

TRIPURA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL
EDUCATION (HIGHER) DEPARTMENT

Proceedings of the 1st meeting of the "Tripura State Higher Education Council"
(TSHEC) held in the RUSA Conference Hall, Directorate of Higher Education,
Shiksha Bhavan on 26.03.2021 at 3.00 PM.

01/01/03/21 Prof. Arunoday Saha, the Chairperson, Tripura State Higher Education Council (TSHEC) presided over the meeting. He welcomed heartily all the council members. The members present in the meeting were as follows:

1. Prof. Arunoday Saha, Chairperson, (TSHEC)
2. Prof. Satyadeo Poddar, Vice-Chancellor, MBB University
3. Prof. Sankar Nath, IIT, Kharagpur, West Bengal
4. Dr. Bhabatosh Saha, President, Tripura Board of Secondary Education
5. Dr. Biswajit Saha, Director, (Prog. & Trg.) CBSE, New Delhi
6. Smt. Manideepa Debbarma, Principal, Womens' College
7. Dr. Dipannita Chakraborty, Principal, MBB College
8. Smt. Sutirtha Paul, Jt. Director, Skill Development (*in absence of Dr. Sandeep N. Mahatme, Director, Skill Development*)
9. Dr. Ratan Deb, Associate Professor, Ramthakur College
10. Dr. Jahar Saha, Retd. Associated Professor
11. Shri Aparesh Paul, Artist,
12. Shri Saju Vaheed A, Member-Secretary.

The members absent in the meeting were as follows:

1. Prof. Avik Gupta, Vice-Chairperson
2. Representative of Ministry of Education, Govt. of India,
3. Dr (Mrs) Radha Debbarma, Director (Health Deptt.)
4. Prof. Sugata Marjit, Ex-Chairman, West Bengal Higher Education Council
5. Miss Deepa Karmakar (Padmashree)

02/01/03/21 The Chairperson, TSHEC on the onset of the meeting informed that the TSHEC is an autonomous body formed vide the Tripura State Higher Education Council Act, 2019 and consists of 17(seventeen) members. He also highlighted the fact that out of the 17 members, one member is a 'Padmashri' awardee, one member is a 'Bhatnagar' awardee, one member is a Vice-Chancellor, two members are former Vice-Chancellors, one member is a Board President, 10 members are Ph.D. holders, one member is a Doctor, two members are IAS officers and four members are women; which makes it a heavy weight high profile Council.

03/01/03/21 The Chairperson informed that as per provision of the TSHEC Act, 2019 and TSHEC Rules, 2019, the budget estimates of income and expenditure for the coming

year needs to be laid down before the Council for approval before the 31st March every year. As such, this is the primary objective for convening the council meeting.

04/01/03/21 Shri Saju Vaheed, the Member-Secretary, TSHEC briefly talked about the commencement and growth of RUSA scheme as an important part in the higher education scenario of Tripura as well as the funding received through its various components and the wide variety of activities undertaken in the colleges during the last seven years through an elaborate PowerPoint presentation. The hardcopy of the PowerPoint presentation is enclosed herewith.

05/01/03/21 The presentation included vital information on the scope of availing grants under RUSA through 14 nos. of components and the basic eligibility required to avail those grants. The Department has, till now, availed funds through RUSA 1.0 and RUSA 2.0 under grants like Infrastructure grant, preparatory grant, MMER grant, New Model Degree College (NDMC) grant and Up-gradation of existing Degree colleges to MDC grant. The details of the sanction and utilization of the funds were highlighted in the presentation. The total amount of grant received under various components of RUSA w.e.f. 2014 till date amounts to Rs. 56,94,51,335/- (Rupees fifty-six crore ninety-four lakhs fifty-one thousand three hundred and thirty-five), out of which Utilization Certificate of Rs. 33.09 crore (Rupees thirty-three crore and nine lakhs) has already been submitted.

06/01/03/21 Shri Saju Vaheed, the Member-Secretary then emphasized on the achievements under RUSA, major initiatives taken, reforms to be achieved under RUSA in Tripura, constraints being faced in connection with RUSA works and proposals for RUSA scheme in the light of National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. He stressed on the fact that the Department is working with some specific aims and objectives including NAAC accreditation for all colleges, converting some colleges to autonomous colleges, to start PG courses in some colleges, to increase GER from the existing rate of 19.1 to 30 within the next ten years, to encourage more private colleges, to reduce the drop-out rate, to encourage online management of admission and office activities through HRMS software through the 'Manav Sampada' project, to conduct more numbers of exposure visits and to undertake a wide variety of developmental activities in the colleges and other institutions.

