually. Swachhta Pakhwada was also celebrated by Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) across India from 1st -15th September. Various student led activities/initiatives such as Cleanliness drives through shramdaan, premise beautification through Warli paintings, organic farming and composting, community mobilization for waste collection and disposal, administering of Swachhata pledge etc were carried out by HIEs. Reports have been received from 52 HEIs highlighting activities involving more than 6,000 students during the Pakhwada.

(vii) In accordance with instructions issued by the Department of Science & Technology, MOE has also enhanced the emoluments for research personnel engaged in R&D programme of the Ministry of Education and its Agencies and Institutions. The enhanced emoluments are effective from 1st January, 2023 onwards. The Government will incur an additional expenditure of about RS. 725.00 crores on this account.

(viii) Meeting of the High Level Committee, constituted by the D/o HE vide order dated 03.11.2022, for strengthening the Assessment and Accreditation (A&A) of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) was held on 25.09.2023, under the Chairpersonship of Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, Chairman of the Committee for strengthening the Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational institutions.
