3.1. INTRODUCTION

Higher education policy is always looked as part of the overall education policy of India which is known as ‘The National Policy on Education’ (NPE). It is formulated by the Government of India to promote education amongst India’s people. This policy covers elementary education to Higher education in both, the rural and the urban India. Thus to know about Higher Education Policy of India is to know about National Policy on Education (NPE).

The first National Policy on Education was promulgated in 1968 by the government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the second one by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1986. Since the nation's independence in 1947, the Indian government sponsored a variety of programmes to address the problems of illiteracy in India, both in the Rural and the Urban areas. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, India's first Minister of Education, envisaged a strong central government control over education throughout the country with a uniform educational system. The Union government established the University Education Commission (1948–1949) and the Secondary Education Commission (1952–1953) to develop proposals to modernize India's education system. The Resolution on Scientific Policy was adopted by the government of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister. The Nehru government sponsored the development of high-quality scientific education institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology. In 1961, the Union government formed the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) as an autonomous organization that would advise both, the Union and the state governments on formulating and implementing education policies.

Based on the report and recommendations of the Education Commission (1964–1966), the government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi announced the first National Policy on Education in 1968, which called for a "radical restructuring" and equalize educational opportunities in order to achieve national integration and greater cultural and economic development. The policy called for fulfilling compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14, as stipulated by the Constitution of India, and the better training and qualification of teachers. The policy called for focus on learning of regional languages, outlining the "three language formula" to be implemented in secondary education - the instruction of the English Language, the official language of the state where the school was based, and Hindi, the national language. Language education was seen as essential to reduce the gulf between the intelligentsia and the masses. Although the decision to adopt Hindi as the national language had proven controversial, the policy called for use and learning of Hindi to be encouraged uniformly to promote a common language for all Indians. The policy also encouraged the teaching of the ancient Sanskrit language, which was considered an essential part of India's culture and heritage. The NPE of 1968 called for education spending to increase to six percent of the national income.


Having announced that a new policy was in development in January, 1985, the government of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi introduced a new National Policy on Education in May, 1986. The new policy called for "special emphasis on the removal of disparities and to equalize educational opportunity," especially for Indian women, Scheduled Tribes (ST) and the Scheduled Caste (SC) communities. To achieve these, the policy called for expanding scholarships, adult education, recruiting more teachers from the SCs, incentives for poor families to send their children to school regularly,
development of new institutions and providing housing and services. The NPE called for a "child-centered approach" in primary education, and launched "Operation Blackboard" to improve primary schools nationwide. The policy expanded the Open University system with the establishment of Indira Gandhi Open University in 1985. The policy also called for the creation of the "rural university" model, based on the philosophy of Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi, to promote economic and social development at the grassroots level in rural India.³


The 1986 National Policy on Education was modified in 1992 by the P.V. Narsimha Rao government. In 2005, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh adopted a new policy based on the "Common Minimum Programme" of his United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government. Programme of Action (PoA), 1992 under the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 envisaged conduct of a common entrance examination on all India basis for admission to professional and technical programmes in the country. For admission to Engineering and Architecture/Planning programmes, Government of India vide Resolution dated 18 October 2001 has laid down a Three – Exam Scheme (JEE and AIEEE at the National Level and the State Level Engineering Entrance Examinations (SLEEE) for State Level Institutions with an option to join AIEEE. This takes care of varying admission standards in these programmes and helps in maintenance of professional standards. This also solves problems of overlaps and reduces physical, mental and financial burden on students and their parents due to multiplicity of entrance examinations.

The main features of the Programme of Action, 1992 are as below:-

**Early Childhood Care and Education:** Integrated Child Development service, Balwadis, Pre-Primary schools of the State government and Municipalities, Day-care centers and training institutes of
teachers and the existing facilities of pre-primary education should be strengthened and should receive increased attention from the Government.

**Elementary Education, Non-Formal Education and Operation Blackboard:** National Policy of Education and its modified policy emphasized on elementary education as (i) universal enrolment and universal retention of children up to 14 years of age and (ii) a substantial improvement in the quality of education. Besides these, this policy also calls for drive for a substantial improvement of the primary schools and provision of support service. Even some measures have been proposed for securing participation of girls and of children from the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes families, other educationally backward section and minorities. In the context of operational blackboard, the policy envisaged the following facilities that should be kept for implementing the operational blackboard. - (i) two reasonably large rooms that are usable in all weather; (ii) necessary toys and games material; (iii) blackboards, (iv) maps, (v) charts, and (vi) other learning materials.

**Secondary Education and Navodaya Vidyalayas:** Regarding Secondary education, the National Policy of Education of 1986 implied extension of the school system in the un-served areas consolidating the existing facilities and providing special arrangements for the gifted children and high achievers. This includes programme of setting up of Navodaya Vidyalayas. Besides these, as a short term measure the State Government should be persuaded to open secondary schools in un-served areas taking blocks as a unit having a lower ratio than 1:2:5 duly considering the present distance of habitation from the nearest secondary school and population in the un-served habitation.

**Vocationalisation of Education:** From classes 1 to 5, Socially Useful Productive Work/Work Experience creates an integral part of the curriculum in many states. At the middle stage, the work experience
programme should aim at developing confidence and sufficient psycho-motor skills to students through certain occupational training courses.

**Higher Education:** The National Policy of Education of 1986 and its revised policy which is known as Programme of Action of 1992 had laid importance on higher education, particularly on graduate, post-graduate and research work. It suggested that Autonomous Colleges should be established according to UGC directives. Technical institutes like medical, engineering, agriculture universities etc. should be set up and development of Vocational skill was to be stressed upon.

Followings are the necessary strategies that should be kept up for improving the innovations in higher education:

(i) Consolidation and expansion of institutions

(ii) Development of Autonomous colleges and departments

(iii) Redesigning courses

(iv) Training of teachers

(v) Strengthening research

(vi) Improvement in efficiency

(vii) Creation of structures for co-operation at the state and national levels,

(viii) Mobility.

Besides these, the AICTE (All India Council of Teacher Education) had laid down norms and standards for diploma, degree and Post Graduate courses in the various fields. Guidelines were laid down for admission to technical institutions on merit to be followed by all concerned.

**Open University and Distance Education:** Open University and distance education have been designed to promote the accessibility of education at higher stage as well as making higher education as flexible as
is required by the learners. The Central Open University which is known as Indira Gandhi National Open University has been assigned the responsibility to coordinate the distance learning system in the country and determine its standards in order to develop and strengthen the Open University system. The National Policy of Education and its Revised Policy have to develop some conditions relating to the Open University system and distance mode of learning.

**Rural Universities and Institutes:** The National Policy of Education of 1986 and its Revised Policy of 1992 envisaged that the rural universities and institutions should be developed in rural areas after studying the needs of such pattern of educational institutions in rural communities as well as also strengthening the programme of Gandhian Basic Education.

Technical and Management Education: Regarding the Technical and Management Education system, the policy stated that technical and management education system should be clustered with reference to the interrelated objectives, priorities and programmes of the key functional areas like development of human resource development spectrum with great potentials for adding values to products and services and for contributing to the national economy and improving quality of life of the people.

**De-linking of Degrees from Jobs and Manpower Planning:** The National Policy of Education and its revised policy envisaged that some job-oriented degree courses as well as some skill oriented courses should be started to promote human capital in the country.

**Research and Development:** In National Policy of Education and POA, the stress was laid on research as an essential component of higher education because of its role in creating new knowledge and insights imparting innovations and dynamism to the educational process.
Women Education: The N.P.E. and POA laid stress on the problems of universalization of elementary education as, in essence, the problem of the girl child and on the increasing participation of girls at all stages of education, particularly in streams like sciences, vocational, technical and commerce education. The POA also stressed the need for reorienting the education system to promote the women’s equality in education. The national education system should play a positive role in the empowerment of women and contribute towards the development of new values through redesigned curricula and text books with women’s studies being promoted as part of the various courses.

Education of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and backward Sections: The priorities should be accorded to opening primary schools in tribal areas, scheduled caste areas and backwards areas, according to the NPE and POA. Besides these, cent percent enrolment of SC/ST children in the age group of 6-11 ensuring their retention in school leading to satisfactory completion of the primary stage of education or its equivalent through the non-formal stream has to be achieved by 1990. Educated and promising Scheduled Tribe youths should be encouraged and trained to take up teaching in tribal areas. Residential schools, including Ashram Schools, should be established on a large scale. Incentive schemes should be formulated for the Scheduled Tribes, keeping in view their special needs and life styles. Scholarships for higher education should be emphasized for technical, professional and para-professional courses. Anganwadis, Non-formal and Adult Education Centers should be opened on a priority basis in areas predominantly inhabited by the Scheduled Tribes. Recruitment of teachers from Scheduled Castes should be done and there should be provision of facilities for SC students in students’ hostels at district headquarters.

Minorities Education: Article 29 and Article 30 of the Constitution guarantee the right of minorities to conserve the language, script and
culture and to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice whether based on religion or language. The NPE and POA had addressed the problems of the minorities. As the minority groups are educationally deprived or backward, therefore greater attention should be paid to their education of these groups in the interest of equality and justice. Simultaneously, objectivity should be reflected in the preparation of textbooks. In all school activities and all possible measures should be taken to promote an integration based on the appreciation of the common national goals and ideals, in conformity with the core curriculum.

**Education of the Handicapped:** The NPE and POA proposed to stipulate that the education of the children with loco motor handicap and other mild handicaps should be same and common as the normal children. The objective should be to integrate the physically and mentally handicapped with the general community as equal partners, to prepare them for normal growth and to enable them to face life with courage and confidence.

**Evaluation Process and Examination Reforms:** The Policy visualized integration of the assessment of performance with the process of learning and teaching, and utilizing the process of evaluation to bring about qualitative change in education. In order to ensure the student’s performance, the assessment methods must be valid and reliable. The following short term measures had been proposed by the NPE and POA:

(i) Public examinations will continue to be held only at the levels of classes X and XII; (ii) Decentralization of the operation involved in the conduct of examinations to make the system work more effectively (iii) School boards in certain States have set up a number of sub centers to decentralize the conduct of examinations. Adoption of similar measures by other States will be pursued and (iv) At the university level continuous institutional evaluation will be introduced at the post graduate level.
Youth and Sports: The NPE and POA stressed the following formulation (i) integration of sports and physical education in the learning process and evaluation of performance and (ii) involvement of youth in national and social development and sports and games etc. particularly, through educational institutions at the level of higher learning.

Language Development: The NPE and POA elaborately discussed about the concept of language development and emphasized the adoption of regional languages as the media of instruction at the university stage. Regarding language development, the NPE and POA discussed and proposed many efforts and initiatives such as implementation of Three-language formula, improvements in the linguistic competencies of students at the different stages of education, provision of facilities for the study of English and other foreign languages, and development of Hindi language as a link language.

Media and Educational Technology: The NPE and POA emphasized that in order to avoid structural dualism, modern educational technology should be reached out to the most distant areas and to the deprived sections of beneficiaries simultaneously with the areas of comparative affluence and ready availability.

Teacher and their Training: The new programmes of teacher-education should emphasize need to continuing education and also the need for teachers to meet the thrusts envisaged in this Policy. District Institutes of Education and Training (DIET) should be established with the capability to organize pre-service and in-service courses for elementary school teachers and for the personnel working in non-formal and adult education. As DIETs get established, sub-standard institutions should be phased out. Selected Secondary Teacher Training Colleges should be upgraded to complement the work of the State Councils of Educational Research and Training. The National Council of Teacher Education should be provided
the necessary resources and capability to accredit institutions of teacher-
education and to provide guidance regarding curricula and methods.

