

TRIPURA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

Proceedings of the 2nd meeting of the "Tripura State Higher Education Council" (TSHEC) held in the RUSA Conference Hall, Directorate of Higher Education, Shiksha Bhavan on 27.08.2021 at 12.30 P.M.

01/02/08/21 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 either in person or, through virtual platform were as follows:

1. Prof. Arunoday Saha, Chairperson.
2. Prof. Avik Gupta, Vice-Chairperson..... (Virtual)
3. Shri N. C. Sharma, Member-Secretary.
4. Prof. Sankar Nath, IIT, Kharagpur, West Bengal..... (Virtual).
5. Dr. Biswajit Saha, Director, (Prog. & Trg.) CBSE, New Delhi..... (Virtual).
6. Dr. Dipannita Chakraborty, Principal, MBB College.
7. Dr. Ratan Deb, Associate Professor, Ramthakur College.
8. Dr. Jahar Saha, Retd. Associate Professor.

The members absent in the meeting were as follows:

1. Representative of Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.
2. Prof. Satyadeo Poddar, Vice-Chancellor, MBB University.
3. Prof. Sugata Marjit, Ex-Chairman, West Bengal Higher Education Council.
4. Dr. Bhabatosh Saha, President, Tripura Board of Secondary Education.
5. Dr (Mrs) Radha Debbarma, Director (Health Deptt.).
6. Director (Skill Development).
7. Smt. Manideepa Debbarma, Principal, Women's College.
8. Miss Deepa Karmakar (Padmashree).
9. Shri Aparesh Paul, Artist.

02/02/08/21 The Chairperson, TSHEC at the outset of the meeting welcomed all the participants and after a brief introduction, informed that due to ongoing pandemic situation prevailing in the State, there was an inadvertent delay in convening the 2nd meeting of the Tripura State Higher Education Council.

03/02/08/21 Shri N. C. Sharma, the Member-Secretary, TSHEC after welcoming all the online and offline participants briefly talked about the recent developments and the activities undertaken in the colleges under the RUSA scheme. The hardcopy of the PowerPoint presentation given by the Member-Secretary is enclosed herewith.

04/02/08/21 The presentation included the action taken report on the decisions taken in the 1st meeting of the Tripura State Higher Education Council. In connection with activities to be taken up for the colleges which are presently approaching for NAAC accreditation, it was stated that NAAC peer-team would visit GDC Khumulwng in September, 2021. Expenses of transportation of the team members would be incurred from the available Preparatory Fund under RUSA. The same would be done during expected visits of NAAC peer-team in GDC, Gandachherra & GDC, Santirbazar.

With regard to the proposal for introduction of Post-Graduate courses in the Colleges, it was reported that two committees were constituted to visit the Colleges, and after visiting those Colleges, the Committees submitted their recommendations. Decision has been taken by the Department to start further PG Courses only after getting approval to fill up 168 vacancies in Asst. Professor in General Degree Colleges. The Hon'ble Education Minister has also directed to move the file to Finance Department for filling up of 168 posts of Asst. Professor. The Member-Secretary also stated that Quotation was called for developing a website for TSHEC and finalization of the tender is under process.

05/02/08/21 The presentation also included details of the sanction and utilization of the funds. 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. 44.42 crore (Rupees forty-four crore and forty-two lakhs) has already been submitted.

06/02/08/21 Shri N. C. Sharma, the Member-Secretary then emphasized on the achievements, initiatives and developmental activities taken up in the Colleges under RUSA and also informed that the funds approved under RUSA 2.0 would be released under RUSA 3.0 within a few months. He urged that skill developmental activities should be taken up by the Council on priority basis.

07/02/08/21 The Chairperson placed before the Council the developments taking place regarding the issue of introduction of Post Graduate Courses in some of the Degree Colleges. In the last meeting of the Council held on 26.03.2021 it was resolved that the Council would propose for Post Graduate Courses in the Colleges / Institutions in subjects like Bengali, English, Economics, Statistics in MBB College, Women's College, ICV College, Belonia, NSM, Udaipur, RKM, Kailasahar and GDC Dharmanagar. Additional Guest Faculties may be taken up for running the P.G. Course. Two Committees were accordingly constituted to ascertain the feasibility of starting the P.G. Courses in the Colleges.

The Committees duly constituted visited the colleges off line and online and recommended the introduction of P.G. Courses in few Colleges under the Directorate of Higher Education.

The entire matter was placed before the Department through the Member-Secretary for approval. But it appears that the Department has taken a view regarding deficiency of faculty members in Colleges and stressed upon filling up of the vacant posts.

The Chairman of the Council while deliberating on the issue laid down before the Council, a letter written by him to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Tripura on the introduction of P.G courses in some of the colleges dated 20.08.2021.

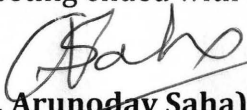
However, the Council unanimously observed that introduction of PG course in Colleges is a long pending demand and in order to get good NAAC score and tapping fund from various sources like UGC, RUSA under PG specific schemes, introduction of PG course is the need of the hour. Therefore, the Council resolved that the Department

should take proactive steps to sort out all the hurdles, like filling up of vacant post, creation of infrastructure, purchase of books required to start the Master's programme in 6 Colleges, as proposed at the earliest.

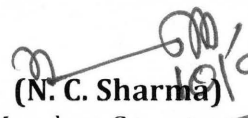
08/02/08/21 The Council members then had a threadbare discussion on various issues regarding the follow-up actions to be taken up by the Council and quite a few activities were short-listed, which are as follows:

- a) Due to introduction of IMD courses under MBB University, Chemistry (Hons) and Commerce (Hons) courses have been cut off from the MBB College and BBM College. So, these subjects may be re-introduced in these colleges for benefit of students and also as it would facilitate in getting NAAC accreditation.
- b) The MBB College would be completing 75 years of its existence this year, which may be commemorated by the Council by undertaking befitting activities in the College.
- c) Ram Krishna Mahavidyalaya, Kailashahar has requested for introduction of PG courses. As such, the name of this college may also be added to the list of colleges proposed for introducing PG courses.
- d) The Quarterly Newsletter would be launched soon. All the members were requested to submit their literary works for publishing in the Newsletter. The Member-Secretary suggested that "Review of National Educational Policy (NEP), 2020" may be the theme for the first issue of the Newsletter.
- e) Regarding the appeal for enhancement of pay of 2(two) nos. of fixed-pay staff (Data Entry Operators) engaged under TSHEC, it was decided that their performance would be assessed by a Performance Appraisal Committee and based on recommendation of the Committee, they would be engaged as Project Assistant immediately after completion of 11 months of service to be rendered by them. The outsourcing agency SoFED would accordingly be informed about their engagement.

The meeting ended with thanks from the Chairperson to all the Council Members.


(Prof. Arunoday Saha) 24.9.21.
Chairperson

Tripura State Higher Education Council
Tripura


(N. C. Sharma) 19/9/21.
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 _____ 2021

To:

All Members _____