



Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Higher Education Department
Civil Secretariat, Srinagar/Jammu.

**Minutes of the meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary to
Government Higher Education Department on 23-03-2019 at A.S College
Srinagar**

An introductory interactive meeting with the Principals of Govt. Degree Colleges of Kashmir Division was held under the Chairmanship of **Sh. Talat Parvez Rohella, KAS, Secretary to Govt., Higher Education Department, J&K at A.S. College Srinagar on 23-03-2019.** Among others, the following officers attended the said meeting:

1. **Mohammed Shafiq Chak, KAS, Director, RUSA.**
2. **Mohammed Yaseen Shah, Director, Colleges J&K**
3. **G.M. Ganaie, Director, Planning Higher Education Department.**
4. **Shabir Ahmed Baba, Under Secretary, Higher Education Department.**

While sharing his vision for Higher Education in a brain storming session, the Secretary (HED) discussed the issues pertaining to the enhancement of quality education in higher education sector of Kashmir valley. The main focus of the meeting was to discuss and device strategies and policies in academics that would help improve the standard of higher education, improvise the present state of education in tune with the development of information technology and bring higher education to a level where it would cater to the industry/trade sector as well as generate employment opportunities for the youth of the valley.

1. **NAAC Accreditation**

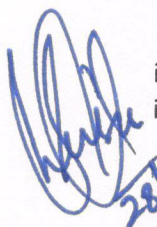
In connection with the Degree Colleges undergoing NAAC accreditation, the Secretary HED was informed that out of 50 colleges of Kashmir Division, 14 are already NAAC accredited. However, the case of 23 colleges is under process at different stages and 13 colleges are ineligible for applying for accreditation. It was directed that a detailed development plan be submitted by the concerned college committees to the department of Higher Education for special assistance to fulfil the criteria for successful NAAC accreditation. The Secretary (HED) assured all support to these colleges and stressed that such plans should primarily focus on academics followed by other related aspects of NAAC preparations. It was also suggested that the plan should also be judiciously prepared as per the respective resources of the colleges.

Action by: Admn. Deptt. /Principals

2. **Introduction of new courses/subjects in existing colleges**

It was recommended that the courses to be introduced should:

- i) Cater to the job market by providing employability.
- ii) Be made on the basis of resources of colleges.


28/3

- iii) Be based on demand by students whereby the minimum number of students shall be 20 or more, and

Initially the faculty may be arranged on academic basis and as the demand increases, permanent faculty shall be deputed accordingly.

All the Principals shall submit proposals to the Director Colleges J&K, who shall scrutinize these proposals and recommend the same with necessary comments to the Department of Higher Education for placing before the committee constituted vide Govt. Order No:695-HE of 2017 Dated:- 19-12-2017.

Besides above, the committee comprising of Director, Colleges, J&K, Nodal Principal, A.S. College Srinagar, and Principal, Govt. Women College Srinagar has been constituted, who shall submit a report to the Administrative Department regarding the introduction of Environmental Science as one of the core subjects in the degree colleges of the state.

Action by: Admn. Deptt. /Director Colleges/Principals

3. Engagement of faculty on academic arrangement for current academic session

The Secretary, HED emphasized the need to rationalise the teaching staff keeping in view the student enrolment and also the college resources. The assessment of staff requirement must be done at the beginning of the academic session for the current session and the information be submitted expeditiously for the current academic session. Further, academic arrangement shall be reviewed by the Department of Higher Education and directives shall be followed accordingly.

Action by: Director Colleges/Principals

4. Shifting of New Govt. Women College Srinagar from A.S. College Campus

The Secretary, HED was informed that the infrastructure and other necessary facilities of New Women's College Srinagar, Batpora have reach been accomplished. Hence, it was decided that the college shall be entirely shifted from Amar Singh College campus to its new building at Batpora. However, the students who are presently enrolled in this college shall be adjusted in the nearby colleges i.e, Amar Singh College/Women's College Nawakadal Srinagar as per their convenience.

Action by: Principals A.S College/W.C.Nawakadal/GCW(New)

5. Status of the 52 newly Established Degree Colleges

While assessing the status of the newly sanctioned 52 degree colleges, it was implored that the academic session shall only be started in those colleges where:

- i) the land has been identified and acquired and,
- ii) the temporary accommodations have been identified.