Management Education: According to the NPE and POA, educational planning should be linked to manpower planning. For this, such mechanism should be set up that can link the need based requirement of the society with what it has at present. 4

3.2. STUDENTS’ ENTITLEMENT

Before discussing different programmes of Higher Education in India, it will be worthwhile to look at certain entitlements of the students which are very important because a student spends a lot of time in the institutes of Higher learning, away from his/her home. These guidelines have been issued by the University Grants Commission (UGC) in order to help students, teachers, administrators and institutions understand what the minimum entitlements of the students are. These guidelines apply to all the colleges and universities in the country without any exception. It shall be mandatory for every college/university to publish the present Guidelines in full in its Prospectus and also post it on the homepage of its website. Fulfillment of these entitlements imposes obligations on educational institutions, administrators, policy makers, teachers and students themselves. If these obligations are not met, a student can approach the Grievance Redressal Authority or the Ombudsman. Any serious or persistent violation of these Guidelines can be brought to the notice of the University Grants Commission and can be the basis of punitive action against the offender. The followings are the entitlements to the students:

(1) Admission: An announcement or advertisement for any course of study must clearly specify whether the degree granted is notified by the UGC and other relevant statutory authorities and whether the university that awards the degree figures in the list of universities maintained by the UGC. A student seeking admission is entitled to a
document (usually called ‘Prospectus’) that specifies the curricula including syllabi, names and academic profile and status of the faculty, mode and frequency of evaluation, duration of the course, academic calendar, comprehensive information about fees or charges of any kind, and refund rules. The information given in the prospectus should not be changed to the disadvantage of the student during the course of study; any change if necessary must be communicated to each student individually spelling out reasons for such a change.

(2) The students are entitled to availability and presence of qualified teacher, fulfillment of the specified number of teaching days and contact hours for each course and completion of syllabus on time.

(3) The students are entitled to reasonable access to facilities, services and resources including library (that stocks textbooks, reference books, journals, e-resources), laboratories, and ICT facilities in the languages permitted as medium of instructions or examinations.

(4) The students are entitled to fair, transparent and timely evaluation, including fair provisions for timely re-checking or re-evaluation of the scripts and redressal of any grievance related to the evaluation process. The students are entitled to a copy of their answer scripts after the declaration of results.

(5) The students are entitled to timely conduct of examination and declaration of results as specified in the academic calendar in the Prospectus. They shall be entitled to the award of degree within 180 days of the declaration of results.

(6) The students are entitled to give regular feedback on the quality of teaching, students’ services and institutional infrastructure. The college/university shall establish mechanisms for seeking this feedback regularly and taking student feedback into account for review and improvement.
(7) Fee and financial aid: The students are entitled to prior and full information about amount, components, frequency and mode of any kind of payment including fees or charges of any other kind and refund rules. If a student withdraws before the beginning of the course, the student should be refunded the entire fee given to it with a maximum deduction of Rs. 1000. A college/university will make utmost effort to ensure that no student is deprived of opportunities of quality education for lack of sufficient financial resources.

(8) Infrastructure: The students are entitled to access to appropriate resources including classrooms, libraries, laboratories and other academic facilities necessary for quality education. The students are entitled to reasonable access to sports and recreation facilities, avenues for literary, aesthetic and other extra-curricular pursuits. The student are entitled to reasonable attention to medical and health requirements including free and periodic health check-up and treatment/hospitalization in case of medical emergencies. The students are entitled to a reasonable access to adequate, clean and hygienic hostel/residence accommodation that provides basic amenities including recreational facilities.

(9) The students are entitled to non-discriminatory treatment in every aspect of institutional functioning. Any discrimination based on caste, gender, creed, colour, race, religion, place of birth, political conviction, language and disability shall be prohibited.

(10) The students are entitled to protection from sexual harassment by complaining to the Gender Sensitization Committees against Sexual Harassment. It is mandatory for each college/university to constitute and publicize this committee as per the Guidelines and norms laid down by the Honorable Supreme Court.
(11) All students are entitled to protection from ragging in any form. As democratic citizens, the students are entitled to freedom of thought and expression within and outside their institution. The college/university must allow space for free exchange of ideas and public debate so as to foster a culture of critical reasoning and questioning. College/university authorities must not impose unreasonable, partisan or arbitrary restrictions on organizing seminars, lecture and debates that do not otherwise violate any law.

(12) The students are entitled to forming associations and unions, directly electing their representatives to Students Unions and having their representatives on the college/university decision making bodies including internal quality assessment, grievance committees, Gender Sensitization Committees against Sexual Harassment and the Academic/Executive council. University/colleges shall evolve mechanisms for adequate consultations with students’ representatives before taking any major decision affecting the students.

3.3. PROGRAMMES OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

The role of Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education includes policy formulation, programme implementation, coordination with other sectors, data management, training and capacity building, development of women education. Over the decades, the Department has also established or substantially funded a number of premier institutions, which have come to acquire a reputation for excellence. Besides, Five-year Plans also focus on various aspects of Higher education. Thus we can discuss the programmes of higher education in India under the following heads:-

(I) Initiatives of XI plan.

(II) Programmes undertaken directly by Ministry of HRD and

(III) Programmes under taken by its autonomous organizations.

(IV) Programmes run by State governments
3.3.1. Initiatives of XI Plan

(a) Establishment of New Central Universities

Central Universities Act, 2009, which came into effect from 15.1.2009, has established 16 new Central Universities in each such States (except Goa) which did not have a Central University. In Jammu & Kashmir, there are two Central Universities, one in Kashmir Division and another in Jammu Division. Besides J&K, the new Central Universities are established in the uncovered States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Goa, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Tamil Nadu. Three State Universities which have been converted into Central University are Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya in the State of Chhattisgarh, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya in the State of Madhya Pradesh and Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University in the State of Uttarakhand.

(b) Indira Gandhi National Tribal University

The Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU), Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh, has been established by an Act of Parliament. It commenced its academic activities from the Academic Session 2008-09. The university is running Undergraduate as well as Postgraduate courses in various disciplines. The university is a teaching and affiliating university for facilitating and promoting avenues of higher education and research facilities for the tribal population of the country.

(c) Establishment of 14 World Class Central Universities

In order to improve quality of the education, the Ministry has decided to set up Innovation Universities aiming at world class standards to enable the knowledge talent around the world to cluster in the universities proposed to be developed as Global Centers of Innovation. The Central Government proposes to establish 14 Innovation Universities in identified cities.
(d) **Setting-up of 374 Degree Colleges in Educationally Backward Districts**

Ministry has decided to set up Model Degree Colleges in those educationally backward districts of the country, where the GER or Gross Enrolment Ratio is less than the national average. In a survey, 374 such districts have been identified. Proposals are awaited from the respective state governments regarding establishment of such colleges. This scheme is a part of the Government policy for access, participation and expansion of higher education.

(e) **Scheme for incentivizing state governments for expansion of higher education institutions**

A scheme is being introduced for incentivizing States for establishing new higher educational institutions/expanding existing higher educational institutions. This new scheme will provide central assistance to the state governments in the ratio of 1:2 (1:1 for Special Category States) for establishing new higher educational institutions/expanding existing higher educational institutions. The physical targets for XI Plan and XII Plan include new universities, colleges, engineering colleges as well as expansion of existing colleges.

(f) **New Central Sector Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans taken by Economically Backward Students**

The Government has approved a new Central Sector Scheme to provide full interest subsidy during the period of moratorium on loans taken by students belonging to economically weaker sections from scheduled banks under the Educational Loan Scheme of the Indian Banks’ Association for pursuing any of the approved courses of studies in technical and professional streams from recognized institutions in India.
(g) **Construction of Girls’ Hostels**

The colleges and universities under the UGC, which are fit to receive central assistance under Section 12B of the UGC Act, are eligible to receive financial assistance for this scheme. In order to achieve the goal of enhancing the status of women in Higher Education, the UGC has been providing financial support on cent per cent basis for construction of hostels for women and other related infrastructural facilities in college.

(h) **Supporting Uncovered State Universities and Colleges**

Affiliated colleges of State Universities are technically under the purview of UGC but do not get assistance as they do not meet the minimum eligibility norms in terms of physical facilities and human resources. The Ministry intends to strengthen those colleges and universities with focus on underserved areas to enable these institutions to fulfill the criteria for UGC assistance. In the XIth Plan period, it is envisaged to provide additional assistance to universities and colleges which are already declared fit to receive grants under Section 12B of the UGC Act.

(i) **Strengthening science based Higher Education and research in universities**

Looking at the declining quality and quantum of scientific research in India, an empowered committee under the chairmanship of Prof. M.M. Sharma was constituted for rejuvenation of Basic Scientific Research in Universities. Based on the recommendations of Task Force, action for strengthening science based education and research in Universities has been initiated.

The main objective of the scheme is to promote excellence in research in higher education by supporting research programmes of the University and College teachers in various disciplines. The UGC has been striving for promoting teaching and research in emerging areas in
Humanities, Social Sciences, Languages, Literature, Pure Sciences, Engineering & Technology, Pharmacy, Medical Agriculture Science etc. Teachers who are permanent / regular, retired / working in the Universities and colleges which are recognised under section 2 (f) and declared fit to receive grants under 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956 only are eligible.

(j) Incentivisation of Teachers, Subject/Discipline based Association for Organization of Various Academic & Research activities during XII Plan

The Pay Scale Regulations for teachers has put a lot of emphasis on Research by way of publication of various research articles, participation in Seminar, Symposia & Workshops etc. However, it has been noted with concern that there may not be sufficient number of good journals in India in which scholars could present and/or publish papers. Subject Associations played an important role in bringing together scholars, giving them an opportunity to present papers, and publish these either in the Conference Proceedings or in journals brought by these associations. The UGC could support these Associations in order to help them upgrade and expand their activities. Similar support could also be provided to good quality journals. Accordingly, during XI Plan the UGC has launched a new scheme to support specific activities of Subject/Discipline based Associations at the National Level.

Eligibility: The scheme will be open to all National Subject Associations. The subject Associations should fulfill the following criteria to apply for the Scheme : (i) They should be in existence for at least five years and should be registered organization with a constitution; (ii) They should provide audited statements for at least five years; (iii) They should have minimum membership of 200 life members plus average of three years of Annual Membership
Nature of Assistance: The assistance includes: (i) Core grant will be provided to national level Subject Associations for secretarial support, day-to-day office expenses, communication and dissemination of their activities. The ceiling of the grant is Rs 3.00 lakh per year; (ii) UGC will also provide financial support for holding of the Annual Conference of the National Subject Associations and for publication of Conference proceedings. The maximum amount of the grant under this head will be Rs 7 lakhs except in case of Indian Science Congress where this ceiling will be Rs 20.00 lakh; (iii) Journals grant will be subject to a maximum of Rupees five lakh for Academic Association and three lakh for University department or fifty percent of the audited cost of publication, distribution and dissemination of the journal whichever is less; (iv) National and Regional Conferences, Seminars and Workshops grants will be rupees 2.0 lakh. Total ceiling under above heads on large subjects such as the Indian Science Congress or the Indian Social Science Congress may be up to Rs 20.00 lakh annually. In other subjects the ceiling will be Rs 17.00 lakh.

(k) Centers with Potential for Excellence in Particular Areas (CPEPA)

For a long, the University Grants Commission has been encouraging well-performing universities and colleges in the country to strive for excellence in their chosen areas of academic and research work. In this strategy UGC is providing financial assistance to selected universities and colleges through various schemes to enable them to reach the world class level and serve as benchmark for other institutions in the country.

