



**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**  
**RAJYA SABHA**

**THREE HUNDRED AND TWENTY NINTH REPORT**  
**ON**

**Action Taken by the Government on the**  
**Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in its Three**  
**Hundred and Twenty Fourth Report on Demands for Grants 2021-22 of**  
**the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education**

(Presented to the Rajya Sabha on 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2021)

(Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2021)

**DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON**  
**EDUCATION, WOMEN, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND SPORTS**



**Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi**  
**August, 2021 /Sravana, 1943, (Saka)**

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**DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON**  
**EDUCATION, WOMEN, CHILDREN, YOUTH & SPORTS**

*(Constituted w.e.f. 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2020)*

1. **Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe** — *Chairman*

**RAJYA SABHA**

2. Ms. Arpita Ghosh  
3. Shri. Bhubaneswar Kalita  
4. Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad  
5. Dr. Sasmit Patra  
6. \*\* Vacant  
7. Shri Gopal Narayan Singh  
8. Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh  
9. Dr. M. Thambidurai  
10. Shri G.K. Vasani

**LOK SABHA**

11. Shri Rajendra Agrawal  
12. Shri D. M Kathir Anand  
13. Dr. Dhal Singh Bisen  
14. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary  
15. Shri Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu  
16. \* Shri Rajveer Singh (Raju Bhaiya)  
17. Shri Sangamlal Kadedin Gupta  
18. Shri Sadashiv Kisan Lokhande  
19. Dr. Jaisiddeshwar Shivacharya Mahaswamiji  
20. Shri Asit Kumar Mal  
21. Shri Anubhav Mohanty  
22. Shri Balak Nath  
23. Shri Chandeshwar Prasad  
24. Shri T. N. Prathapan  
25. Shri Ratansinh Magansinh Rathod  
26. Shri Jagannath Sarkar  
27. Shri Vishnu Dutt Sharma  
28. Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma  
29. Shri Dharambir Singh  
30. Shri S. Venkatesan  
31. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

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\* Nominated *w.e.f.* 30.12.2020.

\*\* Vacant *w.e.f.* 7.7.2021

## **SECRETARIAT**

Dr. Shikha Darbari, Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor  
Shri K. Sudhakaran, Director  
Ms. Chitra G., Deputy Secretary  
Smt. Oindrila Roy, Deputy Secretary  
Shri Arun Bakshi, Under Secretary  
Shri K.Sudhir Kumar, Deputy Director  
Shri Mohit Misra, Committee Officer  
Smt. Suman Khurana, Committee Officer (in-situ)

## PREFACE

I, the Chairman of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports, having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on its behalf, do hereby present this Three Hundred and Twenty Ninth Report of the Committee on the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Twenty Fourth Report on Demands for Grants 2021-22 of the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education. The Action Taken Notes were received from the Department of Higher Education on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.

2. Three Hundred and Twenty Fourth Report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports was presented to Rajya Sabha on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 and Replies of the Government to the observations/recommendations contained in the Report were considered by the Committee at its meeting held on the \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The Committee considered the Draft Report and adopted the same in its meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_.

NEW DELHI

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August / 1943 (Saka)

Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe

*Chairman*

*Department-related Parliamentary*

*Standing Committee on Education, Women,*

*Children, Youth and Sports*

## **REPORT**

The Report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports deals with the Action Taken by the Department of School Education and Literacy on the Recommendations contained in its 324<sup>th</sup> Report on Demands for Grants 2021-22 of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education” which was presented to the Rajya Sabha on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 and laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.

2. The Action Taken Replies in respect of Recommendations contained in the 324<sup>th</sup> Report were received from the Department of Higher Education on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2021. These have been categorized as follows:-

Chapter I : Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:

Paras - 2.11, 3.8, 3.15,

TOTAL-

Chapter II : Recommendations which the Committee does not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies:

Paras – 3.6, 3.30, 3.43, 3.37, 3.45, 3.46, 3.12, 3.47, 3.32

TOTAL-

Chapter III : Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee.

Paras- 3.24, 3.25, 3.48, 3.49, 3.4,

TOTAL-

Chapter IV : Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited.

Paras- NIL

TOTAL-





## CHAPTER I

### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

#### Recommendations

The Department should prepare a well thought out plan of action to be implemented in a time bound manner with Key Result Areas for every phase in order to increase Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) to 50% as envisaged in NEP, 2020; (para 2.11)

#### Action Taken

The SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active–Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) initiative of Government of India launched in July 2017 aims to provide equal access to quality education and increase GER in higher education.