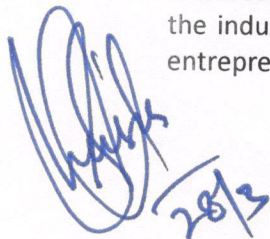
The colleges fulfilling these two criteria shall initiate process of affiliation with the concerned universities. The committee consisting of Director, Colleges, Principal Women's College Srinagar and Principal, Govt. Degree College, Anantnag shall examine the introduction of subjects in these newly sanctioned colleges of Kashmir Division.

Action by: All concerned Principals (Nodal Officers)

6. Vocationalisation of Education in Higher Education

One of the main recommendations made was with regard to vocationalisation of Higher Education for quality enhancement and employability. In this regard it was also remarked that technical, IT based, and other skill based education may be introduced/promoted after active consultation with the industrial/trade/service/corporate sector of the valley. Also, centers of innovation, incubation and entrepreneurship may be set up to explore the future prospects for the valley youth.

Action by: Admn. Deptt. /Director Colleges/Principals



7. Career Counselling and Placement in Higher Education.

The Secretary, HED emphasized the need to create Career Counseling and Placement Centers/Cells/Committees in each college to help students in finding eligible jobs and employment opportunities, and to keep track of the student progression. These cells shall explore possible tie-ups, industrial trainings, opportunities etc. Special Secretary (HED) and Nodal Principals shall submit report to Secretary HED fortnightly on functioning of these cells.

Action by: Admn. Deptt. /Director Colleges/Principals

8. SVEEP

Keeping in view of the forthcoming elections, the Secretary, HED directed the principals to organize election related activities in their respective colleges to educate young voters about the importance of their vote. In connection with Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation, it was recommended that activities within campuses to be taken up to utilise the funds amounting to ₹50,000 granted under this head by 31st March 2019.

Action by: Admn. Deptt. /Director Colleges/Principals

9. Review of Approved Developmental Activities with Present Status

In connection with the status of ongoing developmental activities in various colleges, it was directed that a detailed DPR be submitted to the Department of Higher Education. The detailed project reports shall include all components like civil works, library development, equipments up-gradation, furniture, and other requirements.

Action by: Admn. Deptt. /Director Colleges/Principals

10. Status of RUSA

With regards the status of RUSA in valley colleges, inputs/issues/problems shall be submitted/communicated to the Director RUSA.

Action by: Admn. Deptt. /Director RUSA/Principals

11. Status of the Internal Complaints Committees against sexual harassment in colleges following Vishakha Judgement

Secretary, HED impressed upon the College Principals to ensure the establishment and proper working of Internal Complaints Committees against Sexual Harassment in lieu of the Vishakha Judgement.

Action by: Admn. Deptt. /Director Colleges/Principals

12. Observance of Punctuality Week from 1-5 April 2019

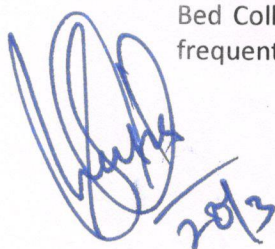
It was directed that all valley colleges shall strictly observe Punctuality Week in campuses for faculty and students. Various activities to be undertaken shall include sloganeering, debates/seminars, advertisement in media, painting/art competitions, threadbare discussions, or observance of a "No Leave Week", etc. The principals were directed to ensure attendance from 10 AM to 4 PM during that week which is to be submitted to the Department of Higher Education.

Action by: Admn. Deptt. /Director Colleges/Principals

13. Faculty Improvement Programmes

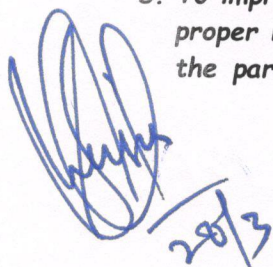
With regard to Faculty Improvement Programme it was directed the colleges in general and Bed College in particular shall take up the task of conducting faculty improvement programmes on a frequent basis. These programmes shall be organised in collaboration with RUSA.