Eligibility: Students with domicile of NER who have passed XII or equivalent exam from a school situated within NER through any recognized Board of Education including CBSE and National Institute of Open Schooling and have admission in general degree course, technical and professional courses including medical and para-medical courses. UGC will award 10,000 fresh scholarships per year. In case the number of
applicants exceeds 10,000, the selection will be based on marks scored by them in the class XII or equivalent exam.

**Rate of Scholarship:** The amount of scholarship will be Rs 5400 per month for general degree courses and Rs 7800/- for Technical & Professional courses (including Medical & Para Medical courses) will be given through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to the beneficiary student. The scholarship granted will be kept renewed during the period of the first degree course, subject to good conduct and maintenance of prescribed attendance. An evaluation will be conducted periodically. Students whose parents’ income exceeds Rs 4.5 lakh per annum are not eligible for this assistance.

3.3.2. **Programmes Undertaken by Ministry of Human Resources Development**

The following programmes relating to higher education are undertaken by Ministry of HRD. These programmes are being administered directly by the Ministry itself.

(a) **National Research Professorship (NRP)**

Government of India had instituted the scheme of National Research Professorship in 1949 to honour distinguished academics and scholars in recognition of their contribution to knowledge. Persons of real eminence, who have attained the age of 65 years and have made outstanding contributions in their respective fields and are still capable of productive research, are considered for appointment as National Research Professors. The appointment is made initially for a period of five years which is extendable by another term of five years. After completion of first term or the extended second term, an NRP is entitled to pension for life.

With effect from 01.04.2009, the following revised rates are applicable:-
(i) Rate of monthly honorarium for serving National Research Professors has been enhanced from Rs.25,000 to Rs.75,000.

(ii) Rate of monthly pension for Pensioners enhanced from Rs.9,000 to Rs.25,000.

(iii) Rate of annual contingency grant for serving National Research Professors has been enhanced from Rs.50,000 to Rs.1,00,000.

(iv) Honorarium and pension will continue to be exempt from Tax under Section 10 (17A) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

Recently, Minister of HRD, has chosen three eminent persons for this scheme. These include eminent Kannada author Prof. SL Bhyrappa whose novel paint Tipu Sultan as a religious fanatic, Dr. Ashok Gajanan Modak, an Economic Lecturer and Surya Kant Bali, a journalist who has recently released a book titled ‘Mahabharat ka Dharmsankat’. The proposal to appoint the three as National research Professors has been sent by the Irani led ministry to the Home Ministry. A committee comprising the Home Minister, Finance Minister and the Prime Minister takes a final call on the appointments of National Research Professors.6

(b) **Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan**

Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), launched in 2013 aims at providing strategic funding to eligible state higher educational institutions. The central funding (in the ratio of 65:35 for general category States and 90:10 for special category states) would be norm based and outcome dependent. The funding would flow from the central ministry through the state governments/union territories to the State Higher Education Councils before reaching the identified institutions. The funding to states would be made on the basis of critical appraisal of State Higher Education Plans, which would describe each state’s strategy to address issues of equity, access and excellence in higher education.
Objectives: The salient objectives of RUSA are to:-

- Improve the overall quality of state institutions by ensuring conformity to prescribed norms and standards and adopt accreditation as a mandatory quality assurance framework.
- Usher transformative reforms in the state higher education system by creating a facilitating institutional structure for planning and monitoring at the state level, promoting autonomy in state universities and improving governance in institutions.
- Ensure reforms in the affiliation, academic and examination systems.
- Ensure adequate availability of quality faculty in all higher educational institutions and ensure capacity building at all levels of employment.
- Create an enabling atmosphere in the higher educational institutions to devote themselves to research and innovations.
- Expand the institutional base by creating additional capacity in existing institutions and establishing new institutions in order to achieve enrolment targets.
- Improve equity in higher education by providing adequate opportunities of higher education to SC/STs and socially and educationally backward classes; promote inclusion of women, minorities, and differently abled persons.

Components: RUSA would create new universities through upgradation of existing autonomous colleges and conversion of colleges in a cluster. It would create new model degree colleges, new professional colleges and provide infrastructural support to universities and colleges. Faculty recruitment support, faculty improvements programmes and leadership development of educational administrators are also an important part of the scheme. In order to
enhance skill development the existing central scheme of Polytechnics has been subsumed within RUSA. A separate component to synergize vocational education with higher education has also been included in RUSA. Besides these, RUSA also supports reforming, restructuring and building capacity of institutions in participating state.

**Institutional Hierarchy:** RUSA is implemented and monitored through an institutional structure comprising the National Mission Authority, Project Approval Board and the National Project Directorate at the centre and the State Higher Education Council and State Project Directorate at the state level.

The gazette notification was issued in this respect on 01.Nov 2013 which states, “The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), in its meeting held on 3rd October, 2013 approved the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for reforming the State Higher Education System. RUSA will be spread over the 12th and 13th plan periods. RUSA would be an umbrella scheme operated in mission mode that would subsume other existing similar centrally Sponsored Schemes in the State Higher Education Sector. The funding to States would be made on the basis of State Higher Education Plans outlining the States’ strategy to address issues of equity, access and excellence in higher education. All funding under RUSA would be norm based and future grants would be performance based and outcome dependent. Commitment by States and institutions to certain academic, administrative and governance reforms will be a precondition for receiving funding under RUSA. Centre-State funding would be in the ratio of 90:10 for North-Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and 65:35 for other States and Union Territories. The National Mission Authority on RUSA is ordered to be constituted with the following composition: (i) Union Human Resource Minister – Chairperson (ii) Secretary, Department of Higher education, Ministry of Human Resource
Development-Vice Chairperson (iii) Chairperson, UGC-Co-vice chairperson (iv) Member, Planning Commission (incharge of higher Education)-Member (v) Chairperson, AICTE-Member (vi) Chairpersons of State Higher Education Councils-Members

The RUSA National Mission Authority will be empowered to fix and alter the programmatic norms within the overall framework of the scheme from time to time. It will delineate the overall policy and planning and will be empowered to make necessary changes in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation parameters so as to enable the National and State level implementing bodies to implement the Scheme efficiently and effectively so that gains from RUSA are maximized. It will review functioning of Project Approval Board and allocate funds to Project Approval Board for release to States. It may commission policy reform, thematic and evaluation studies and review the same. The RUSA National Mission Authority shall meet once in six months at such time and place as may be fixed by the Chairperson. The money will be released to States for setting up Model Degree Colleges, only after ensuring that States have complied with the checklist. The faculty positions under RUSA are funded by MHRD based on certain norms and preconditions. The UGC has a very important role to play in setting standards and regulating the higher education sector. The UGC will continue to support individual oriented schemes apart from supporting Central and Deemed Universities. This scheme is an effort to synergize pool in and leverage the plan funds flowing in higher education from Centre, States and other agencies like UGC. Therefore all the plan funds are proposed to be routed through RUSA. Grants of the University Grants Commission should be dovetailed in the SHEP by SHECs.  

(c) **Community College Scheme (CSS)**

In order to increase the employability of the students pursuing higher education, a concept note was presented in the conference of the State Education Ministers held in February, 2012. The concept to integrate
skills in higher education was unanimously accepted and a group of State Education Ministers was constituted to suggest the ways and means to achieve this objective. The report of the Committee on “Concept and Framework of Community College Scheme” was presented by the Chairperson of the Committee in the conference of the State Education Ministers held in June, 2012, which accepted the report and endorsed the recommendation to operationalize 200 community colleges on pilot basis from the academic year 2013-14 from the existing colleges/polytechnics, on the patterns of community colleges working in various parts of the world. It is a nationally integrated education and competency-based skill framework that will provide for multiple pathways, both within vocational education and between general and vocational education, to link one level of learning to another higher level and enable learners to progress to higher levels from any starting point in the education and/or skill system. It will permit individuals to accumulate their knowledge and skills, and convert them through testing and certification by the competent authorities, into higher level of certification, which could be a certificate or diploma or advanced diploma or PG diploma or a degree in common parlance. The Concept and Framework of Community Colleges scheme offers flexible education system wherein amongst others offering of choice –based vocational courses from academic session 2013 at all levels with flexibility to exit and reentry to the student. Proposals to this effect have been sought for from the Central Universities. A number of national and regional level seminars/workshops were held in New Delhi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Itanagar and Guwahati to sensitize the stakeholders who would ultimately play key role in the implementation of the Community Colleges Scheme. In pursuance of this capacity building exercise, a two-day international conference was also organized in New Delhi on 6th and 7th February, 2013. In this conference, the Managers of the Community Colleges (CCs) and high officials of the relevant industries
from Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, UK and USA as well as from our own country participated. Based on the information furnished by Indian and Foreign participants, the networking information has been compiled country-wise (who participated in the conference-USA, UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Germany). UGC would fund the community colleges hosted in a college while AICTE would fund the polytechnics hosting the community college. A total of 140 financial proposals (82 polytechnics and 58 colleges) from 27 States/Uts have been received in the Ministry, so far. They have been forwarded to UGC and AICTE respectively for their consideration to release financial assistance to enable them to implement the Scheme from this current academic year.

(d) Commonwealth Scholarship in the United Kingdom offered by the Government of United Kingdom

The government of UK has been offering the scholarships to Indian students to pursue Master and PhD course. The main features of the scholarship are mentioned below:

**Eligibility:** The age of the candidates should be below 40 years. For Master’s Degree, one should hold or expect to hold the certificate of Bachelor’s Degree by the stipulated date intimated time to time, every year with 60 percent or above in Humanities and 65 percent in Science and allied subjects. For PhD degree one should hold or expect to hold the certificate of Master’s Degree by October, every year securing 60 percent or above marks in Humanities and Social Science group and 65 percent or above marks in the relevant subjects in Engineering, Technology, Science and Agriculture groups. The candidate must have completed tertiary education in English. Whose native language is not English will be required to provide that they have sufficient competence in English to study in the United Kingdom. Nominated candidates will be required to take the IELTS. An IELTS test will only be considered valid after October
and before March every year. The candidates who have already been
abroad for studies/training/specialization either on scholarship or on their
own, for a period exceeding six months are eligible to apply if they have
been in India for at least two consecutive years after returning from abroad
as on 08.10.2015.

**Value and Duration:** The student will receive approved Tution fees
and examination fees. In addition the government will provide airfare to
and from UK but the fare of dependents will not be aid. Stipend which is
called the living allowance will be paid to the selected candidates at the
rate of 1034 pounds in other areas and 1268 pounds per month for the
candidates living in London Metropolitan area. For PhD students, ‘Thesis
Grant’ for preparation of these will also be admissible. Besides, allowances
will also be paid for field work relating to the Research. They will also be
reimbursed travelling allowance during the mid-term of their course. They
will also be given warm clothing allowance as per the norms

(e) **Huayu Enrichment**’ Scholarship

This scholarship is being granted by Taipei Economic and Cultural
Centre in India at Paschimi Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi through
Ministry of HRD. The applicant should be over 18 years of age and
possesses senior High School Diploma or above and should not be a
current student in Taiwan.

**Purpose, Value and Duration :** The purpose is encourage
international students and individuals to undertake Mandarin study in
Taiwan, the Ministry of Education of the Republic of China (Taiwan) at
university or college affiliated Mandarin training centers in Taiwan. The
value of the scholarship is NT$ 25,000 (Approximately US$806) per
month. The duration of the study is six months according to the course
terms. Number of recipients for six months scholarship is 10.
3.3.3. Schemes Implemented Through Statutory and Autonomous Organisations

(A) University Grants Commission

The University Grants Commission is a statutory organization established under the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 for coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of higher education. Apart from providing grants to universities and colleges, the commission also advises the central government on the measures which are necessary for development of higher education in India.

