

Minutes of the first meeting of the State Higher Education Council held on 23.01.2014 at Prayas Bhawan, Govt. College Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh

The first meeting of State Higher Education Council (SHEC) under RUSA was held on 23-01-2014 in the Prayas Bhawan of Government College Dharamshala, under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Sh. Virbhadra Singh, which was attended by the following members of the council:-

1. Mr. Timothy A. Gonsalves (Vice-Chairman) The Director, I.I.T, Mandi, H.P.
2. Shri P.Mitra, The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
3. Shri Vineet Chaudhary, Additional- Chief Secretary, Horticulture, Govt. of H.P.
4. Shri Ali Raza Rizvi, Principal Secretary, Education, Govt. of H.P.
5. Dr. Vijay Singh Thakur, Vice- Chancellor, Y.S. Parmar University of Hort. & Forestry, Nauni, Dist. Solan H.P.
6. Prof. A.D.N. Bajpayee Vice-Chancellor, H.P. University, Shimla-5.
7. Dr. Krishan K. Katoch Vice-Chancellor, CSKKV, Palampur, Dist. Kangra (H.P.).
8. Shri Rajeshwar Goel, Director, Technical Education, Sunder Nagar, Dist. Mandi.
9. Shri. S.B. Sekhri, Director of Hr. Education, H.P. Govt. -cum-Member-Secretary.
10. Dr. Joginder Singh Negi, The Principal Govt. College Sanjauli.
11. Dr. Ajay Lakhanpal, The Principal, GCTE, Dharamshala.

The meeting began with a warm welcome to the Hon'ble Chief Minister and other members by the Member Secretary (SHEC)-cum-Director of Higher Education. At the very outset, the Member Secretary presented the capsule summary of State Higher Education Plan which included agenda, introduction to RUSA, objectives of RUSA and State Higher Education Plan of Himachal Pradesh. Subsequently, the Member Secretary presented the component-wise plan which was left open for discussion in the house. The discussion included the following eighteen components alongwith other agenda items:

1. The first component was titled as 'Creation of Universities by way of up-gradation of existing autonomous colleges'. In this connection, the house felt that the State does not qualify for this component as there is no autonomous college existing in the state and under such circumstances no such university could be proposed to be created.
2. The second component dealt with the creation of universities by conversion of Colleges in a cluster, in which it was proposed that three such Cluster Universities can be created at Shimla, Mandi and Dharamshala by clubbing 3 to 5 nearby colleges if the distance criteria of 15-20 Kms is relaxed as laid down under RUSA norms. If norms are not relaxed then such an University can be established only at Shimla by clubbing the infrastructure of existing three Govt. Colleges and a private aided College.

The council approved the proposal of grant of 20 crores each for H.P. University Shimla and Himachal Pradesh Technical University, Hamirpur for upgradation of libraries, laboratories, equipments, hostels and toilets etc.

4. The fourth component was regarding establishment of two New Model Colleges and it was unanimously decided that the proposed colleges will be opened at Sarahan in dist. Sirmour and Chhatrari in dist. Chamba.

5. The fifth component of the plan dealt with the upgradation of existing degree colleges to 'Model Degree Colleges' and it was decided that the colleges namely Sangrah (Dist. Sirmour), Tissa (Dist. Chamba) and Recong Peo (Dist. Kinnaur) be upgraded.

6. The sixth component of the plan spoke about opening of a 'New Professional College' in District Kangra and was recommended by the house.

7. The seventh component of the plan was 'Infrastructure Grants to Colleges' to the tune of maximum of Rs. 2 crores for each College to address their critical needs in institutional infrastructure, especially for creating/upgrading laboratories, libraries, hostels, toilets etc which was approved for 67 Degree Colleges, 05 Govt. Sanskrit Colleges, 05 Govt. Aided Colleges, 02 Engineering Colleges and 07 constituent colleges of H.P. University.

8. The eighth component 'Research, Innovation and Quality improvement' was discussed in detail and it was approved by the council, that State would receive Rs. 120 crores to facilitate research and innovation such as financial support for research hubs/parks, procurement of high quality e-resources, upgrade library and laboratory facility, grants for conducting outstanding research etc.

9. 'Equity Initiatives' were proposed in the ninth component of the plan and they were also approved by the house as proposed. Under this component the State will receive Rs. 5 crores for equity initiatives such as creation of Equal Opportunities Cell, Gender Sensitization Campaign, Remedial Classes, Language Labs etc.

10. Keeping in view the shortage of the staff in educational institutions (Colleges and Universities) under the tenth component of the plan 1000 positions in the category of Assistant Professors was approved. Out of these, 231 positions are in HPU and the remaining 769 positions are proposed to be created/provided for Govt. Degree Colleges/Skt. Colleges/Engineering Colleges.

