

Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2019:

1. Important Policy Decisions Taken and Major Achievements During August, 2019

A. Improving access

- i. **15th SWAYAM Board Meeting was held on 14.08.2019:** Review of SWAYAM guidelines & Financial Norms was undertaken. Board approved the hosting of "D.El.Ed. Course for elementary teachers" material on SWAYAM as self-paced Teacher Refresher Course. National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has informed that they have got a very special rate for their programs on DD and got some free advertisement minutes.
- ii. **Meeting for Review of NMEICT Phase II and eSS was held on 14.08.2019:** Review of the projects that comes under the scheme NMEICT was undertaken in the meeting. Under the **Spoken Tutorial**, IT training to a large number of students through self-learning spoken tutorials is provided. Now, the Spoken Tutorials team has taken an initiative to educate health workers and lactating mothers on the topic of maternal, infant, young children on nutrition in the remote village of Maharashtra.
- iii. The Ministry, vide its Notification No. 10-26/2018-U3(A) dated 22nd August, 2019, permitted Symbiosis International (Deemed to be University), Pune, Maharashtra to start an Off-Campus Centre at Nagpur with effect from the issuance of the Notification.

B. Quality Improvement

- i. A special infrastructure review meeting in respect of IIT Bhubaneswar was held on 27.08.2019 at 2:00 PM under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Higher Education. The meeting was attended, inter-alia by Director, IIT Bhubaneswar and Chairman NBCC. The issues raised by IIT Bhubaneswar with regard to slow pace of construction and certain other issues were deliberated at length and the NBCC was directed to take expeditious remedial action.

C. Promoting Research

- i. A meeting to review the research initiatives viz. Establishment of Research Parks, (ii) IMPRINT ii) UAY (iv) PMRF, and (v) NRF was held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (HE) on 16.08.2019 at 12.30 p.m.
- ii. A meeting to review the status of IMPRINT projects was held on 20.08.2019 at 03.00 pm under the Chairmanship of AS(TE), in his chamber. Director, IIT-Kanpur had attended the meeting in person.
- iii. For implementation of Scheme "National Research Foundation", DPR prepared in consultation with IIT-Delhi. A draft CEE Note for the scheme is under preparation.