University Grants Commission undertakes the following schemes on the direction from the Ministry of Human Resources Development. There are two categories of schemes run by UGC; (i) Schemes for both, the universities and the colleges; (ii) Schemes applicable to universities only and (iii) Schemes applicable to the colleges only. These are discussed separately as under:

(a) Schemes for both, the Universities and the Colleges

(i) Scheme of Granting Special Heritage Status to Universities and Colleges

The post-independent India has seen an enormous expansion in the field of higher education with increase in quality and quantity thereby enabling increased access to quality education, yet, there are universities that have stood the test of time and maintained to provide quality higher education for long. These institutions have endeavored to inculcate ‘education’ in its truest sense; complete development of human being. There are institutions which have completed 100 years of their existence, not necessarily in its present form, and have contributed tremendously not only in the field of higher education but also in maintaining the cultural, social and moral fabric of the long history of our country. Their extramural approach has often touched lives of the poorest of the poor and their
teachings towards rendering selfless service which have often been guided on the principles of ‘giving back to the society’. Therefore, it is felt that there is a need to recognize and reward such heritage institutions so as to enable them to continue to inspire our younger generation the value of ‘true education’. A number of these institutions made significant and lasting contributions to society that made them historically significant, integrating and relevant – which is in essence, the concept of heritage. The community at large and the stakeholders in particular are blissfully ignorant of the past glory and hence least sensitive to rebuilding and restoring the rich heritage. The historical contributions, particularly in terms of intellectual and cultural heritage need to be retold in the form of structured/documented form with inspiring illustrations and anecdotes so that they could rekindle the aspiration and rejuvenate the response of the present community. Some institutions founded by spiritual / religious missionaries such as the Jesuits, the Ramakrishna Mission, Madrasas, among others which may have their own cultural / intellectual heritage may have their mission at hand to revisit and rebuild their institutional structure. Many of these institutions are starved of resources and expertise to renovate and restore their heritage structures and hence remain unutilized. The heritage HEIs of yesteryears has a moral responsibility of reconstructing and documenting scientific traditional knowledge of ancient India from historical sources. This is a grey area in the field of heritage studies as of now.

Institutions fulfilling the above objectives will be assisted with a one-time lump sum grant of Rs. 10.0 crore to a university and Rs. 5.0 crore to a college during the 12th Five year Plan. The institution willing to avail of this grant under the Scheme is required to submit a proposal to the UGC with the following document (s). UGC letter regarding inclusion under the list of universities receiving plan grants from the UGC. Institution should be more than 100 years old on the date of application for the grants.
Institutions having highest grading by an assessment and accreditation agency recognized by the UGC are also eligible. Institutions should self-certify that it has no proceedings against them by the Government (State / Central) either in the present or in the last 60 years. The institutions selected for grant under the scheme, would have some freedom / flexibility in the apportionment of grant under the following heads, depending upon the specific institutional nature and requirements; re-appropriation of grants within the overall grant limit could also be made, subject to the concurrence of and accountability to the UGC.

(ii) Development of Sports Infrastructure and Equipments in Universities and Colleges.

Sports are a means of physical and mental development besides creating harmony in the country. Sports are like a matrix where persons of all creeds, color, and religion and socio economic status have the level playing ground. It’s a melting pot where all and sundry have equal rights and opportunities. Sports are, thus, a glowing example of national integration. The participation in sports makes a nation fitter and also reduces the burden of morbidity and mortality in the population. Indian people are by nature sedentary and as such, the load of life style diseases is increasing on the health system of the country exponentially. Keeping in view the fact that a fitter nation is better in performance in all parameters, it is important that the University Grants Commission (UGC) supports the development of sports infrastructure in its various colleges and universities to provide an opportunity for the students to participate in sports in a big way. The Scheme would provide the basic infrastructure and equipment into various colleges and universities for promotion of sports. This is also an attempt to fruitfully engage the students in their leisure time.

All universities and colleges (excluding agricultural/medical/dental/nursing/private universities), will be covered under the Scheme. The
applicant institution must have undisputed possession of land/building in respect to which the infrastructure is sought under the Scheme. All drawing plans and estimates must be made by a Registered Architect registered with the Council of Architecture. The money allocation would be full and final and no escalation in cost will be allowed subsequently. The release of funds will be as per the UGC norms applicable to such schemes. The university/college can apply to the higher stage only, if it has adequate infrastructure as mentioned in the previous stage(s). Any expenditure over and above the grant approved by the UGC will be borne by the Institution from its own resources. Duly constituted Committee will recommend to the UGC regarding acceptance/rejection of the proposal. 50% of the grant and the whole amount earmarked for equipment, will be released as 1st installment and out of the remaining grant, 40% will be released after mid-term monitoring is done by a Committee constituted by the UGC after around one and half years. Remaining 10% grant will be released after completion of the project under the Scheme. Mid-term Monitoring will be done by a duly constituted Expert Committee of the UGC after around one and half years in a cluster mode.

(iii) *Swamy Vivekananda Single Girl Child Scheme for Research in Social Sciences*

Swami Vivekananda was one of the great social thinker and pioneer in social reforms in India. He was chief disciple of Saint Ramakrishna Paramhansa. In a short life span of just 39 years, he introduced Vedanta and Yoga to the western world. Swamiji stressed on different aspects of religion, education character building and social issues pertaining to India. Swami Vivekananda believed that “Education is manifestation of perfection already in men”. Swami Vivekananda considered women to be incarnation of power and asked men to respect them in every way. He said that the root cause of discrimination of women is lack of education, indifferent attitude and practices of the society against girl child and status
of women in our society. In such circumstances education of women needs to be used and effective means for their empowerment and education will prepare them to have a control over their lives. Therefore new initiatives have become necessary to give girl child equality and dignity. In order to achieve the above state governments, central governments and UGC have started special schemes/scholarships for girls. The government of India is giving special benefits for families having single girl child. Promotion of single girl child in the family means promoting girls in the society, increase sex ratio in favor of women and promotion of small family norm in the society.

Keeping Swami Vivekananda’s ideas of women education and to achieve and promote girls education, UGC has introduced Swami Vivekananda Scheme for Single Girl Child for research in Social Sciences with an aim to compensate direct costs of higher education especially for such girls who happen to be the only girl child in their family.

**Target Group and Eligibility**: The girl students who are admitted in Ph. D. program in Social Sciences in Universities/Institutes and happen to be the only girl child in the family without having any brother or the girl student who are twin daughters/ fraternal daughter may also apply for Scholarship under the aforesaid scheme. In a family if one son and one daughter is available then girl child will not be considered for scholarship under the scheme. The scheme is applicable to such a single girl child who has taken admission in regular, full -time Ph. D. program in Social Sciences in any recognized University/Institute. Admission to Ph.D. Course in Distance education mode is not covered under the scheme. Girl students up to the age of 40 years for general and 45 years for the reserved category (SC/ST/OBC and Physical handicapped) at the time of admission in Ph.D courses are eligible. The numbers of slots for scholarship are 300 every year. The amount of Scholarship is Rs.200/- per month for first two years, Rs.1,00/- per month for third and fourth year (Extendable for fifth
Candidates are eligible for maternity leave with fellowship as per Government of India rules once during the tenure of their award. No extension is permissible beyond the total period of five years. The candidate is required to submit quarterly continuation certificate duly signed by the head of the department and forwarded by the Registrar/Director to the designated branch of nominated bank. On receipt of Joining Report of the candidate together with required documents, the UGC office/authorized agency would release the first installment of the admissible grant to the concerned beneficiary. Thereafter, the grant is released on receipt of the Utilization Certificate and statement of expenditure for the last grant paid.

(iv) BSR Fellowships in Sciences for Students (Applicable to all Departments of Sciences, Bio-Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, Engineering Sciences of the eligible Universities)

The Research Fellowship in Sciences for meritorious students is open to candidates who are selected for registering to the Ph.D. programme of the university through a procedure outlined already in the UGC notification by a regular admission procedure. The objective of the BSR scheme is to provide opportunities to meritorious candidates to undertake advanced studies and research leading to Ph.D. degrees in sciences. The candidates who are selected for registering to the Ph.D. programme of the university through a procedure outlined already in the UGC notification by a regular admission procedure in Universities with Potential for Excellence/Centers with Potential for Excellence/Centers of Advance Studies and Department of Special Assistance identified by UGC. The registration for Ph.D. may follow after the admissions.

Nature of Assistance Available: The tenure of fellowship is initially for two years under the BSR scheme. Upon expiry of this period, the work of the Fellow will be evaluated by Experts Committee to be set
up by the university. If the research work is found satisfactory, his/her tenure will be extended for a further period of three years. In case the work for the first two years is not found satisfactory, an additional year will be given to him/her for improvement.

**Amount of Fellowships for Non-Gate candidates:**

1. **1st and 2nd Year Grant:** Fellowship Rs.14,000/- per month and Contingency @ Rs.12,000/- per annum. plus H.R.A. as per university rules.
2. **3rd, 4th and 5th Year Grants:** Fellowship @ Rs. 16,000/- per month and Contingency @ Rs.25,000/- per annum plus H.R.A. as per university rules. For GATE qualified candidates:
   1. **1st & 2nd year Grant:** Fellowship @ Rs.16,000/- per month.
   2. **3rd, 4th & 5th:** Contingency @ Rs.12,000/- per annum plus HRA as per University rules, Fellowship @ Rs.18,000/- per month and Contingency @ Rs.25,000/- per annum plus H.R.A. as per university rules.

Research Fellows would be entitled for a maximum period of 30 days of leave in a year in addition to public holidays. They are not entitled to any other vacations. Women candidates are eligible for maternity leave of 135 days at full rates of fellowship once during the tenure of their award. In special cases Research Fellows may be allowed leave without fellowship by the Commission upto one academic year during the entire tenure of the award for accepting teaching assignments on a temporary basis, provided the assignment is in the same city/town. In other cases, leave without fellowship will be restricted to a period not exceeding three months during the tenure of the award on the recommendations of the supervisor and the institution.

**Procedure for Applying and Selection under the Scheme:** Only those candidates who are selected for registering to the Ph.D. programme of the university through a procedure outlined already in the UGC notification by a regular admission procedure in Universities with Potential for Excellence/Centers with Potential for Excellence/Centers of Advance Studies and Department of Special Assistance identified by UGC are
eligible to apply for fellowship under the scheme. The registration for Ph.D. may follow after the admissions. They will have to apply for Research Fellowship to the identified Universities/Institutions. The selections would be made by the concerned institution as per the provisions contained in these guidelines. This is a direct benefit transfer scheme; the grant is released through Canara Bank to the selected candidates. At the end of every three months the fellow has to submit Continuation Certificate to the designated Canara Bank branch in order to become eligible to draw fellowship for the next three months. Thereafter the initiation of disbursement of next year fellowship will take place. On completion of first two years of the award, the Fellow may apply to the department/university concerned for continuation. The concerned departments are expected to monitor the work of the Fellow continuously. The tenure of the fellowship is for five years from the date of joining, subject to satisfactory progress report of the Fellow or submission of Ph.D. thesis, whichever is earlier. No extension is permissible beyond the total tenure of five years and the awardees ceases to be a UGC Research Fellow under the scheme of BSR immediately after expiry of the due date.

