

## CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME

### HIGHER EDUCATION STATISTICS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (HESPIS)

The Government has accorded high priority to the development of education sector and for this purpose a number of flagship programmes are being implemented to build the infrastructure. However, in the absence of an effective institutional mechanism, the statistics reflecting the outcomes of these initiatives of the Government become available only after a considerable time lag and with a number of limitations.

To prepare a sound data-base on Higher Education, Ministry launched All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) to collect data from all the institutions imparting higher education in the country through electronic mode. Keeping in view the need for generating reliable data on regular basis, the Ministry further decided to continue the survey on an annual basis and for which creation of a scheme was needed.

The XII Plan categorically highlighted the need for a strong current and comprehensive data for evidence-based policy making and effective planning. The Plan document also took note of the All India Survey on Higher Education initiated by the Ministry of Human Resource Development and indicated that it can provide useful insights and can be the first step towards creating a comprehensive higher education data management system.

Keeping this in view, a new plan scheme Higher Education Statistics & Public Information System (HESPIS) was proposed in XII Five Year Plan. The meeting of the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) was held on 05.12.2013 and 21.09.2017 under the chairmanship of Secretary (Higher Education) in which the scheme was approved and continued for the period of 2012-17 and 2017-20 with total cost of Rs. 99 crore and Rs. 64.09 crore respectively. Further, the meeting of the SFC held on 19.08.2021 under the chairmanship of Secretary (Higher Education) the scheme has been approved for continuation for duration 2021-22 to 2025-26 with the total cost of Rs. 60 crore.

### Objectives of the Scheme

- Strengthening official Statistical system to produce Education Statistics periodically with timeliness and quality so as to assess and review the performance of education sector and regional divergences across the country.
- Encouraging all producers of official Statistics to adopt common geographic referencing and coding standards to provide statistical aggregates/ estimates at State, District and Block level.
- Promoting collection of data in electronic mode
- Periodically reviewing all regular surveys by undertaking in-house reviews of actual results over time and identifying data-gaps.
- Developing techniques that reduce burden on data providers
- Strengthening Institutional Coordination between Ministry and other data producing agencies such as University Grants Commission, All India Council for Technical Education, National University of Educational Planning & Administration, Medical Council of India, State Government Departments, Examination Boards, etc.
- Benefiting students by creating Centralized portal which can provide updated information to students which may be useful for their decision making.
- To conduct some special surveys and longitudinal studies for more detailed insight of Higher Education in the country.

### Key Features of the Scheme

- HESPIS is an umbrella scheme catering to the need of various kinds of Statistics related to higher education sector.
- Steering Committee will be constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary (Higher Education) with the representation of heads of various stakeholders from all the sectors including NITI Aayog, NAAC, NBA, UGC, AICTE, NIEPA, etc. To address various issues relating to higher education statistics.
- Technical decisions related to Higher Education Statistics will be taken by Steering Committee.
- Setting up of AISHE Unit in the State and AISHE cell in each Affiliating University to coordinate All India Survey on Higher Education.
- Norm-based and Output-based funding.
- States and Institutions to ensure uploading of data and its authenticity for receiving funds.

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- Funds would flow from the Ministry of Education (MOE) to the AISHE State Unit/ AISHE University Cell.
- AISHE State Unit will be the key institution at the state level to channelize resources to the institutions.
- State wise allocations would be decided on the basis number of Higher Education Institutions located in the State.
- A token amount of fixed honorarium as per the category of the Institutions participating first time in the survey would be given as per norms devised for the purpose.
- A token amount as honorarium will be paid to the affiliating Universities for the effort to coordinate with their affiliated colleges for registration and timely submission of survey DCF.