- UGC (University Grants Commission) has increased the Credit cap from the existing 20% to 40%. In this regard, the Regulations has been notified on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, the University Grants Commission (Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) Regulations, 2021, which now facilitates an institution to allow upto 40% (forty percent) of the total course being offered in a particular programme in a semester through the online learning courses offered through SWAYAM Platform.
- UGC has undertaken the mapping of developed SWAYAM MOOCs (Study Webs of Active–Learning for Young Aspiring Minds- Massive Open Online Courses) by National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) and Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC) with UGC Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) in 17 subject i.e History, Public Administration, Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology, Commerce, Geography, Psychology, Economics, English, Hindi, Sanskrit, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics, and Environmental Science, Gap area has been identified under these subjects and as a result of Gap Areas under the above mentioned subject, Expression of Interest under 520 courses has been invited on the UGC website at <http://swayam.inflibnet.ac.in/>

Total 122 courses i.e. 40 PG and 82 UG Non-Engineering courses will be offered in July-2021 Semester.

### **Recommendations**

The funding from National Research Foundation(NRF) and fellowships/scholarships should focus on themes having national importance as identified after due consultations with different Ministries/organizations. (Para 3.8)

### **Action Taken**

Office of Principal Scientific Adviser to the Govt. Of India is taking forward the establishment of NRF.

### **Recommendations**

The possibility of enhancing the amount of JRF and SRF upto ₹ 50,000 p.m be explored to attract bright students for research and innovation with a view to cultivating a proper eco-system for rigorous research and creating a pool of highly qualified faculty (Para 3.15)

### **Action Taken 2**

The UGC has revised the rates of JRF from ₹.25,000/- PM to ₹.31,000/- PM and SRF from ₹.28,000/- PM to ₹.35,000/- PM w.e.f. 01.01.2019

## CHAPTER II

### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DOES NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

#### Recommendations

The benefits of scholarships, reservations and hostel facilities may be provided to increase the enrollment of SC, ST and Women in Higher Educational Institutions including Institutes of National Importance, Deemed Universities funded by Central Government (Para 3.6)

#### Action Taken

University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued a letter to all Commissioners of Social Welfare Department of All States and UTs vide D.O. No.F.1-27/2009(SCT) dated 25.09.2020 Annexure -I. with the request to disburse the scholarships in time so as to enable the deserving SC/ST/OBC and PwD students to complete their academic programmes.

The percentage of reservation applicable is 15% for SC and 7.5% for ST. Additional percentage of seats may be provided for the girls students of these communities. No rent shall be charged from the students of these communities as per the guidelines -2006 point No.11.

UGC has been contributing towards social equity and social economic mobility of the under privileged section of the society through a special coaching scheme in Universities /Colleges. Remedial Coaching for SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer) & Minorities Community Students

#### Recommendations

With a view to enhancing employability of graduates, UGC should explore the possibility of introducing a two-semester component of internship in B.A, B.Com and B.Sc. courses in collaboration with industries/start-ups to provide experience based learning (EBL) and on the job training(OJT) (para 3.30)

#### Action Taken

- To enable and encourage the institutions to provide Apprenticeship embedded degree programme, UGC in consultation with various stakeholders in HEIs, industry and Sector Skill Councils framed the Guidelines for Higher Education Institutions to offer Apprenticeship/Internship embedded Degree Programme.
- The UGC Guidelines were released by Hon'ble Education Minister on 7th August 2020.

As per these Guidelines, any UG degree programme in all disciplines as specified by the UGC under section 22 (3) of the UGC Act, 1956 is eligible for embedded apprenticeship/internship into the degree programme. UGC has already written to all the Universities to introduce apprenticeship embedded degree programmes.

### **Recommendations**

In order to ensure educational standards of international level, periodic review of status of Institutes of Eminence should be undertaken by National Accreditation and Assessment Council (NAAC) or National Accreditation Board(NAB) (Para 3.43)

### **Action Taken**

As per Clause 13.1 of the IoE Regulations, 2017, the Institutions of Eminence Deemed to be Universities shall be reviewed once in three years after their notification as such by the Education Ministry and by the Empowered Expert Committee for adherence to their implementation plans, keeping in view their fifteen year strategic plans. The monitoring and review shall continue till the Institution of Eminence Deemed to be University gets into top one hundred in a world ranking of repute for two consecutive years or till fifteen years, whichever is earlier.