(v) **D. S. Kothari Post Doctoral Fellowships in Sciences**

Post-doctoral research is an important enabling step in grooming young researchers for launching an academic/research career. This is a transition phase from a largely supervisor directed student at doctoral level to an independent researcher for leadership position, particularly in academia. Experience in other parts of the world has shown that university faculty is best inducted from among candidates who had a year or two of post-doctoral training and is generally considered an essential requirement. Mentoring for independent research is an indispensable element of post-doctoral training. However, in our country post-doctoral research culture has not caught on and is practiced only sporadically in a few selected places. Ironically, Ph. D's from leading institutions in India, particularly in
basic sciences prefer seeking post-doctoral positions overseas. Thus, a `home grown' program can be expected to partly redeem the expected short fall in trained faculty required for HEI's.

It is in this context that UGC initiative to launch a prestigious initiative, named after an illustrious scientist, is important and timely and fills a widely felt void. Several agencies like UGC/CSIR/DST/DBT and a few selected institutions have schemes to award (also called Research Associateships (RAs)) through open call. In our context, with no clearly defined bench marks for thesis quality, a post-doctoral stint for many fresh PhD’s may be also an opportunity to overcome the deficiencies at doctoral level research as well as an opportunity to explore new areas of research in different settings. The selection process is open all the year round in `...as and when.... ' mode and not restricted by any specified deadlines as thesis submission and award of Ph. D degree are open ended processes. The entire process would be carried out on-line. On the basis of the grades received (electronically) from the peer group, the Chair of this group takes the final decision. Since this is a promotional scheme to inculcate post-doctoral research culture, emphasis during the review process/selection should be an appropriate mix of the candidate's accomplishment at Ph. D level and the professional standing of mentor and institution where the post-doctoral research is to be carried out. There could be up to 500 such awards every year, making it to about 1000 at its peak.

**Eligibility and duration:** Candidates who have either received a Ph. D degree or submitted their Ph. D thesis are eligible to apply. Those who have submitted their Ph. D thesis may be awarded a `bridging fellowship' (with marginally reduced stipend) until they are formally awarded the Ph. D degree. The fellowship is awarded on a yearly basis with renewal/termination clause on the basis of mentor/peer group appraisal. The maximum duration of the award would be 3 years. The stipend for these awards should be Rs.28,000-30,000/- pm with annual increase of
Rs.1000 p.a. The ‘bridging fellowship' stipend should be Rs. 22,000/- pm. The award should carry a contingency grant of Rs.1,00,000/- pa. This is a direct benefit transfer scheme the grant is released through Canara Bank to the selected candidates.

(vi) Scheme of Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Minority Students

The Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Minority Students is formulated and funded by Ministry of Minority Affairs. The scheme is open to candidates who belong to one of the Minority Community i.e. Muslim, Sikh, Parsi, Buddhist & Christian and wish to pursue higher studies such as regular and full time M.Phil/Ph.D. degrees in Sciences, Humanities, Social Sciences and Engineering & Technology. There are 756 slots every year for all the subjects. Three percent of fellowships are reserved for Physically Handicapped candidates belonging to Minority Candidates as per provision laid down by the Government of India.

Eligibility: A candidate has to fulfill the following conditions to be eligible for award of this fellowship:- (i) He/She should belong to one of the minority communities – Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Buddhist and Parsi, notified under Section 2 (c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992. (ii) He/She should submit the minority community certificate on self declaration basis on a non-judicial stamp paper of rupees ten, until the State Government/ Union Territory Administration starts to issue the minority community certificate. (iii) He/She should get admission and registration for regular and full time M.Phil/Ph.D courses in University/Academic Institution at the first available opportunity not later than with in a period of 2 years from the receipt of award letter (this period is not extendable). The admission and registration should be taken by fulfilling conditions of admission of that University/Institution, subject to provisions of the scheme as per advertisement of UGC. (iv) Minority
community students once considered eligible for the fellowship shall not be entitled to benefits under any other scheme of the Central or State Government or any other body like UGC for the same study. (v) Not more than two students from one family can avail MOMA fellowship. (vi) Actual payment of the fellowship will be made with effect from the date of joining only. (vii) Fellowship cannot be transferred from one minority community to another. (viii) The annual income of the beneficiary/parents or guardian of the beneficiary should not exceed Rs. 4.5 lakh from all sources. He/she should submit his/her income or his/her parent’s/guardian’s income certificate issued by the appropriate Authority.

**Nature of Assistance:** The tenure of fellowship is initially for two years under the MANF Scheme. Before expiry of this period, the work of the Fellow will be evaluated by a Committee of three members comprising of Head of the Department, Supervisor and one outside subject expert to be constituted by the concerned Department of the /University/ Institution/ College. If the research work is found satisfactory, his/her tenure will be extended further for a period of three years under the enhanced emoluments of the Maulana Azad National Senior Research Fellowship (MANSRF). Thus, the total period of fellowship (MANJRF and MANSRF) is for five years, with no further provision of extension. The amount of fellowship/contingency etc. must be paid to the fellow by the University/ Institute/ College in the first week of every month. Presently the rates of fellowship are as follows: - Fellowship (w.e.f. 1st April 2010) @ Rs. 16,000/- for initial two years (JRF) @ Rs. 18,000/- for remaining tenure (SRF) Contingency for Humanities & Social Sciences and Commerce. @ Rs. 10,000/- p.a. for initial two years @ Rs. 20,500/- p.a. for remaining three years. Contingency for Science @ Rs. 12,000/- p.a. for initial two years @ Rs. 25,000/- p.a. for remaining three years. Departmental Assistance @ Rs. 3,000/- p.a. per student to the host institution for providing infrastructure Escorts/Reader Assistance @ Rs. 2,000/- p.m. in
case of physically and visually challenged candidates. Suitable single-seated hostel accommodation may be provided to MANJRF candidate in the University/Institution/College. In case of non-availability, HRA as per rules of the university/ institution/ college will be paid to the Fellow subject to the submission of an HRA certificate through the Registrar/Director/Principal. Maulana Azad National Junior Research Fellow provided with accommodation in a hostel recognized/maintained by the institutions may be reimbursed the hostel fee, excluding mess, electricity, water charges, etc.

(vii) Post Doctoral Fellowship for Women Candidates

The UGC has initiated a Scheme of Post Doctoral Fellowship for Women candidates, who are unemployed and holding Ph. Degree in their respective subject areas with an aim to accelerate the talented instincts of the women candidates to carry out the advanced studies and research. The objective of this award is to provide an opportunity to carry out the advanced studies and research in science, engineering and technology, humanities and social sciences in Indian Universities and Colleges recognized under Section 2 (f) and fit to receive assistance under section 12 (B) of the UGC Act, 1956 and Institutes of National Importance established by the Central/State Government. The total duration of the fellowship is five years. Only Ph.D awarded unemployed candidates will be eligible for the award of Post Doctoral Fellowship.

Eligibility and Target Group: The candidate must have a doctorate degree in the relevant subject preferably with published research work to their credit In case of general/open category, 55% marks at UG level and 60% of marks at PG level. For reserved categories (SC/ST/OBC/PH) candidates, 50% at UG level and 55% at PG level. The upper age limit for applicants is 55 years for the candidates belonging to general/open category and 60 years for SC/ST/OBC/PH/Minority communities, as on 1st July on the year of application.
**Nature of Assistance available under the Scheme:** The number of slots available under the scheme is 100 per year. The tenure of the award is five years with no provision for further extension. The financial assistance available under the scheme is as follows: Fellowship @ Rs.25,000/- per month (fixed) and @Rs.30,000/- p.m. after two years. Contingency @Rs.50,000/- per annum for five years Departmental Assistance 10% of Post Doctoral Fellowship to the host institution Escorts/Reader assistance @ Rs. 2000/- p.m. (fixed) in cases of physically disabled & blind Candidates. In addition to above, the fellow is also entitled for HRA, Medical, leave etc. Post Doctoral Fellowship provided with accommodation in hostel recognized/ maintained by the institutions may be reimbursed the hostel fee, excluding mess, electricity, water charges, etc. The Post Doctoral Fellow will submit a certificate for this purpose to the UGC for claiming HRA through the concerned University/ Institution/ College. Medical: No separate/fixed medical assistance is provided. However, the Post Doctoral Fellow may avail of the medical facilities available in the University/Institution/ College. The fellow in special cases may be allowed by the Commission leave without fellowship and contingency for a period not exceeding three months during the tenure of award on the recommendation of the Head of department of the institution concerned.

**Procedure for release of grant by the UGC:** It may be noted that the fellowship amount shall be disbursed through Canara Bank to the bank account of the awardee, directly. The awardee is required to approach the designated branch along with a Copy of the Award Letter and Joining Report with photograph, address and contact number in the prescribed Performa. The candidates of SC/ST/OBC/PH categories having 50% marks at UG level and 55% marks at PG level and upto the age of 60 years are eligible to apply under the Scheme. The candidates belonging to Minority category upto the age of 60 are eligible to apply under the Scheme.
(viii) **Scheme for University Rank Holders**

Higher Education has had played a very vital role in the history of nation building all over the world. It is amply clear that no rise in general standards of living and culture is possible without strengthening the higher education system in the country. It is being increasingly observed that the brighter lot is not pursuing Post-Graduate education in our institutions of higher learning. The UGC, therefore, introduced a Post-Graduate Merit Scholarship Scheme for University undergraduate rank holders. The scholarship may be tenable for a period of two years to enable the rank holders of each university at undergraduate level to pursue their Master’s Degree. All universities/degree awarding institutions would be required to issue rank certificates to the toppers of the university in B.A., B.Sc., and B.Com. The purpose of this scheme is to attract talent for pursuing post graduate studies besides strengthening the basic subjects at Undergraduate level. The awardees, under this scheme, can pursue their Postgraduate programme in any area of specialization in any institution of higher learning in the country.

**Eligibility:** The First & Second Rank holders at undergraduate level and admitted in any Postgraduate Course would be awarded the scholarship. The students will have to submit the proof of their merit position at undergraduate level as well as their admission in postgraduate courses. The scholarship would, however, be subjected to securing a minimum of sixty per cent marks at undergraduate level. The scheme is applicable to such students who have taken admission in regular, full-time Master’s Degree course in any recognized university, deemed university, private university, autonomous college or a post graduate college. The total number of scholarships in the first academic year would be 3000. The duration of the scholarship will be two years only. The rank holders would be considered from affiliated universities wherein at least 100 students and in Deemed/Private Universities, Autonomous/Non-affiliated Colleges, at
least 25 students have appeared in the examination at undergraduate level in the aforesaid programmes. Each awardee, under the scheme, will be provided a scholarship of Rs.2,000/- p.m. for a period of two years (i.e. 10 months in a year). The second year grant will be released after receiving Utilization Certificate and statement of expenditure along with the progress report of the first year. No other additional grants will be payable in lieu of hostel charges and medical charges etc.

(ix) Award of Post Graduate Scholarship for Professional Courses (for SC/ST Candidates)

The scheme has been initiated keeping in view the social background of the candidates from the deprived section of the society and to provide them opportunity to undertake postgraduate level studies in Professional subjects like Engineering & Technology, Management, Pharmacy etc. in Indian Universities/Institutions/ Colleges.

Eligibility: The candidate must have obtained Graduate degree in the relevant subject and obtained admission at Postgraduate level for regular full time course in any of the Professional subject in a recognized University/Institution/College. The upper age limit for male applicants is 45 years as on 1st July on the year of application, and 50 years in the case of female candidates. In exceptional cases, the age may be relaxed. The candidates belonging to SC/ST categories fulfilling the eligibility conditions are required to apply against the advertisement to be published by the UGC after obtaining admission in a recognized University/ Institution/ College. The selections would be completed by the end of August every year in prescribed format.

