

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
Department of Higher Education

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

Important Policy Decisions Taken and Major Achievements During August, 2023

(i) Ministry of Education (MOE) and Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) jointly launched Study in India (SII) portal <https://studyinindia.gov.in> on 3rd August, 2023. The portal showcases the best of Indian HEIs and is a one-stop solution for admission and visa applications for foreign students, who wish to pursue their higher education in Indian HEIs. It is now mandatory for every international student seeking admission in Indian HEIs to register on the SII portal going forward. The portal provides access to our missions abroad and FRRO for seamless operation of related activities.

(ii) After the IIM (Amendment) Act, 2023 passed by both the Houses of Parliament and it becoming law, Deptt. of Higher Education issued notification on 16.08.2023 for implementation of the IIM (Amendment) Act, 2023. With the passage of Amendment Act, National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE) has become Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Mumbai.

(iii) The KAVACH-2023 Cyber Security Hackathon, an exceptional collaborative effort by the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Bureau of Police Research and Development, and the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), Ministry of Home Affairs, reached its successful conclusion from 8th to 10th August, 2023. KAVACH-2023, an innovation extravaganza, garnered an impressive 3900+ ideas from aspiring minds. The Grand Finale showcased the talents of 106 diverse teams, with 99 hailing from colleges and 7 from the Star-tup world.

(iv) Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), are organising Amrit Kaal Vimarsh – a Development Dialogue in their Campuses to discuss the transformational changes, that has laid down the foundation of Viksit Bharat @ 2047. Eminent personalities in the field of academics, administration, sports, music, and public services are visiting the campuses and delivering talk/lecture on various developmental programmes/issues/policies/themes that has made substantial impact. First programme in this series has been conducted at Hindu College, University of Delhi, on 31st August, 2023, in which Hon'ble External Affairs Minister delivered a talk and interacted with students on G20 Presidency and its Global impact. The programme was attended by around 1400 students and faculties.

(v) In continuation with the momentum built up with G20 EdWG meetings, a research conclave was organised in collaboration with Springer Nature, a globally reputed publishing house for research journals, at the Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (IMMT), Bhubaneswar on 26th August, 2023. There were about 1,000 participants in the conclave including Ph.D scholars, post-doctoral researchers, academicians, technology companies, etc. in physical mode. Topics were on themes like enhancing research landscape in India, exploring the potential of emerging technologies, advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in research and exploring ethical and social implications of science research. Hon'ble Education Minister addressed the gathering.

(vi) A review meeting was held with the DG, CPWD at the level of Secretary, Deptt. of Higher Education to review the progress of critical infrastructure of IIT, Bhilai, IIT Palakkad, IIT Jammu, IIM Sirmaur, IIM Amritsar, IISER Thiruvananthapuram, IISER Berhampur, NIT Goa and NIT Manipur. After the review meeting the matter has been taken up with the Secretary, M/o Housing and Urban Affairs vide DO letter dated 22.08.2023 for his intervention in the matter for timely completion of the projects, most of which are due for completion by 31.12.2023.

(vii) Activities related to Partition Horrors Remembrance Day on 14th August, 2023 were organised in the Universities, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Autonomous Bodies etc. One such event was five-day exhibition on the 'Story of India's Partition' organised in Bhubaneswar from 14th to 18th August 2023 by Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR). The Exhibition was inaugurated by Hon'ble Governor of Odisha and Hon'ble Minister of Education, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship. Large number of students from more than 40 schools, 12 colleges & 4 Universities around Bhubaneswar and Cuttack participated in this exhibition.

(viii) In line with the stipulations in National Education Policy, 2020 two books: "Kuwi Primer" and "Desia Primer" were released by Hon'ble Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs and the Hon'ble Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship at Bhubaneswar on 17th August, 2023. These two books will shape a strong educational foundation for 3 to 8 years children who are speaking Kuwi & Desia tribal languages in the undivided Koraput district of Odisha.

(ix) Campaign related to 'Har Ghar Tiranga' and 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' was carried out in Universities, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Autonomous Bodies etc. One such programme on "Meri Maati Mera Desh" was held in Sadashiv campus of Central Sanskrit University, Puri 17th August, 2023. Under the "**Dedication of Shilaphalakams**" and "**Vasudha Vandan**" initiatives of "Meri Maati Mera Desh", Hon'ble Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, and Hon'ble Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship installed a memorial plaque in the memory of martyrs; participated in a tree plantation event; honoured families of martyrs and freedom fighters; and administered the **Panch Pran** pledge to a large gathering during the programme. A similar programme on "Meri Maati Mera Desh" was also inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, in IIT, Bhubaneswar on 28 August, 2023.

(x) Hon'ble Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship had a meeting with the Ambassador of USA to India Mr. Eric Garcetti on 9th August 2023 in which key issues like India-US Working Group on Education and Skill Development, Student Mobility and Mutual Recognition of Qualifications, Replicating Community college model of US in India, Indo-US Global Challenge Institute and UGC regulations for establishing campuses of foreign universities etc were discussed. Another meeting of Hon'ble Education Minister was held with the Director, US National Science Foundation on 22nd August 2023. Both sides deliberated upon various issues including the Indo-US Global Challenge Institutes proposed to be established during Hon'ble PM's visit to USA in June 2023.