### **Recommendations**

More teachers training programmes like Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNTT) be introduced to ensure enhanced quality of teachers (Para 3.37)

### **Action Taken**

The appreciation of the Scheme is noted. The Scheme PMMMNMTT was approved till March, 2021. It is proposed to be appraised by SFC for further continuation. The scheme in next phase is proposed for strengthening and aligning with objectives of NEP 2020. (3.37)

### **Recommendations**

UGC should explore the possibility of evolving new courses on emerging branches of knowledge like Glacial studies/geodynamics, remote sensing, and other related disciplines. (Para 3.45)

### **Action Taken**

HEIs are autonomous institutions and decide their academic components in line with the emerging societal needs, regional and national relevance, and keeping in view the national and global requirements. However, UGC shall write to HEIs to explore the possibility of introducing these programs.

## **Recommendations**

Appropriate government bodies should undertake designing of courses in Light and Sound/ Laser Show and Heritage Walks with a view to promoting the cultural heritage and historical monuments of the Country and for generating employment opportunities for students interested in culture and history of India. (Para 3.46)

### **Action Taken**

Advisory has already been issued to the universities. All the advisories in this matter are available on the UGC website [www.ugc.ac.in](http://www.ugc.ac.in)

## **Recommendations**

The Department should also strengthen the 'Study in India' scheme and advertise it in other countries especially in South East Asian, African, Central Asian and Latin American countries for a faculty exchange program and awarding double diploma/degree to the students availing this Scheme. It is advised that the recommendations of the Destination India Conference held in Pune in January 2020 on the subject of Making India a Hub of Higher Education be taken into consideration seriously. (Para 3.12)

### **Action Taken**

Study in India (SII) is a programme that aims to increase the number of inbound international students to India. Even though the students from all over the world can apply under SII, a few countries, presently 45, have been identified as focused countries for systematic branding and promotional activities. Most of these countries are from South East Asia, Africa, Central Asia, West Asia and SAARC Countries.

Recommendations of Destination India Conference on internationalization have been made part of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and appropriate action is being taken by the respective agencies.

## **Recommendations**

With a view to giving impetus to boosting Research and Innovation in the country the department should try to simplify the procedure and reduce the cost for granting patents for researchers from both government and non- government organizations. (Para 3.47)

### **Action Taken**

Hon'ble Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman spoke about 'Innovation and R&D' as one of the six important pillars of Budget 2021 and unveiled several measures to strengthen the public research and innovation ecosystem of India.

In order to give impetus to boosting Research & Innovation in the country and to simplify the procedure, ₹ 50,000 crore has been allocated to the National Research Foundation (NRF) to be spent over a period of 5 years. The NRF has been envisaged as an umbrella

body that is expected to fund research across a range of disciplines, from science and technology to humanities. It has also been tasked with seeding and building research capacity at universities and colleges.

This NRF is over & above several other research schemes running under this ministry.

- Scheme for Translational and Advanced Research in Science (STARS)
- Impactful Policy Research in Social Sciences (IMPRESS)
- Impacting Research Innovation Technology – IMPRINT
- Ucchatar AvishkarYojana (UAY)
- Prime Minister’s Research Fellowship (PMRF)
- Start-up India Initiative in Higher Education Institutions - (SIHHEI)
- Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC)

### **Recommendations**

The Ministry should undertake a comprehensive evaluation of Chairs set up in foreign universities by the Indian organizations through a study group in the FY 2021-22. (Para 3.32)

### **Action Taken**

Establishment of chairs in foreign countries is done largely by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), therefore Study Group, to undertake comprehensive evaluation of these chairs is proposed to be set up under the aegis of ICCR. Accordingly, ICCR will be requested to take necessary action in this regard.

## CHAPTER III

### **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE**

#### **Recommendations**

The trend of appointing Adhoc faculty in Higher Education Institutions has a potential of creating wrong perceptions about our collective commitment to social justice and hence the Department should undertake special recruitment drive to fill these posts within the FY 2021-22 (Para 3.24)

#### **Action Taken**

UGC vide its D.O. letter No.F.1-14/2019 (CPP-II) dated 4th June, 2019 has prepared the Guidelines for Recruitment of Faculty in Universities, Colleges and Institutions Deemed to be Universities outlining the selection procedure and the time frame for recruitment which has been circulated to all Universities to adhere the guidelines. The Universities have also been requested to take steps to ensure that the vacancies in the University as well as in the Colleges affiliated to University are filled up at the earliest.