Nature of Assistance available under the Scheme: The number of slots available under the scheme is 1000 per year. The tenure of award is for two/three years depending upon tenure of the postgraduate course. Candidates selected for the award of PG scholarships shall be provided
Scholarship @Rs.5000/- per month (M.Tech.) with the contingency of Rs. 15000/- per annum and for other courses @ Rs.3000/- per month and contingency grant of Rs.10,000/- per annum for the duration of the PG Scholarship for other courses. On receipt of duly completed application form of the candidate together with required documents and based on the merit of the candidate the UGC office shall release the first installment of the admissible grant to the concerned institution. The progress of the candidate shall be monitored by the head of the department. The candidate is required to submit a yearly progress report duly signed by the Head of the Department and Registrar of the University or Head of the Institution or Principal of the College.

(x) Grant to University/College Teachers for Major Research Project

The University Grants Commission strives to promote teaching and research in emerging areas in Humanities, Social Sciences, Languages, Literature, Pure sciences, Engineering & Technology, Pharmacy, Medical, and Agricultural Sciences etc. The emphasis would be supporting such areas that cut across disciplines and subjects such as health, gerontology, environment, biotechnology, nanotechnology, stress management, WTO and its impact on economy, history of science, Asian philosophy and many other areas as would be identified by subject experts.

Eligibility and Target Groups: The permanent teachers working in self financing Institutions [Self financing colleges subject to fulfillment of conditions stipulated in the UGC (Fitness of Institution for grant Rules, 1975) and subject to the condition that fees charged by such colleges are in accordance with the State/University fee regulations or as laid down by any law in force also eligible to apply under the scheme. A teacher, working or retired can avail only one project/scheme of the UGC at any given time.

Nature of Assistance: The quantum of assistance for a research project will be as under: (1) Major Research Project in Sciences including
Engineering & Technology, Medical, and Pharmacy Agriculture etc. -Rs. 20.00 lacs. (2) Major Research Project in Humanities, Social Science, Languages, Literature, Arts, Law and allied disciplines - Rs. 15.00 lacs.

The Commission will provide financial support for the items like Equipment, Books and Journals, (Project Fellow), Hiring Services, Contingency, Chemicals and Consumables, Travel and Field work. Non-Recurring Grants will be for equipment, books and journals. The equipment as well as books & journals grants may be utilized to procure the essential equipments and books & journals needed for the proposed research work. The equipments and books & journals acquired by the Principal Investigator under a Major Research Project must be deposited to University/ College/Institution or in the departmental library or the central library after the completion of the project which will be the institutional property. The University/colleges/Institution should make every effort to put all the equipment available in the laboratories in effective use.

Recurring Grants consists of (a) Honorarium to Retired Teachers

Honorarium to retired teachers admissible at the rate of Rs.18,000/- p.m. upto the age of 70 years. If the Principal Investigator attains the age of 70 years during middle of the tenure of the project and some more work needs to be done, the Principal Investigator should complete the work without any honorarium for the rest of the period. (b) Project Fellow may be appointed with a consolidated fellowship of: (i) NET/GATE qualified-Rs. 16,000/- p.m. for initial two years and Rs. 18,000/- per month for the third year (ii) Non-GATE/Non-NET- Rs. 14,000/- p.m. for initial two years and Rs. 16,000/- per month for the third year. The person to be considered for appointment as Project Fellow must have second class master degree with a minimum of 55% marks for general category (50% in case of SC/ST/PH) or M.Phil in the subject concerned or a related subject.

**Procedure for release of Grants:** The first installment of the grant shall comprise of 100% of the Non – Recurring including over head
Charges, and 50% of the total Recurring grant approved by the Commission for the total duration of the project. The grant will be released to the Registrar/Principal of the University/College. On the basis of recommendations of the experts, progress report, expenditure statement and utilization certificate, the UGC will release the 40% of the total recurring grant as the second installment. If the Non-Recurring grant is not utilized before Mid-term Evaluation meeting, prior permission may be obtained from the Vice-Chancellor of the University. Remaining 10% will be released on receipt of following completion documents as final reimbursement.

(xi) **New Recruitment Faculty Start-up Grant**

UGC Empowered Committee spearheading a national effort to strengthen Basic Scientific Research in universities and colleges has found it desirable to launch a scheme on “Research start-up grant for Newly Recruited Faculty” at Assistant Professor Level.

**Eligibility:** All teachers who are newly appointed at the level of Assistant Professor against the permanent post in the faculties of Basic Science, Engineering and Technology, following the specified procedure of university will be eligible to receive financial support under the scheme. The Assistant professor should possess Ph.D. degree with minimum two research publications in approved/cited journals.

**Nature of Assistance:** The UGC will provide a grant of Rs.6.00 lakh for items like minor equipment (up to Rs.1.00 lakh only), consumables, contingencies and field work. There shall not be any request for the post of Research Fellow/Project assistance etc., since it is expected that the assistant professor as a young researcher needs to conduct bench work by himself/herself. The grant should be utilized within two years of approval. The Assistant Professor will send the Utilization Certificate along with statement of expenditure through the University/College.
(xii) One Year LLM Course

The Round Table on Legal Education set up by the MHRD suggested a number of measures to restructure and revamp Legal Education system in the country including introduction of one year LL.M programme. The Expert Committee constituted by the UGC for this purpose has submitted Guidelines for Introduction of One Year LL.M degree programme, 2012. The Commission considered the guidelines for introduction of one year LL.M programme, 2012 and approved introduction of one year LL.M degree programme only in such universities/institutions which have a Centre for Post-Graduate Legal Studies.

The main features of the one year LL.M. programme are as follows: (i) Every university desirous of starting one year LLM programme under these Guidelines shall establish a Centre for Post-Graduate Legal Studies (CPGLS) which will have a dedicated team of senior teachers competent to guide post-graduate scholars including Ph. D. students. (ii) Post-Graduate education in law is to be offered only after fulfilling the minimum requirements in terms of faculty, infrastructure etc. prescribed under these Guidelines. (iii) Admission to one-year LL.M. Degree shall be done through an All India Admission Test conducted every year by the Universities individually or by a group of universities collectively. (iv) While reducing the duration to one year, universities must ensure that steps may be taken to make the course rigorous to maintain academic quality and standards. Towards this end, the programme is to be organized on a trimester basis ensuring at least twelve weeks of teaching/research/practical in each trimester. The object of this recommendation is to ensure sufficient time for teaching/learning for an intensive one year LL.M. programme and if a University were to seek organizing it on a semester basis, it should be ensured that the minimum time prescribed is accommodated in 2 such semester programme. (v) The one year LLM programme may be introduced from the Academic Year, 2013-14 in all
(xiii) **Travelling Grant Scheme for College Teachers/College Librarians/Vice Chancellors/Commission Members and UGC Officers**

This scheme is for providing financial assistance to permanent teachers and librarians of colleges and vice-chancellors of state universities, deemed to be universities and central universities to present research papers at international conferences abroad. In addition, this facility is available to the permanent teachers of Institutions of National Importance with a cap of 10% of the total approved cases in a year. The Commission members and UGC Officers at the level of EO/US and above are also eligible to apply under this scheme. The objective of the scheme is to enable the permanent College Teachers/College Librarians/Vice-chancellors/Commission Members/UGC Officers at the level of EO/US and above to present their research paper(s) in international conferences.

**Nature of Assistance Available under the Scheme** : The financial assistance for permanent teachers of colleges, College Librarians will be paid on 100% once in three years for the total admissible expenditure such as travel, registration fee, per diem allowance and visa fee. Vice-chancellors, of State Universities, deemed to be Universities and Central Universities and SC/ST/OBC (non creamy layer)/Physically Handicapped Teachers will be provided financial assistance once in two years on 100% basis. The necessary document/certificate must be enclosed with the application for relaxation.

(b) **Schemes for Universities**

(i) **Coaching Schemes for SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) & Minority Students for Universities**

The UGC has decided to make special allocations for promoting higher education for the Minorities during the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The Government of India has declared Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists,
Jains and Parsis as religious Minorities. Altogether they constitute about 19% of the Indian population. Their educational development is generally low with wide variations in different states and levels of education. The Commission has been providing separate assistance to the universities (i) for remedial coaching at UG and PG level (ii) coaching for entry into services (iii) coaching for NET to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Minority candidates. The Commission has decided to merge this scheme with the General Developmental Assistance scheme of the universities and assistance for this component will be over and above the ceiling of General Developmental Assistance.

Objectives of the scheme is to improve the academic skills and linguistic proficiency of the students in various subjects, to raise their level of comprehension of basic subjects to provide a stronger foundation for further academic work, to strengthen their knowledge, skills and attitudes in such subjects, where quantitative and qualitative techniques and laboratory activities are involved and to provide career guidance and psychological counseling for capacity building to those who are in need of such counseling, to prepare students to gain useful employment in Group ‘A’, ‘B’ and ‘C’ in Central services, State services and equivalent positions in private sector and to orient students for particular examination conducted for selection to services such as IAS, State Public Services, Bank recruitment etc and to provide coaching for National Eligibility Test or State Eligibility Test for SC/ST/OBC (Non Creamy-Layer) & Minority Community Students:

The institutions can apply for one or more components of the scheme according to the number of enrolment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBC (Non Creamy Layer), Minorities Communities Students. The financial assistance is available for the following items: (i) Non-recurring items: A “one time” grant up to Rs. 5.0 lakhs for each scheme for the following items: 1. Books and Journals 2. Audio-visual and
teaching/learning aid material 3. Computers with Printer 4. Photocopier 5. Generator or Inverter. (ii) Recurring Items: Rs.7.00 lakhs for universities for each scheme per annum for expenditure on the following items: (1) Honorarium to the Coordinator of the schemes @Rs. 2000/- per month. (2) Remuneration to teachers and scholars. (3) Part-time staff with computer knowledge (on contract basis) @ Rs. 6,000/- p.m. (4) Part time Peon/Attendant @ Rs.1000/- p.m (5) Contingency - Rs 50,000/- per annum. Remuneration at the rate of Rs. 300/- per hour per subject to the teachers and Rs.200/- per hour to postgraduate students/ Research Scholars could be paid for theory classes and Rs.150/-per hour respectively for practicals. Generally, a faculty member should not teach for more than 2 hours a day. However, in exceptional cases where an eminent educationist is invited for Special lecture, the remuneration @ Rs.500/- per hour and admissible T.A. could be paid with the approval of the Head of the Institution.

(ii) Persons with Disabilities Scheme in Universities

The Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 indicates that differently-abled persons should have access to education at all levels. In the higher education sector, the University Grants Commission (UGC) is supporting universities in the country to involve in special education activities to empower differently-abled persons. The UGC had started the scheme of assistance to universities to facilitate Teacher Preparation in Special Education (TEPSE) and Higher Education for Persons with Special Needs (Differently-abled Persons) (HEPSN) during the Ninth Five-Year Plan, which continued in the Tenth Plan. Keeping in view the need to provide special education programmes as well as infrastructure to differently-abled persons in higher education institutions, the scheme is extended to the Twelfth Plan too.

Eligibility: Higher education institutes offering special education course at B.Ed.and/or M.Ed. level will be given assistance under the
following conditions- (i) The university department should have the approval of the Rehabilitation Council of India for starting the concerned teacher preparation course in special education. (ii) The university should have a model school where differently-abled children are admitted. In the absence of its own model school, university should produce in writing the acceptance of a special/integrated school in the vicinity to function as a model school. (iii) The university should have a minimum of five years of experience in running B.Ed. level teacher preparation courses.