07/01/03/21 The RUSA budget for the financial year 2021-22 was then placed before the Council. The available balance fund under the Preparatory Grant (Rs.63,65,166.00) and MMER Grant (Rs.10,43,505.00) totaling to Rs.74,08,671.00 (Rupees seventy-four lakhs eight thousand six hundred and seventy-one) is the Opening Fund for the financial year 2021-22, which was proposed to be spent for the following Expenditure Heads:

Sl.No.	Expenditure Head	Proposed Expenditure Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	Proposed Expenditure (in Percentage)
1	Workshop	10.00	13.51 %
2	Training	5.00	6.76 %
3	Printing and Documentation	6.00	8.11 %
4	Baseline survey	0	0 %
5	Consultancy charges	20.00	27.02 %
6	Travel	20.00	27.02 %
7	Boarding and Lodging	5.00	6.76 %
8	Incidentals	8.00	10.81 %
Total :		74.00	100 %

However, the Chairperson and other members requested the Council to increase the budget to Rs.1.00 crore and accordingly, suggested some changes in the head-wise allotment, which is as follows:

Sl. No.	Expenditure Head	Proposed Expenditure Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	Proposed Expenditure (in Percentage)
1	Workshop	30.00	30 %
2	Training	5.00	5 %
3	Printing and Documentation	6.00	6 %
4	Baseline survey	2.00	2 %
5	Consultancy charges	20.00	20 %
6	Travel	20.00	20 %
7	Boarding and Lodging	5.00	5 %
8	Incidentals	12.00	12 %
Total :		100.00	100 %

The proposed budget with expenditure for the financial year 2021-22 for Infrastructure Grant and MDC Grant of RUSA is:

Sl.No.	Expenditure Head	Opening Balance	Proposed Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)
1	NDMC	Rs. 17,13,39,325/-	17.13
2	Infrastructure Grant	Rs. 9,87,13,912/-	9.87
Total :		Rs. 27,00,53,237/-	27.00

The budget along with the Expenditure Statement has been unanimously approved and passed.

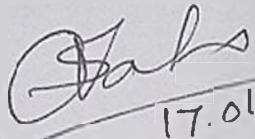
08/01/03/21 The Council members then had a threadbare discussion on various issues regarding the follow-up actions to be taken up by the Council and quite a few activities were short-listed, which are as follows:

- a) Developmental activities are to be taken up on priority basis for the colleges which are presently approaching for NAAC accreditation. A token amount or, seed money will be diverted to those colleges for the purpose.
- b) The Council would propose for Post-Graduate courses in the Colleges / Institutions, in subjects like Bengali, English, Economics and Statistics in MBB College, Women's College, ICV College, Belonia and GDC, Dharmanagar. Additional Guest Faculties may be taken for running the PG courses.
- c) A dedicated website would be launched for the Tripura State Higher Education Council.
- d) The Council would look into the matter of whether or not the short-term courses in the colleges can be run through RUSA funding.
- e) Various developmental & educational activities would be launched in the colleges / institutions, especially those in the rural areas with the help of Deptt. of Skill Development, like arranging workshops and awareness campaigns in the colleges. The Council would chalk out a plan to visit the rural colleges along with officials of Skill Development Deptt. for making necessary arrangements in this regard.
- f) Prayers of some of the fixed staff of RUSA for enhancement of their fixed pay were placed. Resolved that after completion of one year of service by them in the Council, the prayer be placed again in the meeting of the Council for consideration.


09/01/03/21 Prof. Arunoday Saha, Chairman, TSHEC mentioned that the office of the TSHEC is housed on the Birchandra State Central Public Library building, at a different location away from the Shiksha Bhawan. Presently the Council office is functioning with the Chairman, a P.S. and one Class IV staff only. It was therefore, proposed to shift the RUSA office with its dedicated staff to the Council for better and smooth functioning for the activities of the Council as mandated by the Tripura State Higher Education Council Act, 2019 as passed by the Legislative Assembly of Tripura.

Resolved that the services of the supporting staff of RUSA be placed under TSHE Council and they will have seats under the same roof of the Council housed in Birchandra State Central Public Library building.

However, there are some major issues discussed in the meeting, which needs to be decided at the level of the Government. As such, the major issues discussed in the meeting will be placed for appraisal of the Government. The meeting ended with thanks from the Chairperson to all the Council Members.


17.04.2021

(Prof. Arunoday Saha)
Chairperson
Tripura State Higher Education Council
Tripura


16/4/21

(Saju Vaheed A.)
Member-Secretary
Tripura State Higher Education Council
Tripura

TRIPURA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL
EDUCATION (HIGHER) DEPARTMENT

No.F.1(121)-SPD/RUSA/2021/

Dated, Agartala the 17.04.2021

To

All Members of Tripura State Higher Education Council