

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Date 3-5-18

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made on this day between Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India having its office at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi and The State government/UT Administration/Government of Uttarakhand hereinafter referred to as the State/UT) having its office at Dehradun

PURPOSE

The purpose of this MoU is to agreement MHRD and the State/UT as to what action and responsibilities are expected to be undertaken by the State/UT for the better implementation of the scheme of Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA).

BACKGROUND

RUSA is an overarching scheme, operated in a mission mode for funding the state universities and colleges in order to achieve the aims of equity, access and excellence. It seeks to improve the overall quality of existing State higher educational institutions by ensuring their conformity to prescribed norms and standards and adoption of accreditation as a mandatory quality assurance framework; correcting regional imbalances by facilitating access to high quality institutions in rural & semi-urban areas; and providing adequate opportunities of higher education to socially deprived communities; promoting inclusion of women, minorities, SC/ST/OBCs and differently abled persons to ensure equity.

Transformative reforms such as governance, academic, affiliation and accreditation reforms are pre-requisites in the implementation of the scheme in State higher educational institutions. These reforms include creation of State Higher Education Councils (SHECs), Search-cum-Select Committee for selection of Vice-Chancellors, implementation of Choice Based Credit System (CBCS), reduction in the number of colleges affiliated per university, mandatory accreditation etc.



Expectations from State/UT

- I. Creation of a State Higher Education Council (SHEC) through an Act.
- II. Regular meetings of the SHEC
- III. Preparation and submission of a State Higher Education Plan (SHEP) after following a bottom-up approach and analysing the critical needs of the State/UT in terms of access, equity and quality in higher education
- IV. Preparation of the SHEP within the guidelines and norms of the scheme
- V. Providing updated and correct information to the MHRD as and when requested
- VI. Participation in Project Approval Board (PAB) meetings, RUSA Mission Authority meetings, workshops, video conferences etc as informed by MHRD
- VII. Fulfilment of conditions laid down by the PAB in its approval of the components
- VIII. Timely contribution and utilisation of corresponding State Share
- IX. Timely utilisation and submission of utilisation certificate (UC) for released central share
- X. Timely completion of projects
- XI. Regular updation of data in monitoring mechanisms such as EAT-PFMS, Bhuvan-RUSA, Fund tracker, Reform Tracker, online portals etc
- XII. Filling up faculty vacancies and ensuring that there is no ban on recruitment and that faculty positions in universities should not be less than 85% of sanctioned faculty strength.
- XIII. Ensuring that infrastructural facilities created will be barrier free and follow Harmonised Guidelines and Space Standards for Barrier-free Built Environment for persons with Disability and Elderly Persons



XIV. Ensure that their spending on Higher Education as a percentage of GSDP is at least 2% of GSDP by March 2020

XV. Undertaking administrative, academic, accreditation, governance reforms etc at State level and institutional level including and not limited to:

a. **Governance Reforms**

- i. To revisit and ensure that Universities are given significant amount of autonomy.
- ii. Decision making bodies of the Universities should be faculty driven
- iii. Merit based, transparent appointments to key University leadership positions.
- iv. Formation of State Higher Education Council through an Act of State Legislature
- v. State Higher Education Council to be chaired by an academician of repute. SHECs chaired by non-academics should comply to the above by December 2018

b. **Affiliation Reforms**

To right size existing universities and limit the number of colleges affiliated to one university

c. **Accreditation Reforms**

Mandatory Accreditation of all Universities and Colleges

Expectations from MHRD



- I. Prior intimation to States/UT regarding PAB meetings, Mission Authority meetings, workshops, conferences etc
- II. Timely release of instalments of central share
- III. Regular monitoring of the implementation of the scheme through mechanisms such as PFMS, Bhuvan-RUSA, Fund tracker, Reform Tracker, online portals, Project Monitoring Unit etc
- IV. Resolving existing committed liabilities
- V. Creation of portal for online submission of SHEPs and inventory management system
- VI. Providing guidance to State/UT

Period of MoU

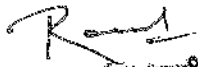
The MoU shall be valid initially till 31st March 2020. However, this can be extended by mutual consent subject to the scheme and its provisions being approved by the Cabinet or any other Competent Authority

Termination of MoU

MHRD shall have the right to terminate the agreement with the State/UT in case it either fails to fulfil the expectations successfully as mentioned in the agreement or violates any of the clause mentioned in the MOU or misuses the partnership with MHRD in any way.

Arbitration

Any disagreements arising with regard to any aspect of this MoU shall be settled through the Project Approval Board (PAB).


Signature of Head of Higher
Education Department of State/UT

Education Department of State/UT

Signature of RUSA National Mission Director