### Component-wise Details of the Scheme

#### 1. All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)

- All India Survey on Higher Education is the major component of the scheme for which approximately 80% of the total fund has been allocated.
- Year-wise Database on higher education is developed by collecting data from all the Higher Education Institutions (approximately 57,000).
- The survey is being conducted through electronic mode for which a centralised portal (<http://aishe.gov.in>) has been developed wherein each Institution has to register and upload the data. This will reduce time-lag in availability of Statistics to the bare minimum.
- For coordinating the activity, a unit is proposed to be set up in each State and a cell in each of the Affiliating universities. AISHE State Unit and University Cell will work in tandem.
- AISHE State Unit will coordinate with all the higher education institutions located in the State and AISHE university cell will coordinate with the colleges. These Units and Cells will also conduct training cum sensitization workshops for the nodal officers.
- Instead of hiring the persons to collect the data from the Institutions, a nodal officer is appointed in each of the Institutions who collects, compiles and enters the data for the Institution in the centralised portal. To perform this work, nodal officer will be given incentive token honorarium for the submission of Survey DCF for the first time, on the basis of prescribed norms.
- Allocation to AISHE State Unit and University cell will be based on the Number of Institutions.
- Funds would Flow to the University Cell through State Unit or through MOE if State Unit is not constituted.

- A working Group has been constituted under the chairmanship of JS (HE) and all stakeholders as members to monitor the survey and to provide Technical Guidance. Financial Norms for the survey is to be reviewed by the Group, whenever required.

## **2. Centralised Student Portal**

As the higher education system is likely to grow rapidly, it is essential that a centralised portal be made available which can provide some basic information to the students and their parents in a manner that is useful for them for their decision making. The Student Portal will be developed on the basis of data collected under AISHE.

## **3. Longitudinal and Specialized surveys**

The web-based higher education data management system may be used for tracking the progress of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) and for carrying out a variety of analysis leading to improved performance of HEIs. Also, the data collected under AISHE can be the baseline data, which will be used for conducting Special & Longitudinal surveys and generating additional data from educational institutions that could be used as inputs for micro level higher education planning at the Central, State and Institutional levels. The Survey/study would be conducted by outsourced agencies under the technical guidance of MoE.

## **4. Support to Other Agencies for regular Data Collection on specific parameters and on parameters incidental to Higher Education.**

## **5. Capacity Buildings of States/ Institutions**

## **6. Conducting various studies including seminars, sensitization/ awareness generation, workshops etc.**

### **Resource Allocation**

The Ministry of Education is the nodal agency for implementing the scheme. Fund flow for AISHE would be through AISHE State unit. Other Components of the scheme will be directly implemented from MOE.

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The SFC in its meeting held on 19.08.2021, under the Chairmanship of Shri Amit Khare, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education has approved continuation of HESPIS Scheme with an outlay of Rs. 60 crore for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 The broad items of expenditure approved by SFC are as under:

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| Sl. No. | Components*   | 2021-22  |                          | 2022-23   |                          | 2023-24   |                          | 2024-25   |                          | 2025-26  |                          | Total   |                          |
|---------|---|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
|         |   | Physical   | Financial (Rs. in crore) | Physical  | Financial (Rs. in crore) | Physical  | Financial (Rs. in crore) | Physical  | Financial (Rs. in crore) | Physical   | Financial (Rs. in crore) | Physical  | Financial (Rs. in crore) |
| 1       | Total Grant to State AISHE Units  | Data collection from about 55,165 Institutions   | 3.00                     | Data collection from about 60,682 Institutions  | 3.10                     | Data collection from about 66,750 Institutions  | 3.30                     | Data collection from about 73,425 Institutions  | 3.60                     | Data collection from about 80,767 Institutions   | 4.00                     | Data collection from all Institutions   | 17.00                    |
| 2       | Capacity Building Workshops/Publication of Reports/IT equipments including software/Honorarium/Contingency etc. | To organize Zonal workshops/Purchase of IT equipments/printing of Reports/Honorarium/Contingent etc. | 6.18                     | To organize Zonal workshops/Purchase of IT equipments/printing of Reports/Honorarium/Contingent etc.                              | 6.21                     | To organize Zonal workshops/Purchase of IT equipments/printing of Reports/Honorarium/Contingent etc.                    | 6.92                     | To organize Zonal workshops/Purchase of IT equipments/printing of Reports/Honorarium/Contingent etc.                              | 7.62                     | To organize Zonal workshops/Purchase of IT equipments/printing of Reports/Honorarium/Contingent etc. | 8.32                     | For all the Five years  | 35.25                    |
| 3       | Technical Support Group   | Support staff  | 0.55                     | Provide Support staff for assisting the Division in technical matters related to the conduct of the survey, arrange for logistics | 0.55                     | Provide Support staff for assisting the Division in technical matters related to the conduct of the survey, arrange for | 0.55                     | Provide Support staff for assisting the Division in technical matters related to the conduct of the survey, arrange for logistics | 0.55                     | Provide Support staff for assisting the Division in technical matters related to the conduct of the  | 0.55                     | Provide Support staff for assisting the Division in technical matters related to the conduct of the survey, arrange for | 2.75                     |