11. 'Faculty Improvement' as part of the eleventh component of the plan with the objective for improving academic and pedagogical skills of teachers was also offered. Under this component, it was decided that such programmes will be executed by strengthening ASC, HPU

Shimla, SCERT Solan and GCTE Dharamshala. Fund of Rs.10.00 crore has been earmarked for each identified State under this component.

12. It was proposed in the twelfth component that higher education should be vocationalised and it was approved by the house that appropriate courses should be introduced in different colleges in a phased manner. Fund of Rs.15.00 crore has been earmarked for identified State under this component.

13. 'Leadership Development of Education Administrators' was desired and proposed in thirteenth component of the plan was discussed in total. Under this component, it was proposed that educational administrators will be sent for training to improve their skills in the field of planning and administration. It was agreed upon and approved as proposed for Rs. 5.00 crore for State, out of total Rs. 100.00 crore, earmarked for centrally administering, leadership training and development programmes.

14. Some 'Institutional Reconstructing Reforms' were proposed in fourteenth component and the proposal was accepted and approved by the house without any alteration. The State Council approved to utilize 50-60% of first installment of Rs. 10.00 crore available under this component for constructing suitable infrastructure providing space for SHEC, State Project Directorate to carry on various activities smoothly from its own premises.

15. In the chain of components, the fifteenth component dealt with the 'Capacity Building and Preparation, Data Collection and Planning'. The house approved this component as proposed for Rs.10 crore in two installments.

16. The sixteenth component shall be centrally administered. The MIS will be designed, developed and implemented centrally. Rs. 10.00 crore will be provided to each State under this component which is restricted to maximum for 20 identified States. However, Rs. 2 crore will be provided to the State for covering recurring expenditure/ maintenance of MIS which has been discussed and approved as proposed.

17. There is a provision of 'Support to Polytechnics' under RUSA and it was made clear in seventeenth component of the document that the State has already availed financial support under existing scheme of 12th Five Year Plan. Therefore, no new proposals can be made out.

18. The last and eighteenth component of the plan was about 'Management, Monitoring Evaluation and Research' which was also approved as proposed for 1% of the total outlay of RUSA for the State for creation and maintenance of 'Technical Support Group' at the state level, administrative expenses etc. Under this component total Rs. 36.78 crore has been proposed by the State for 12th Five Year Plan.

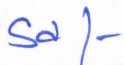
Apart from this other agenda items were also discussed in detail as under:

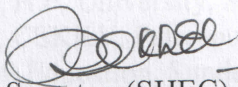
The matter of contribution of State Share (10%) from the State exchequer for RUSA related activities was discussed in detail and the Member Secretary, State Higher Education Council (SHEC) sought the approval to allocate 10% amount of State Higher Education Plan as State Share within stipulated period under RUSA which was approved by the Council.

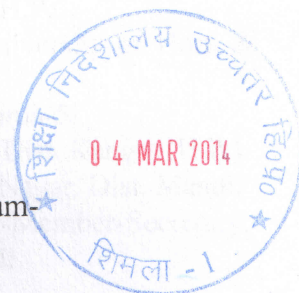
The GOI has approved Rs. 8.00 crore for preparatory grant under RUSA to be released to the State in two equal installments of Rs. 4.00 crore (Rs. 3.60 crore by GOI & Rs. 0.40 Crore by the State) each for the basic infrastructure, equipments and amenities for the RUSA Cell which is likely to be upgraded as State Project Directorate. The Council approved to utilize the said amount as per norms.

Finally the house was adjourned with a vote of thanks to the Hon'ble chairman and other members by the Director IIT Mandi.

Approved by


Chairman(SHEC)-cum-
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Himachal Pradesh.


Member Secretary(SHEC)-cum-
Director of Higher Education
Himachal Pradesh.

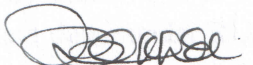


Endst. No. EDN-H(28)A(4)-5/2014-RUSA

Dated January, 2014.

Copy for information to:-

1. The Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2.
2. The Vice-Chairman-cum -Director, I.I.T. Mandi, Distt. Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.
3. The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2.
4. The Principal Secretary (Finance) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2.
5. The Principal Secretary (Education) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2.
6. The Principal Secretary (Tech.Edu) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2.
7. The Principal Secretary (Agriculture) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2.
8. The Principal Secretary (Horticulture) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2.
9. The Vice Chancellor, Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan.
10. The Vice Chancellor, H.P. University, Shimla-5.
11. The Vice Chancellor, CSK H.P. Krishi Vishavvidyalaya, Palampur, Distt. Kangra, H.P.
12. The Director of Technical Education, Sundernagar, Distt. Mandi.
13. The Director of Higher Education, H.P. Shimla-1.
14. The Additional Director of Higher Education, H.P. Shimla-1.
15. The Principal, Govt. College, Sanjauli, Shimla.
16. The Principal, SCERT, Solan.
17. The Principal, GCTE Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra, H.P.
18. Guard file.


Member Secretary-cum-
Director of Higher Education
Himachal Pradesh.

o/c