

**Governor's Secretariat
Rajbhawan, Jaipur**

No.: F.1(A)()RB/2020Pt.1/ 35

Date : 26 May, 2021

Minutes of Meeting

The Eleventh Meeting of the TaskForce on Higher Education, in online mode, was convened on 19th May, 2021 under the Chairmanship of Sh. Subir Kumar, Secretary to Governor Rajasthan.

The list of participants is enclosed at Annexure-'A'.

The Chairman welcomed members of TaskForce in the meeting and briefed regarding the agenda of the meeting (Enclosed at Annexure-'B'), which was set as per guidelines of Hon'ble Chancellor for discussing the issues raised in the Report of the CAG-I on Performance Audit of Outcomes of Hr. Edu. in Rajasthan in order to come out with suggestions for SFUs to improve upon relevant parameters. The Chairman mentioned several important issues pointed out by the CAG-I, on whom attention of SFUs is urgently required in order to improve their performance and outcomes. Important points mentioned by him were:

- Poor or non-existent of maintenance of data related to student progression to employment / Hr. Studies / Performance in competitive examination,
- GER in HEIs was lower than the National average [Rajasthan's ranking declined from 20 (2010-11) to 23 (2018-19)],
- None of the SFU got a place in top 100 HEIs in NIRF ranking,
- Disproportionately high number of colleges were offering arts stream only,
- Improper functioning and/or absence of SQAC and IQACs resulting into only 6.04% HEIs getting NAAC accreditation,
- Lack of use of ICT, like, LMS and OSES in teaching and evaluation, respectively,
- Long pendency of clearance of Ph.D. thesis, in many cases up to 12 years,
- Incomplete research projects and lack of dissemination of their results to the society,
- Lack of system of feedback from stakeholders, particularly of students and alumni, in formulation programs and courses,
- Highly irregular conduction of meetings of statutory bodies, like, Senate, Syndicate, BoM, Academic Council etc.
- Lack of use of ICT like On Screen Evaluation while evaluating answer books resulting into >90% students applying for revaluation in some cases reflecting sanctity of examinations and results adversely,
- Lack of revision of syllabi etc.

Thereafter, the Chairman requested Prof. (Dr.) Col. A. K. Gahlot, Member Governor's Advisory Board and Spl. Invitee Task Force to have detailed presentation of the CAG-I Report (which was shared with all members before the meeting) and suggested way forward. Important points in the presentation (which has been shared with all VCs) were:

- Desired Outcomes identified by GoI as- Access, Equity, Quality (>50% graduates unemployable in India) and Governance.
- Identified status of Hr. Edu. by GoR as- Inadequate resources for infra development, Lack of access to HE for vast section of socially deprived population, Low overall as well as sectional GER, Weak curriculum, Inadequate teaching aids, Lack of adequate quality faculty, Higher Student-Teacher Ratio, Lack of linkage with the industry and Absence of proper MIS and monitoring and evaluation system etc.
- Indicators based evaluation of performance by CAG-I.
- Recommendations of the Report.
- He presented, how each SFU can improve performance by strengthening on each of the 7 points of NAAC system of evaluation, which are as follows:

1. Curricular Aspects
2. Teaching-Learning and Evaluation
3. Research, Innovations and Extension
4. Infrastructure and Learning Resources
5. Student Support and Progression
6. Governance, Leadership and Management
7. Institutional Values and Best Practices

After this presentation, the Chairman invited every member of TaskForce to provide suggestions/Views for improvement in the quality of higher education in Rajasthan.

During the discussion main observations of the Members of TaskForce are as follows -

Dr. Dev Swarup, Vice Chancellor, Bhim Rao Ambedkar Law University, Jaipur -

- ❖ CAG-I have documented in well-defined manner very low GER in Rajasthan. It is an alarming parameter for higher education and our first aim should be to improve this.
- ❖ Universities must take necessary action to improve Quality, Employability, Research and Infrastructure of Constituent as well as Affiliation of colleges.
- ❖ VC's of SFU's need to play their role effectively to improve governance/ management.

Prof. P.C. Trivedi, Vice Chancellor, J.N.V. University, Jodhpur -

- ❖ IQAC cell is required in each University.
- ❖ Work is required to be started immediately on 7 Criteria based assessment points of NAAC.
- ❖ VC's are requested to start their filling process for NAAC Accreditation as soon as possible.
- ❖ SUMS/IUMS is required to control all the things related to Universities for quality education and governance.
- ❖ Monitoring of Universities is also important, for which regular TaskForce meetings may be convened.
- ❖ For financial stability of SFUs, the State Govt. should take necessary steps to provide adequate funds to the Universities.

- ❖ Every University is required to have registered Alumni Association.