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| Sl. No. | Components*   | 2021-22  |                          | 2022-23  |                          | 2023-24  |                          | 2024-25  |                          | 2025-26  |                          | Total  |                          |
|---------|---|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
|         |   | Physical   | Financial (Rs. in crore) |
|         |   |  |                          | for national/zonal level workshops / seminars  |                          | logistics for national/zonal level workshops / seminars                                    |                          | for national/zonal level workshops / seminars  |                          | survey, arrange for logistics for national/zonal level workshops / seminars                |                          | logistics for national/zonal level workshops / seminars                                    |                          |
| 4       | Development and maintenance of AISHE portal (through NIC) and Misc. | AISHE Portal maintenance and Development of the new modules as and when required and misc. | 1.00                     | AISHE Portal maintenance and Development of the new modules as and when required and misc. | 1.00                     | AISHE Portal maintenance and Development of the new modules as and when required and misc. | 1.00                     | AISHE Portal maintenance and Development of the new modules as and when required and misc. | 1.00                     | AISHE Portal maintenance and Development of the new modules as and when required and misc. | 1.00                     | AISHE Portal maintenance and Development of the new modules as and when required and misc. | 5.00                     |

\* Amount has been calculated as base for 2019-20 with revised rates. It will be restricted to Rs.10.73 crore, as per allocated RE 21-22.

### GUIDELINES FOR AISHE STATE UNIT

- The AISHE Unit in the States may be comprised of Principal Secretary /Commissioner level officer from the Department of Higher Education and/ or Technical Education, State Nodal Officers, Sectoral Nodal Officers (Teacher Training, Nursing, Technical etc.) and any other officials engaged in AISHE work as decided by the State. Representatives from other Government Departments of States may be included as per the requirement.
- If there is only one or two Affiliating Universities in the State, University Nodal Officer and Registrar may also be part of AISHE State Unit, instead of creating a separate cell in Affiliating Universities is not required.
- In no case payment of salary of regular employees should be made from the scheme.
- The officials involved in the Unit may be given honorarium. The amount of honorarium may be decided on the following broad guidelines.

| <b>Number of Institutions in the State</b> | <b>Maximum limit (in Rs.)</b> |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Less than 100                              | 5000                          |
| 100-499                                    | 7000                          |
| 500-1999                                   | 10000                         |
| 2000-4999                                  | 15000                         |
| 5000 & above                               | 20000                         |

- AISHE Cell set up in the Affiliating University should work under the ambit of AISHE State Unit. The fund to AISHE cell will flow through AISHE State Unit. In case, State Unit is not set up, the fund may flow to AISHE cell directly from MOE.
- AISHE cell is to be created only in affiliating university i.e. universities having attached colleges.
- The expenditure under the scheme may be made on IT equipments including software and internet connectivity, Traveling, workshop, payment of honorarium, Contingency etc
- Other than IT equipments, no asset should be created under the scheme.
- Honorarium to the Institutions (when applicable) will be on the basis of actual submission of DCF and will be directly transferred to the account of nodal officers.
- Before releasing the honorarium, approval of University/ State Nodal officer/ MOE would be required. All the forms uploaded by the Institutions should be scrutinized before giving the approval.
- Amount other than honorarium will be released in two installments, 50% in advance and rest of the amount after utilization of 60% of the opening balance plus fund released in the first installment.
- State Units should send a formal proposal before the release of the amount under the scheme along with formal order of composition of AISHE Unit.
- The entitled amount for a State/UT will be calculated on the basis of number of institutions during the previous survey year while releasing the first installment.
- The unit may identify Resource persons for providing training and technical guidance and honorarium of the trainer and related expenditure for this purpose may be made under the scheme.