**Financial Assistance**: Financial assistance to the university departments of education will be given by the UGC as per the following norms:- The university departments will be sanctioned one professor or one associate professor and two Assistant Professors to run a B.Ed. course; and one professor, one associate professor and three Assistant Professors when the university offers an M.Ed. course too in special education in any one of the specific disability areas with a minimum of 20 students and a maximum of 30. In the case of University departments desirous of offering M.Ed. special education courses only, provided one of its constituent/affiliating colleges offers B.Ed. special education in the same specialization, one Professor, one Associate Professor, and one Assistant Professor will be sanctioned. The staff appointed for special education courses should have necessary educational qualifications prescribed by the Rehabilitation Council of India. In addition to the salary grant, the UGC will provide a maximum of Rs. 2,00,000/- per institute towards purchase of books, journals, use of services from collaborating institutions, special aids and appliances for its special education teacher preparation courses when it runs a B.Ed. special education or M.Ed. special education course only and provides an assistance of Rs. 4,00,000/- when it runs both B.Ed. and M.Ed. special education courses. However, this grant will be sanctioned only after the staffs approved have been appointed by the university. The continuation of the grant to the institute is contingent upon the
demonstration of satisfactory performance during the midterm evaluation to be carried out by the UGC.

(c) Schemes for Colleges only

(i) The Special Scheme of Construction of Women’s Hostel for Colleges

Increasing mobility of students, to seek the education they desire, raises the demand for hostels. Hostel as a residential unit can foster community living; provide security, especially for women students, who would, then, need not have to live alone, or even in small groups, in strange cities. There is a great dearth of women’s hostels, not only in the institutions exclusively serving women but in some of the established, old co-educational institutions of the country, which, in the earlier decades, largely catered to men students when there was little mobility for women to seek education in places other than their own residential locations. While women, today, constitute one-third of the total enrolment, in fact, their enrolment, is growing at a faster rate in several states of the country. However, there has not been a commensurate growth of hostel facilities for women to pursue higher studies. With a view to provide hostels and other infrastructural facilities to achieve the goal of enhancing the status of women and harness the potential available for the development of the society at large, as also to bring about gender equity and equal representation of women, the Commission has decided to continue the special scheme for the Construction of Women’s Hostels during the Twelfth Plan Period.

Objective of the scheme is to support all eligible colleges for Construction of Women’s Hostels for providing a residential place for women students/researchers/teachers and other staff. It shall be mandatory for every college to get accredited by the Accreditation Agency, after passing out of two batches or six years, whichever is earlier. Assistance
from the UGC under the scheme to colleges will be on 100% basis subject to the ceiling. Expenditure, over and above the UGC allocation, will have to be met by the institution from its own resources, for which, clear indication and assurance should be given by the concerned institution while submitting a proposal. The amount of grant varies from 40 lakh to 120 lakh depending upon the type of state. Each institution seeking grant under this scheme may submit its proposal in the prescribed proforma along with plan and estimates, as and when applications are invited by the UGC. 50% of the approved grant will be released after receiving the Building Committee’s resolution intimating the approval of plan and estimate, along with other documents mentioned at Section 6.7 in the XII Plan guidelines for ‘Construction of Building’. 40% of the approved grant will be released on receipt of satisfactory report from the physical verification committee on the progress of construction and progress report indicating the stage of construction, audited Statement of Income and Expenditure and audited utilization certificate of the first installment (c) Remaining 10% of the grant will be released on receipt of the Completion documents.

(ii) Scheme of Equal Opportunity Centre for Colleges

India is a country of diversity. It is a hub of different religions, castes and cultures. It is these social inequalities that created the barriers of denial of access to materials, cultural and educational resources to the disadvantaged groups of society. These disadvantaged groups are SCs, STs, women, OBC (non-creamy layer), minorities and physically challenged persons. The minorities including Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists and others collectively constitute about 19% of the Indian population.

For eradication of social disparities, various provisions were made in the Indian Constitution. Therefore, the UGC has planned to establish
Equal Opportunity Centers in colleges. The objectives of this scheme are to oversee the effective implementation of policies and programmes for disadvantaged groups, to provide guidance and counseling with respect to academic, financial, social and other matters and to enhance the diversity within the campus.

The UGC shall provide financial assistance to meet contingency expenditure, expenditure for organizing meetings and honorarium to the Advisor, as given below-Assistance to the Postgraduate Colleges and Undergraduate Colleges to the tune of Rs.50, 000/- and Rs.30,000/- per annum respectively. The honorarium for the Advisor shall be at the rate of Rs.1000/- per month and Rs.25,000/- per annum to organize a short-term course on positive discrimination of SC and ST for national development at the beginning of every academic session for newly enrolled students. At the end of the programme, the students may be asked to write a summary of what they have learnt and a certificate may be issued to them. The first year’s grant will be released after approval. The release of further grant would be based on the utilization of earlier grant.

(iii) Coaching Schemes for SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) & Minorities for Colleges

In order to enable students belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Minority communities, who need remedial coaching to come up to the 30 Level necessary for pursuing higher studies efficiently and to reduce their failure and drop-out rate, the UGC will provide financial assistance for conducting special classes outside the regular timetable during the Twelfth Plan. Students belonging to Other Backward Classes and General Candidates may also be allowed the benefit of such coaching classes. A nominal fee (not exceeding the monthly tuition fee) may be charged from the general candidates. Remedial Coaching is to be organized at Undergraduate/Postgraduate level with a view to (i) Improving academic
skills and linguistic proficiency of the students in various subjects. (ii) Raising their level of comprehension of basic subjects to provide a stronger foundation for further academic work. (iii) Strengthening their knowledge, skills and attitudes in such subjects, where quantitative and qualitative techniques and laboratory activities are involved so that proper guidance and training provided under the programme may enable the students to come up to the level necessary for pursuing higher studies efficiently.

**Eligibility**:-Colleges having at least 100 students belonging to SC/ST/OBC (excluding creamy layer)/ Minority communities will be considered for financial assistance under this scheme. 20% of the total number students other than those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (excluding creamy layer)/ Minority communities may also be considered for caching under the scheme.

**Nature of Assistance** :Non-recurring items:- (i) Equipment: Rs. 3.00 lakh (ii) Books and Journals and Study Materials: Rs.2.00 lakh. Recurring items :The assistance under Recurring items not to exceed Rs.10.00 lakh for the Plan period. Honorarium to the Coordinator @ Rs.1000/- per month (applicable during the months when remedial coaching is being actually conducted plus honorarium for one extra month towards preparation/ organization, but not to exceed Rs.12,000/- per annum). Theory Classes: Rs.250/- per hour, per subject to teachers, including retired teachers, Rs.150/- per hour, per subject to postgraduate students / research scholars. Practicals : Rs.75/- per hour. However, in exceptional cases, where an eminent educationist is invited for special lecture, the remuneration of Rs.500/- per lecture and admissible Travelling Allowance could be paid, with the approval of the Head of the Institution. Payment to Part-time LDC with Computer knowledge, not to exceed Rs.18,000/- per annum. Contingency: Rs.10000/- per annum. The final amount of grant to be allocated would depend upon the number of students enrolled, as evident from the proposal and the recommendations of the
Expert Committee. The release of further grant would be based on the utilization of earlier grant. At the end of each academic year, the Coordinator will submit, through the Principal, an appraisal report, indicating the performance of each candidate. 11

(B) Indian Council of Historical Research

Indian Council of Historical Research is an autonomous organization which was established under Societies Registration Act (Act XXI of 1860) in 1972. The main objectives of the Indian Council of Historical Research are to bring historians together and provide a forum for exchange of views between them and to give a national direction to an objective and scientific writing of history and to have rational presentation and interpretation of history and to elicit support and recognition for historical research from all concerned and ensure the necessary dissemination and use of results.

In pursuance of these objectives (a) the Council provides fellowships and financial assistance to the young teachers in colleges, universities and registered research organizations, as well as to senior scholars who might need financial support, (b) brings historians together by providing financial assistance for holding symposia, seminars, workshops, etc for exchanging views related to history, (c) provides publication subsidy to the seminars, congress proceedings and journals so that these publications may reach to researchers and scholars. The council provides Junior Research Fellowship, Post Doctoral Fellowship, Research Project Grants, Foreign travel Grant, Publication Subsidy, Seminar/workshop grant and Contingency Grant.

The rules of admissible grants, their amount, duration and procedure are amended time to time and are available at the ICHR website. 12

(C) Indian Council of Philosophical Research

Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) was set up in 1977
by the Ministry of Education, Government of India as an autonomous organization for the promotion of research in Philosophy and allied discipline. The ICPR was born out of the conviction that Indian philosophy tradition deserves to have an exclusive and special agency in the country. The one programme worth mentioning of the ICPR is the Fellowship Scheme. The main objective of ICPR Fellowship Scheme is to promote research in philosophy at various levels by providing opportunities to scholars, especially the young scholars, to engage themselves on a whole time basis, in research projects on the themes of their choice, preferably among the major areas of investigation identified by the Council or in the Council’s own projects in the field of philosophy and related disciplines.

The Council encourages research in major areas of investigation and provide financial assistance which are modified time to time suit various categories of students and other professional. Besides it also offers fellowship programmes and refresher courses. The major areas include (i) Theories of Truth and Knowledge (ii) Basic Values Embodied in Indian Culture and their relevance to National Reconstruction (iii) Normative Inquiries (Ethics and Aesthetics) (iv) Interdisciplinary Inquiries (Ethics and Aesthetics) (v) Philosophy, Science and Technology (vi) Social and Political Philosophy and Philosophy of Law (vii) Metaphysics and (viii) Philosophy of Social Sciences.¹³

(D) National Council of Rural Institutes (NCRI)

The National Council of Rural Institute is a registered autonomous society fully funded by the Central Government. It was established on October 19, 1995 with its Headquarters at Hyderabad. Its main objectives are to promote rural higher education on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi’s vision for education so as to take up challenges of micro planning for transformation of rural areas as envisaged in National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986. In order to achieve its objectives, the NCRI has been
identifying various programmes for providing support and financial assistance, to be taken up by suitable institutions including voluntary organizations.

The NCRI interfaces with rural institutes of higher learning like Rural Universities, Rural Development Institutes, National Rural Livelihoods Mission and State Livelihood Action units, Community Polytechnics, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Centers even while collaborating and converging with the objectives of Panchayati Raj Institutions, cooperatives, NGOs including Gandhian Institutes and self-help groups, amongst others, that can make lasting difference to the life and living standards of the rural masses. HRD is our operational framework and Human Development is the goal. *Sab Ka Sath Sab Ka Vikas* would be the guiding philosophy and strategy of NCRI, as enunciated by the Prime Minister of India, Sri Narendra Modi. Development of backward areas and their representative institutions, boosting the flagship social and rural development programmes with focus on education, skill development, employment, livelihoods and *Swacch Bharat* comprise the core initiatives

The training programmes of the NCRI including Workshops and Seminars would be offered in two phases in 2015-16. The first phase will include 36 programmes at the Institute and at the venues of the collaborating organizations such as National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Swamy Ramananda Tirtha Rural Institute, Sri Aurobindo society, Puducherry. As part of its proactive and continuing Research and Training endeavour, the NCRI has to date initiated over 200 Research Projects in different parts of the country between 1995-2012. Of these, 115 projects have been fully completed and appraised by a specialized committee of the NCRI.  

