

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
6TH FLOOR, BIKASH BHAVAN, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA – 700091

No. 533-Edn/CS/10M-04/2015

Dated – 24. 06. 2016

ORDER

The State Government has been advised by the West Bengal State Council of Higher Education on the need to revise and update the syllabus and course curriculum at the UG and PG levels, keeping in view, inter alia, the State's vision to establish itself as a Higher Education Hub. The Council, which is the State's apex planning body for the higher education sector, in its meeting held on 13 June 2016 unanimously resolved that there was a need to undertake syllabus reform and revision at the earliest, in the larger interest of the students and the State. Some of the pressing reasons for undertaking syllabus revision and reform are:-

- (i) In order to move towards the adoption and implementation of the Choice Based Credit System at the UG level in the State's higher education institutions (as per the UGC Guidelines and Instructional Template for Facilitating Implementation of Choice Based Credit System vide D.O. no. SECY (HE)/2014/139980 dated the 28th November, 2014 of the Secretary, Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education and D.O. No. 1-12/2015 (CM) dated the 22nd December, 2015 of the Chairman, University Grants Commission), semesterization of curricula, standardization of examinations and credit system, restructuring of syllabi and modules and identification of core courses, elective courses and foundation courses among the State's higher education institutions, among other things, become necessary;
- (ii) In order to improve the performance of the State's students in national competitive examinations, including the National Eligibility Test conducted by the UGC, and to establish its credentials as a Higher Education Hub, the curricula and syllabi at the UG and PG levels need to be revised/ updated befitting the best institutions in the country;
- (iii) With a view to paving the way for conducting a common entrance test for PG-level courses in the State for enabling students to transcend regional/ geographical barriers and to get admission to any higher education institution in the State purely on the basis of merit, a level playing field ought to be created for students of all

universities, for which syllabi reform, especially at the UG level, is a critical element;

- (iv) In order to improve the employability quotient of pass-outs from West Bengal's higher education system, it is important that students are offered the very latest education in terms of course content and learning;
 - (v) In order to dynamically match the demands of a rapidly-changing global economy and knowledge-scape, a thorough review and overhaul of the curricula and syllabi in the State's higher education institutions becomes unavoidable.
2. Now, therefore, the Governor has desired that a high-level Committee of eminent Academicians be constituted by the West Bengal State Council of Higher Education to undertake, in close consultation and collaboration with the Universities concerned, a revision of the syllabus/ curricula / course content (starting with the UG level) and prepare a template of revised syllabus for each subject (taking up the sciences first), keeping in mind the best practices/ latest syllabus of the country's top higher education institutions. For this, research and consultancy support may be obtained as required.
 3. It is envisaged that a Draft Report be prepared by the West Bengal State Council of Higher Education within a period of three months. Thereafter, in consultation with the State-aided Universities, and other stake holders, the Draft Report will be refined and the Final Report will be placed before the full Council latest by the end of November, 2016. Once the Final Report is accepted by the Council, it shall be forwarded to the State-aided Universities for being placed before the Universities' institutional mechanisms for deliberation and adoption in terms of their Statutes and official procedures.
 4. The West Bengal State Council of Higher Education shall provide secretarial assistance and logistics and financial support to the Committee.

By order of the Governor,

Sd/- Vivek Kumar

Principal Secretary
Higher Education Department