

The Gist of observations made by the Hon'ble President of India as Visitor of Central Universities and Hon'ble HRM during the Vice Chancellor's Conference held at Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi on 04-05 February, 2015

1. **Filling up of vacancies:-**
Selection of teaching staff must be completed within 6 months of appointment of Visitor's nominee in cases where the Vice-Chancellors are in position.
The Executive Councils of Central Universities must recommend members for Search-cum-Selection Committees within the next 30 days.
2. **NAAC accreditation:-**
Applications for NAAC accreditation must be sent within the next 30 days. All activities towards accreditation must be completed within 6 months.
3. **Choice Based Credit System:-**
Those Central Universities that are yet to implement this system must do so from the academic year 2015-16.
(UGC will organize orientation workshops in each State, in the next three months, so that all the universities can be prepared and assisted in the implementation of CBCS).
4. **Region-relevant B.VOC Programmes:-**
All Central Universities must intimate details of the programmes to be started by them with their timelines, to MHRD within the next 30 days.
5. **Community Colleges:-**
All Central Universities will start programmes under Community Colleges from 2015-16.
6. **Community Development Cell:-**
Each Central University shall set up a Community Development Cell which will identify at least 5 villages in its vicinity for adoption as model villages by the university.
7. **MOOCs:-**
All Central Universities will try to generate contents and will deliver maximum possible number of courses of different streams on Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on SWAYAM platform, to be launched soon. All the Central Universities will identify the courses and inform the Ministry of HRD in the next 30 days.
8. **Campus Connect:-**
All Central Universities must make their Campuses Wi-Fi enabled (10 Gbps) under Campus connect Scheme along with the format which will help digitize not only the transcripts but also hall tickets and admission tickets thereby helping make the universities paperless.
9. **Centres of Excellence:-**
Those Central Universities getting accredited must apply to UGC for creation of Centres of Excellence within 60 days.
10. **Innovation Clubs:-**
Those Central Universities which are yet to establish Innovation Clubs must do so within 60 days.

11. **Incubation Centres:-**
Linkage with innovation incubators must be established within 60 days of establishment of Innovation Clubs.
12. **Inspired Teachers' Network:-**
Central Universities, which are yet to set up this network, must do so within the next 30 days. (Central Universities must establish a mechanism to identify and recognize inspired Teachers through multiple channels including student feedback, peer-recommendation and video presentation by the teachers).
13. **Alumni Involvement:-**
 - a) Database of alumni must be created by the Central Universities within the next 3 months.
 - b) The Central Universities must recommend amendment of statutes to enable induction of alumni in governing bodies, to the Ministry of HRD, within the next 60 days.
14. **Industry Linkages:-**
 - a) All the Vice Chancellors must give a list of industry experts to MHRD in the next 45 days so that MHRD can help the Central Universities in coordinating guest lectures by industry leaders.
 - b) All Central Universities which are located in remote areas, should inform MHRD of the desired linkages for augmentation of research, with other Ministries in Government of India, in the next 45 days.
15. **International Rankings:-**
Nodal officers must be appointed, if not done already, within the next 30 days, who must link up with the IITs within 30 days.
16. **Sharing of Good Practices:-**
For the "Discussion Page" on University of Hyderabad's website, each Central University must nominate a nodal officer to feed the University's needs and activities and share good practices and experiences.
17. **Inadequate Speed of Connectivity:-**
Central Universities must take up the problem pertaining to inadequate speed of connectivity directly with BSNL within the next 30 days.
18. **Common Minimum Curriculum:-**
UGC will constitute a team of eminent academicians from across the country who will help formulate the Common Minimum Curriculum for under-graduate courses.
All Vice Chancellors will also give a list of courses which are needed to be upgraded, in the next 60 days.
19. **National Ranking Parameters:-**
The National ranking Parameters will be soon given to all Vice Chancellors, for soliciting their opinion.
20. **Artists/Innovation Scholars in residence Programme:-**
Rashtrapati Bhawan started the Artists In-Residence all Innovation Scholars In-Residence and Innovation Scholars In-Residence programme in December, 2013 (Under this initiative, five innovators spent a few weeks at Rsshtrapati Bhawan in July, 2014). This scheme is extended to teachers of Central Universities who are expected to actively participate in this programme.
21. **Festival of Innovation:-**
For the first time President's Secretariat is organizing a one week long "Festival of Innovation" and all the Central Universities should send representatives from their innovation clubs to participate in this festival.

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Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure

New Delhi, 29th North Block,
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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Expenditure Management – Economy Measures and Rationalisation of Expenditure.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure has been issuing austerity instructions from time to time with a view to containing non-developmental expenditure and releasing of additional resources for priority schemes. The last set of instructions was issued on 18th September 2013 after passing of the Union Budget. Such measures are intended at promoting fiscal discipline, without restricting the operational efficiency of the Government. In the context of the current fiscal situation, there is a need to continue to rationalise expenditure and optimize available resources. With this objective, the following measures for fiscal prudence and economy will come into immediate effect:-

2.1 Cut in Non-Plan expenditure:

For the year 2014-15, every Ministry / Department shall effect a mandatory 10% cut in non-Plan expenditure excluding interest payment, repayment of debt, Defence capital, salaries, pension and Finance Commission grants to the States. No re-appropriation of funds to augment the Non-Plan heads of expenditure on which cuts have been imposed shall be allowed during the current fiscal year.

2.2 **Seminars and Conferences:**

- (i) Utmost economy shall be observed in organizing conferences/ Seminars/workshops. Only such conferences, workshops, seminars, etc. which are absolutely essential, should be held wherein also a 10% cut on budgetary allocations (whether Plan or Non-Plan) shall be effected.
- (ii) Holding of exhibitions/fairs/seminars/conferences abroad is strongly discouraged except in the case of exhibitions for trade promotion.
- (iii) There will be a ban on holding of meetings and conferences at five star hotels except in case of bilateral/multilateral official engagements to be held at the level of Minister-in-Charge or Administrative Secretary, with foreign Governments or international bodies of which India is a Member. The Administrative Secretaries are advised to exercise utmost discretion in holding such meetings in 5-Star hotels keeping in mind the need to observe utmost economy in expenditure.

2.3 **Purchase of vehicles:**

Purchase of new vehicles to meet the operational requirement of Defence Forces, Central Paramilitary Forces & security related organizations are permitted. Ban on purchase of other vehicles (including staff cars) will continue except against condemnation.

