

Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2020:

1. Important Policy Decisions Taken and Major Achievements During November, 2020

A. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Addressed 51st Annual Convocation of IIT Delhi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inspired students with his powerful words at the 51st convocation ceremony of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi. He gave IITians the mantra of quality, scalability, reliability and adaptability. Some of the key highlights are mentioned below:

- Urged the graduates to recognize the needs of the country.
- Underscored the importance of the Atmanirbhar campaign. He said Atmanirbhar campaign is a mission that gives opportunities to youth, technocrats, and tech-enterprise leaders of the country.
- Covered the importance of Digital India, start-up ventures in India, and the importance of technological advancements in India.
- He said that today's India is committed to provide 'ease of doing business' to its youth, so they can focus on bringing 'ease of living' to the countrymen.

B. Centre of Excellence for Indian Knowledge Systems at IIT Kharagpur

IIT Kharagpur has announced setting up of a Centre of Excellence for Indian Knowledge System. The aim is to trace the philosophical and scientific heritage of India and assess the application of Indology to the contemporary human world. It also aims to revive the interest of students and faculty in Indian heritage and recreate a comprehensive and positive atmosphere of research in this area.

C. QS World University Ranking 2021- IIT Bombay 1st In India, 172 In World

IIT Bombay has secured first position in India and 172nd rank this year in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings (2021). A total of eight Indian institutes have found their place in the top 500.

D. UGC Issues Guidelines for Re-opening the Universities and Colleges Post Lockdown due to COVID-19 Pandemic

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued guidelines for the reopening of universities and colleges across the nation. UGC guidelines suggest six-day weeks and smaller class sizes in order to enable social distancing. Teaching hours in a day may be extended, as per the institution's requirements.

As per the new UGC guidelines for colleges, universities and colleges outside the containment zone can be opened in a sequential manner after consultation with the respective state/UT governments. The guidelines may be adopted by the institutions as per the local conditions and directives of the government authorities.

The detailed guideline are at https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/1360511_UCG-Guidelines-for-Re-opening-of-Universities-and-Colleges.pdf

E. Minister of Education launches Lilavati Award-2020: AICTE's Innovative education program to empower women

Education Minister virtually launched Lilavati Award-2020 an AICTE's Innovative education program to empower women. With women empowerment as the theme, the objective of the award is to create awareness about issues like sanitation, hygiene, health, nutrition, literacy, and employment among women.

The award covers multidisciplinary areas (sub themes) such as women's health, self defense, sanitation, literacy, entrepreneurship and legal awareness.

Entries for Lilavati Award 2020 can be submitted at institution or team level, comprising students or faculty or both from AICTE approved institutions.

The eligible entries received from different institutions will be evaluated by a committee and the winning team will get certificates for first, second and third rank under sub themes.