3.3.4. Programmes Run by the State Governments with reference to Haryana State

Most of the Higher Education programmes of the State are
sponsored either by the central government or by some autonomous bodies. Besides, there are some of the programmes which are run solely by the states. These programmes are funded by the state governments and therefore, the state government frames the rules regarding eligibility, amount, duration and other terms and conditions of these programmes.

Haryana Government has also started many programmes of Higher Education for the benefit of its students. Some of these programmes are for all the categories of students while some other are for the benefit of a special category of students. In brief some of the important Higher Education programmes run by the Haryana State are described below:

(a) **Haryana State Meritorious Incentive Scheme**

This programme is run by Ministry of Education, Haryana. This scheme is meant for the students who attain merit position in Annual University Examinations.

Under this scheme, the male students (General Category) female students (General Category) and S.C. students (both male and female) will be given fixed annual incentive, based on their position/performance in Annual University examination of main educational streams, such as Arts, Commerce, Science (Medical and Non-Medical) and Education in both undergraduate and post graduate classes.

The objective of the scheme is to encourage the meritorious students studying in the Government Colleges of the State by giving a substantial amount to them as a motivating incentive.

**Eligibility:** The student should satisfy the following criteria to avail the benefits under this scheme:-

1. This scheme will be college-specific and for three meritorious students in each stream who stood first, second and third in the annual university examination will be given this incentive.

2. The award will be given only to the students pursuing general courses
in the Government Colleges. Candidates from non-Government colleges and those who pursue their studies through correspondence courses/open universities will not be eligible for the award.

3. The merit list will be prepared separately for the boys (general category) Girls (general category) and S.C. students (Combined list of girls and boys).

4. In case S.C. students qualifies in the general list, his/her name would be considered in the general list and the extra award would be given (on the merit basis only) to the students of S.C. category.

5. The award holder under this scheme will hold any other scholarship/stipend from the State Government or any other source.

6. There is no income limit for these awards.

**Benefits**: The incentive will be awarded separately for each stream i.e. Arts, Commerce, Science (Medical/Non-Medical) and Education. The students who stand first in the merit will be given Rs.5000/- per annum, second - Rs.3000/- per annum and the student who stands third in the Merit will be given Rs.2000/- per annum.

(b) **Consolidated Stipend Scheme for Scheduled Caste Students Pursuing Higher Education**

This scheme was started by the state government on 01 Jul, 2008. The stipend is given to purchase the books for Scheduled Caste students. The objective of the scheme is to support scheduled caste students in order to improve their financial conditions.

**Eligibility and Beneficiaries**: The students eligible are SC students. The students will be disbursed stipend bi-monthly on the basis of at least 60% attendances in the classes. The students should be pursuing higher education.

**Benefits**: SC students studying in Colleges will be provided an
amount of Rs. 2000/- per student for the purchase of books and a stipend of Rs. 1000/- per month. The students should contact to the Principal or the Nodal officer of the same college to apply for the scheme.

(c) Stipend Scheme for Grandchildren of Freedom Fighters (2010-11) for Higher Education

This Scheme is run by Ministry of Women and Child, Haryana for grand children of freedom fighters for pursuing higher education in Government/Non-government aided colleges of Haryana for pursuing higher education in Government/Non-government aided colleges of Haryana for pursuing

Objective: The objective of the scheme is to honour the grandchildren (3rd Generation) of freedom fighters of Haryana. The Department has proposed that the scholarship – equivalent to the scholarship admissible to the children belonging to scheduled caste families may also be given to the grandchildren (3rd generation) of freedom fighters.

Eligibility: Only the grand children of Freedom Fighters are eligible. It has also been envisaged under the scheme that if after dropping out from the College the student re-joins the classes and he again attends minimum 50% classes in the subsequent 3 months, his previously due installment as well as the installment of the current quarter shall also be released. The amount of Scholarship will be released only after obtaining the good conduct/ attendance certificate from the Principal/head of the institution where the students is studying. The students who failed in the last year University Examination will be ineligible for the incentive. The benefits under this scheme are (i) For Colleges :Rs. 2000/- as one time allowance for books and (ii) Rs. 1000/-P.M for 12 months as monthly scholarship

(d) Scheme of Government of Haryana for Merit Scholarship to undergraduate girls Students

This Scheme of Government of Haryana is for merit scholarship to
under graduate girl students. This Scholarship will be given to the girl students who after passing 10+2 class with at least 60% marks are studying in any Government College.

**Eligibility:** This Scholarship will be given to the girl students who after passing 10+2 class with at least 60% marks are studying in any Government College. The awards will be given only to the students pursuing general degree courses. Candidates who pursue their studies through correspondence course/open universities will not be eligible for the award. A Scholarship holder under this scheme will not hold any other Scholarship/Stipend. However, they may accept a grant of minority help from the State Government or any other source for the purchase of books, equipment or for meeting the expenses of boarding and lodging. There is no income limit for this scheme.

**Duration and renewal of awards:** The awards will be given for three years. It will be renewed from year to year provided that the candidate secures at least 55% marks in the qualifying examination.

**Mode of selection:** The award shall be made strictly on merit basis. In case, more than one student secure equal marks / percentage of the marks to be worked out up to three decimal places. The Candidate junior most in age shall get the first priority. The Scholarship will be awarded on the recommendation of the Head of the institution, forwarded with the complete documents on the prescribed Proforma. In respect of the eligible Candidate, the awarding authority prescribed it before due/prescribed date every year. If the Scholar is found to be ineligible at any stage due to any reason, the Scholarship renewal will not be given. The Scholarship depends on the satisfactory progress and conduct of the Candidate. The Scholarship can be changed at any time at the discretion of the Government Of India. The Principals will send the list of awarded students to the Directorate along with the receipt as a proof of amount paid.
**Benefits:** Total number of fresh scholarships to be awarded is ten girl student per college. The value of the scholarship awarded will be Rs. 3000/- per student per annum. The Scholarships are tenable for pursuing general academic course in the Government Colleges only.

**(e) Anusuchit Jati Chhattra Ucch Shiksha Protsahan Yojana for Scheduled Castes Girls**

This scheme is also run by the Ministry of Education, Haryana. It was launched by Welfare of Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes Department, Haryana in the year 2010-11. In order to motivate parents of Scheduled Castes (SC) girls and to give education for drop-out after passing 10+2 examination and also to reduce adverse female ratio, a new scheme namely “Anusuchit Jati Chhattra Ucch Shiksha Protsahan Yojna” has been launched from the year 2009-10 by the Department Of Welfare of Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes.

Objective of this scheme is to motivate parents of Schedule Castes girls to educate their children and to encourage Girl Education.

**Eligibility:** Students should fulfill the following conditions: (i) Student should be Haryana domiciled & should belong to scheduled caste. (ii) The Annual Income of the parents/guardians should be more than 1.00 lac and less than 2.40 lacs (iii) Only those students are eligible that have not got benefit another schemes (iv) The students who are once awarded the scholarship under this scheme and secure promotion to the next higher class will get the renewal of scholarship in the next class for the whole duration of that course (v) The students who are given scholarship under this scheme will not be entitled to get scholarship under any other scheme except meritorious scholarship/incentive (vi) The award of the scholarship is subject to satisfactory progress and conduct of the student.
The following categories of students are eligible:

(a) Who are studying in diploma in Technical/Professional courses after 10+2.
(b) Who are studying in Graduation in commerce/science.
(c) Who are studying in graduation in Technical/Professional courses.
(d) Who are studying in Post Graduation in Commerce/Science Courses and
(e) The students who are studying in Post Graduation in Technical/Professional courses. Interested student should apply to District Welfare Officer or Taluka Welfare Officer.

(f) Scheme of providing books to Scheduled Castes students studying in government college, Haryana

This scheme was also started by the Department of Education, Haryana. Under this scheme, the students belonging to S.C. category, who are studying in any Government College (Except B.Ed. Colleges) of Haryana, will be provided a complete set of textbooks during their study period in every class. This scheme aims to help and motivate the SC students for Higher Studies. To be eligible students should belong to SC category of Haryana Domicile and should be a regular student of the institution.

Benefits: The books are given to the students through concerned college library and the student must return his/her books to the college concerned immediately after completion of the course. In case he/she fails to return the books he/she will be required to pay 25% cost of each book. The student will apply on a plain paper to the Principal of college in which he/she is studying.15

3.4. APPRAISAL

In this chapter we have discussed about overall policy of Higher Education. It has been found that policy of Higher Education is part of our
National Policy on Education. The earliest policy on Education was formed in the year 1968. It was promulgated in 1968 by the government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Since the nation's independence in 1947, the Indian government sponsored a variety of programmes to address the problems of illiteracy in both rural and urban India. The Union government established the University Education Commission (1948–1949) and the Secondary Education Commission (1952–1953) to develop proposals to modernize India's education system. The Resolution on Scientific Policy was adopted by the government of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister. Based on the report and recommendations of the Education Commission (1964–1966), the government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi announced the first National Policy on Education in 1968, which called for a "radical restructuring" and equalize educational opportunities in order to achieve national integration and greater cultural and economic development. The policy called for fulfilling compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14, as stipulated by the Constitution of India, and the better training and qualification of teachers. The policy called for focus on learning of regional languages, outlining the "three language formula" to be implemented in secondary education - the instruction of the English Language, the official language of the state where the school was based, and Hindi, the national language. Although the decision to adopt Hindi as the national language had proven controversial, the policy called for use and learning of Hindi to be encouraged uniformly to promote a common language for all Indians. It was revised in 1986 and further modified in the year 1992 as Programme of Action which is today known as New Policy on Education (NPE).

Various agencies are involved in preparing schemes of higher education. Main agency responsible for preparation and implementation of Higher Education programme is Ministry of Human Resources Development. Some of the schemes of Higher Education are looked after
by it directly and some of the schemes are left to be implemented and monitored by the University Grant Commission. The schemes and Scholarship abroad which are offered by various countries are run under the direct supervision of Ministry of HRD. In addition, Five Year Plans have also their own targets relating to infrastructure and financial assistance which focus on a particular aspect of higher education. Present Five Year Plan i.e. XII have its own targets for Higher Education. For the purpose of proper understanding these have been discussed separately. The University Grant Commission executes three categories of schemes of Higher Education. Firstly it offers schemes which are meant for both, the universities and the colleges. Second category of schemes is meant for universities only and the third category of schemes is meant for the colleges only. Besides, various autonomous organizations which have been established for a particular purpose have their own schemes of Higher Education and research. They prepare their own schemes and implement them directly. They have their own terms, area of operations and quantum of scholarship etc. which are updated time to time. The schemes of higher education have different types of element which provide support to the beneficiaries. The schemes have some direct financial benefits like scholarships, financial assistance for purchase of books, journals and other equipments for research. These scholarship/schemes also offer HRA, leave, Hostel facility or financial assistance in lieu of hostels if accommodation is not available. Some schemes provide free coaching or coaching at a nominal fee. Various types of contingency grants and Fellowships are also offered through these schemes. Diverse in their nature, yet they have one motto that is to encourage Higher Education learning in Indian.

Apart from the schemes sponsored by MHRD, UGC and other autonomous bodies, some of he schemes of Higher Education are also by the respective Education Departments of the state governments. These schemes are funded solely by the states. These schemes are local in nature
and are devised some special section of the students as per the policy of the state government. Haryana Government has also started various schemes of Higher education. While some of the schemes are meant for the students from weaker sections of population, there are some schemes which are meant for girls’ students only. Besides, there are some schemes which are general in nature and meant for all categories of students.
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