Further, UGC vide its letter No.F.1-14/2019 (CPP-II) dated 31st July, 2019, 7th August, 2019, 5th September, 2019 and 22nd October, 2019 again requested to ensure that vacant positions in University as well as colleges affiliated to University are filled at the earliest and the status of the recruitment process is uploaded on the University Activity Monitoring Portal of UGC.

#### **Further recommendations**

**The Department of Higher Education have only enumerated the steps taken prior to the recommendations made by the Committee and not provided details of the steps taken on the recommendation of the Committee regarding conducting special recruitment drives for filling up the vacancies. The Committee accordingly recommends that Department should provide precise steps taken on the recommendations of the Committee as contained in the 324<sup>th</sup> Report and submit a status report on the same at the earliest .**

#### **Recommendations**

The Dept should explore the possibility of introducing a Common Exam for appointment of faculty and non- faculty for all Centrally Funded Educational Institutions through National Testing Agency (NTA)/UPSC; and thereby creating an independent cadre. (Para 3.25)

## **Action Taken**

Single Act Committee constituted by Ministry of Education in April, 2013 to prepare a draft Bill for administration of all the Central Universities. The Terms of Reference of the Committee was to prepare a Draft Bill for administration of all the Central Universities keeping in view the recommendations of Madhav Menon Committee on autonomy of Central Education Institutions including Central Universities and such other relevant Committees.

A very important issue of shortage of faculty in the Central Universities has been brought to the notice of the Committee. The Committee, was of the view that present mechanism for filling up the post of teachers has not been effective and it has generated backlog of unfilled vacancies in thousands. Therefore, a new mechanism needs to be devised for promptly filling up the vacancies of the teachers. The Committee deliberated on various models for expeditious filling up of the vacancies of the teachers in Central Universities. The Committee therefore proposed in the Draft Bill that there shall be a central body to be called the Central Universities (Teachers, Registrar and Finance Officer) Recruitment Board to be constituted by the Central Government. However, the report of the Committee not accepted so far.

## **Further recommendations (3.24 and 3.25)**

**The Committee is not convinced by the reply of the Department .The Committee would like to point out that the Department of Higher Education being the nodal Department for the higher education sector in India, should take steps to tackle the issue of faculty shortage in higher educational institutions. The Committee highlights the fact that an inordinate delay in the setting up of the Central Universities Recruitment Board will only magnify the problem of faculty shortage in educational institutions. The Committee recommends that the Department should bring the proposed Bill in this regard as soon as possible in the Parliament for creation of a Central body to address all administrative issues of Central University.**

## **Recommendations**

The Department should prepare a plan for enhancing investment in all new technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Nanotechnology, Blockchain, Quantum Computing, Mixed Reality, Data Analytics etc. with special focus on agriculture, healthcare and education as these sectors have the potential for creating large scale employment which needs to be tapped. Accordingly, the Department should set up a study group to devise a plan to train the human resources for the jobs to be created in all these emerging technologies (Paras 3.48 & 3.49)



### **Action Taken**

Most of the IITs offer various Artificial Intelligence (AI) related courses such as Deep Learning Foundations & Applications, Foundation of AI and Machine Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Probabilistic Reasoning in AI , Predictive & Prescriptive Data Analytics, Deep Learning, System Identification, Cyber Physical Security, Digital Image Processing, etc. Besides, IITs also organize short term programmes inter-alia on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for the working professional and interested students.

### **Further recommendations**

**The Committee acknowledges that many of the IITs are offering courses in emerging areas like Artificial Intelligence (AI) related courses such as Deep Learning Foundations & Applications, Foundation of AI and Machine Learning etc. The Committee, however, recommends that Department should also encourage National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and other Centrally Funded Institutions like IIITs and Central Universities to start such courses and train students in emerging technologies and provide a large skilled force .**

### **Recommendations**

The Department should conduct a third party evaluation about the patents and products created by the incubation centres in IITs and assess the job creation potential as well as other features of the products and services created by the incubated entities (Para 3.4)

### **Action Taken**

Inputs annexed (Annexure -I).