Prof. J.S. Sandhu, Vice Chancellor, SKN University, Jobner.

- ❖ Mostly, the points included in the Performance Audit Report are also included in NEP.
- ❖ Accreditation of Institutes/University is required to improve our rankings.
- ❖ Lectures may be arranged from Guest faculty/adjunct faculty/other faculty for new syllabus/courses. E-resources developed by the University should be distributed to affiliated colleges/institutions and must be available on website also.
- ❖ The IT infrastructure must be improved at the university level.
- ❖ GER may be increased by adopting new skill development courses in the universities and to improve students' employability.
- ❖ Research paper publications/ patents and other innovations are required to improve the quality of the university.

Prof. R.K.S. Dhakarey, Vice Chancellor, Brij University, Bharatpur.

- ❖ Fees taken by private colleges/Universities needs to be regulated at State level.
- ❖ Retention of faculty may be improved through term appointment and tenurial postings.
- ❖ NOC (Released from state government) for affiliation of colleges must be released at least some months before the start of session, so that universities conduct inspection and other processes before commencement of the session. NOCs given after commencement of the session should be considered for next session. Regarding this the state government may be communicated as per discussions of the TaskForce.
- ❖ Director of Distance Education is required in each university to start distance education.

Prof. R.A. Gupta - Prof. R.A. Gupta, Vice Chancellor, Rajasthan Technical University, Kota.

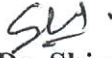
- ❖ A point of TSR (teacher student ratio) is also indicated in this report and low TSR is also alarming. To improve the TSR, faculty appointment is required in each university. Roster issue requires to be solved at the earliest.
- ❖ SUMS/IUMS must be required as soon as possible.
- ❖ Cloud server is required for universities to upload all online teaching material accessible to every student.

Principal OSD to Governor, Sh. Govind Jaiswal as well as Chairman and Secretary to Governor, Sh. Subir Kumar, while appreciating the presentation and views put up by Members, summed up final discussions, after which the following recommendations emerged:

1. Every SFU should treat 2021 as 'Year of preparedness for NAAC (or respective accrediting authority)' and start documentation as well as strengthening assessment criteria and NAAC indicators, so that the dismal percentage of 6.04 is drastically improved.
2. Universities should adopt SUMS, the ICT based platform for complete e-governance at the earliest, so that VCs, Administrative Departments and Chancellor's Secretariat can have real-time picture of all affairs of SFUs. Till its implementation, ongoing ICT system should be strengthened.


3. In order to improve learning and evaluation, ICT based systems like LMS and OSES must be adopted by SFUs.
4. SFU's Vice-Chancellors, Registrars and Comptrollers must be invited in BFC, for which a communication to the State Government on behalf of Task Force may be issued.
5. Status, Ordinances and Regulations should be prepared for approval as soon as possible by all SFU's.
6. Issues regarding pending permission for recruitment and approval of roster may also be taken-up by Raj Bhawan with the State Government.
7. The State Government may be advised to bring a Private Universities Regulation Act to regulate and improve their functioning and performance.
8. Uploading of thesis for Shodhganga must be implemented by all Universities.
9. Improvement in Research/Publications/Patents/Innovations is required at each SFU with proper documentation.
10. Universities should bring-out duly authenticated rules/regulations of Affiliation providing the timeline for NOC application till affiliation of private colleges well before onset of new session.
11. Looking to urgency of addressing issues pertaining to SFUs, meeting of the Task Force may be convened every month.
12. SFUs must adopt UPSC/UGC/National curriculum with a flexibility of incorporating 10-15% syllabi on the basis of local needs.

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair by Member Secretary.


 (Dr. Shiv Lal)
 Member Secretary

Copy forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:

1. Principal OSD to Hon'ble Governor, Raj Bhawan, Jaipur.
2. Prof. A.K. Gahlot, Member, Governor's Advisory Board.
3. Prof. R.K.S. Dhakarey, Vice Chancellor, Brij University, Bharatpur.
4. Prof. R.A. Gupta, Vice Chancellor, Rajasthan Technical University, Kota.
5. Dr. Dev Swarup, Vice Chancellor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Law University, Jaipur.
6. Prof. P.C. Trivedi, Vice Chancellor, J.N.V. University, Jodhpur.
7. Prof. J.S. Sandhu, Vice Chancellor, SKN University, Jobner.
8. Smt. Sandhya Sharma, Financial Advisor, Governor's Secretariat.
9. Controller, House Hold, Raj Bhawan, Jaipur.
10. OSD (SP) and OIC (IT), Raj Bhawan, Jaipur.
11. PS to Secretary to Hon'ble Governor.
12. PS to Commissioner, College Education.


 OIC , Higher Education