Action by: Principals/Principal B-Ed College Srinagar



The Secretary (HED) also made some valuable suggestions for improving the quality of academics and college life for making a remarkable contribution to society:

1. To follow the standards of education in developed world, colleges should come up with healthy initiatives to establish specialised clubs like Chemistry club, mathematical society, literary society, physics club, etc. The colleges should also facilitate the creation of non-academic clubs like Eco-club, socio-clubs, sports clubs, debating clubs, art related clubs to allow students to explore their hidden talents and vocations. Such healthy initiatives will help in personality development of students and simultaneously free learning/teaching from monotony and routine of academics. The following Degree colleges shall commence the process in the first instance:-
 - a) Govt. College for Women Srinagar.
 - b) Govt. Degree College (Boys) Baramulla.
 - c) Govt. Degree College (Boys) Anantnag.
 - d) Govt. Degree College Pulwama.
 - e) Govt. Degree College Leh.
2. The colleges shall devise student/faculty exchange or mobilisation programmes within the state colleges and with outside the state institutions at national/international level. Such healthy practices including outside-campus projects, internships, short programmes, stay in Out-campuses, etc would incorporate dynamism in our students and faculty and help in achieving integration, exposure and inclusiveness.
3. Technology, methodology and ideology to be mixed in academics for fruitful outcomes. In particular, IT inclusion be prioritised in valley colleges by constituting IT cells, use of ICT, creation of E-content, establishment of smart classrooms, etc. The IT cells to be made into custodians and repositories of knowledge for access to our students.
4. The Principals of the valley colleges were advised to change the paradigm of academics by putting more focus on applied aspects of education. This would achieve two objectives: firstly, the students will be groomed in such a way so as to rely on self-learning. Secondly, focusing on the practical/applied aspect, teaching/learning would yield higher outcomes in terms of employment generation and contribution to improving the standard of life, thereby, making each institution a cradle for societal change.
5. It was also recommended that each valley institution shall find out its greatest potential and convert that into an asset by applying their potential as specialised institutions and convert the college into a centre of excellence in that particular field.
6. The college Principals were also directed to explore the possibility of setting up coaching centres within campuses that would cater to various competitive exams and specified programmes. It was suggested that coaching by college faculty could be provided for Company secretary ship, Chartered Accountancy, etc.
7. It was also suggested that the College Principals may take time from their schedules to participate in academic activities by being willing to take up class work in their respective fields. They would bring their experience into the academics and also be abreast with the practical problems faced by students/teachers in learning/teaching.
8. To improve the teaching/learning outcomes of higher education, it was recommended that a proper method of assessment of students be devised and put in place to objectively assess the parameters of education and offer remedial interventions as and when required. The



- assessment shall have two components: internal and external. The weightage of internal assessment component is to be increased so as to increase the attendance within colleges.
9. It was also suggested that programme specific and course specific outcomes shall be made uniform for all colleges in consultation with the affiliating universities.
 10. Another important suggestion that came out of the deliberations during the interactive meet was the conduct of "academic audit".
 11. For capacity building of faculty members of the colleges, it was recommended that the trio-principles of Spark, Impression and Leave be followed so as to allow the teaching fraternity to develop properly.
 12. It was also suggested that a linkage be created with state higher education and global/national flagship programmes.
 13. To cater to the valley circumstance, it was suggested that youth engagement programmes be devised that would be valid and relevant for the division.
 14. It was suggested that Parent-teacher meets be organised in colleges to ensure full participation of all stakeholders in the academics.
 15. A system of software to monitor the student attendance shall be introduced in colleges and the progress and punctuality of their wards shall be shared with the parents.
 16. To contribute to the proper behavioural development of our students and to contribute towards the society, it was suggested that projects/case studies be taken up on rising social issues like drug abuse, female infanticide, etc. Such initiatives would turn the colleges into "centres for research on life".
 17. It was remarked that Principals have to be very instrumental in popularising Organic concepts through projects on organic research. By organising workshops, seminars, etc the colleges can contribute towards building up the capacities of our youth as well as faculty for a better and bright educated nation.

Action by: Admn. Deptt/Director Colleges/Principals


(Shabir Ahmed Baba)

Under Secretary to Government,
Higher Education Department.

Dated:- 28-03-2019.

No:HED/Genl/Meeting/KD/2019

Copy to the :-

1. Director, RUSA.J&K
2. Director, Colleges J&K
3. OSD to Advisor (G) for information
4. Director, Planning Higher Education Department.
5. Nodal Principal, Kashmir with the request to furnish the action taken report on the above points after consolidating the information from the Degree colleges of Kashmir Division.
6. Principal, Govt. Degree College _____ for information and necessary action.
7. Private Secretary to Secretary to Govt, Higher Education Department.