### **Further Recommendation**

**The Committee is not convinced with the reply of the Department. The Committee recommends that the Department should evolve a time bound mechanism to evaluate the various innovations/patents being developed in the incubation centres in the IITs. The Committee also emphasised that the patents/innovations/products made in the incubation centres should be commercialised and establishment of new start-ups should be encouraged.**

## **CHAPTER IV**

**OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH  
REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT IS STILL AWAITED.**

**-NIL-**

## RECOMMENDATION(S)/OBSERVATION(S)-AT A GLANCE

1. The Department have only enumerated the steps taken prior to the recommendations made by the Committee and not provided details of the steps taken on the recommendations of the Committee regarding conducting special recruitment drives for filling up the vacancies. The Committee accordingly recommends that Department should provide precise steps taken on the recommendations of the Committee as contained in the 324<sup>th</sup> Report and submit a status report on the same at the earliest.
2. The Committee is not convinced by the reply of the Department .The Committee would like to point out that the Department of Higher Education being the nodal Department for the higher education sector in India should take steps to tackle the issue of faculty shortage in higher educational institutions. The Committee highlights the fact that an inordinate delay in the setting up of the Central Universities Recruitment Board will only magnify the problem of faculty shortage in educational institutions. The Committee recommends that the Department should bring the proposed Bill in this regard as soon as possible in the Parliament to fill the vacant posts.
3. The Committee acknowledges that many of the IITs are offering courses in emerging areas like Artificial Intelligence (AI) related courses such as Deep Learning Foundations & Applications, Foundation of AI and Machine Learning etc. The Committee, however, recommends that Department should also encourage National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and other Centrally Funded Institutions like IIITs and Central Universities to start such courses and train students in emerging technologies and provide a large skilled force.
4. The Committee is not convinced with the reply of the Department. The Committee recommends that the Department should evolve a time bound mechanism to evaluate the various innovations/patents being developed in the incubation centres in the IITs. The Committee also emphasised that the patents/innovations/products made in the incubation centres should be commercialised and establishment of new start-ups should be encouraged.

Sl. No.	Name of Institute	Comments of the Institute
1	IIT Bombay	IIT Bombay has stated that they do not create products / patents, nor are they owners of any product/ patents or file patent any product on behalf of companies.
2	IIT Delhi	IIT Delhi has informed that their incubator set-up, the startups in the year 2019-to date have filed 25+ patents and the product launches in the same period and this does not include patents / products of our Institute. In total > 200 direct jobs have been created by the startups incubated within the reporting period.
3	IIT Roorkee	IIT Roorkee has a well structured mechanism to evaluate the commercial viability of patents/ disclosures. However, if a third party is appointed to evaluate the patents of IIT Roorkee, Institute will do the needful. Further, it is also to bring to your notice that all patents of IIT Roorkee are validated by Third party under ARIIA system.
4	IIT BHU	IIT BHU has informed that as per information received from Technology Business Incubation Centre they do not have any IPR so far. However, some patents are in process, but not filed.
5	IIT Ropar	IIT Ropar has informed that third party evaluations of patents held by incubated companies may be performed on a voluntary basis. If found suitable from the point of view of job creation or high value commercial potential these companies may be supported financially and other means to commercialize these patents either through manufacturing or technology transfers.
6	IIT Patna	IIT Patna has informed that a committee of experts is being constituted for Third Party Audit. It will be completed positively within a period of 12 weeks from now.
7	IIT Hyderabad	IIT Hyderabad has informed that the institute expresses its commitment to undertake an evaluation of the products and patents created from the Incubator together with external experts within six months.
8	IIT Jodhpur	IIT Jodhpur has informed that so far there is no patent and/or product that have been created by our incubation center, i.e., IIT Jodhpur Technology Innovation and Start-up Center (TISC).
9	IIT Palakkad	The institute has stated that they are yet to develop any product and has not applied for any patent through its Innovation/Incubation Centre and hence our report may please be treated as 'Nil'.
10	IIT Dharwad	IIT Dharwad is planning to establish an incubation centre after shifting to the permanent campus site. Hence, so far no patents and products have been created under the umbrella of incubation centres at IIT Delhi. However, Institute Innovation Council (IIC) of IIT Dharwad is established to conduct various innovation and entrepreneurship related activities, and to systematically foster the culture of innovation of IIT

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