**GUIDELINES FOR AISHE CELL IN AFFILIATING UNIVERSITY**

- The AISHE Cell in Affiliating Universities may be comprised of Registrar, University Nodal Officer, in-charge college cell and any other officials as decided by the University.
- If there is only one or two Affiliating Universities in the State, University Nodal Officer and Registrar may also be part of AISHE State Unit, instead of creating a separate cell in Affiliating Universities.
- In no case payment of salary of regular employees should be made from the scheme.
- AISHE Cell set up in the Affiliating University should work under the ambit of AISHE State Unit. The fund to AISHE cell will flow through AISHE State Unit. In case, State Unit is not set up, the fund may flow to AISHE cell directly from MOE.
- AISHE cell is to be created only in affiliating university i.e. universities having affiliated colleges.
- The expenditure under the scheme may be made on IT equipments including software and internet connectivity, Traveling, workshop, payment of honorarium, Contingency etc
- Other than IT equipments, no asset should be created under the scheme.
- Amount other than honorarium will be released in two installments, 50% in advance and rest of the amount after utilization of 60% of the opening balance plus funds released in the first installment.
- University cell should send a formal proposal before the release of the amount under the scheme along with formal order of composition of Cell.

## All India Survey on Higher Education - Financial Norms

### AISHE State Unit

| Sl. No. | Particulars                                   | Maximum Limit per State (in Rs.)              | Remarks |  |
|---------|---|---|---------|--|
| 1       | <b>Support to State Unit</b>                  | <b>Number of Institutions Less than 100</b>   | 300000  | Training workshop/<br>Seminar @ Rs.<br>200000,<br>Travel Maximum<br>upto Rs.300000 |
|         |   | <b>Number of Institutions 100 - 499</b>       | 600000  |  |
|         |   | <b>Number of Institutions 500 - 1999</b>      | 1300000 |  |
|         |   | <b>Number of Institutions 2000 - 4999</b>     | 2200000 |  |
|         |   | <b>Number of Institutions 5000 and above</b>  | 3000000 |  |
| 2       | <b>Travel Expense of Unitary Universities</b> | Rs. 10000 per University                      |         |  |
| 3       | <b>Workshops for Stand Alone Institutions</b> | One workshop @ Rs. 40000 for 100 Institutions |         |  |
| 4       | <b>Support to AISHE University Cell</b>       | As per Annexure II                            |         |  |

**All India Survey on Higher Education - Financial Norms  
AISHE University Cell**

Annexure-II

| Sl. No. | Particulars   | Norms                                     |                                |
|---------|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 1       | Co-ordination with Colleges including Contingency Expenditure | Upto 20 Colleges                          | Rs. 30000                      |
|         |   | 20 or more Colleges                       | Rs. 30000+ Rs. 200 per college |
| 2       | Travel Expense  | Rs. 60000                                 |                                |
| 3       | Workshops   | One workshop @ Rs. 30000 for 100 Colleges |                                |

### All India Survey on Higher Education - Financial Norms for Remuneration

For the first time Participating Institutions in the survey, a token amount of honorarium may be given as per following norms:

| SI No. | Particulars             | Honorarium |
|--------|-------------------------|------------|
| 1.     | University              | 10000      |
| 2.     | College                 | 5000       |
| 3.     | Standalone Institutions | 2000       |

From second year onwards a token honorarium may be given only to the Nodal Officers of affiliating Universities as per the availability of fund. The release of the fund will be outcome based. The maximum amount that will be given to the University Nodal Officer is given in the table below. However, actual release will be proportional to the percentage of affiliated colleges under the university that has submitted data for the particular round of AISHE. The norms for release of funds are given below:

| SI No. | Particulars                               | Maximum fund per university | Actual fund release  |
|--------|---|-----------------------------|--|
| 1.     | Large University (500 or more colleges)   | 20000                       | As per percentage response received from the affiliated colleges |
| 2.     | Medium University (with 200-499 colleges) | 15000                       |  |
| 3.     | Small University (with 50 – 200 colleges) | 10000                       |  |

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