

डॉ. विनीत जोशी, भा.प्र.से.

सचिव

Dr. VINEET JOSHI, IAS

Secretary

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भारत सरकार  
Government of India

शिक्षा मंत्रालय

Ministry of Education

उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग

Department of Higher Education

127 'सी' विंग, शास्त्री भवन, नई दिल्ली-110 001  
127 'C' Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001

D.O. No. 5-21/2025-PN.II

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2025

Dear Vice Chancellor,

Please refer to this Department's Office Memorandum of even number dated 05.04.2025 regarding National Task Force constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its judgment dated 24.03.2025 in Criminal Appeal No. 1425/2025 [SLP (Crl.) No. 13324/2024] concerning issues relating to mental health of students and the prevention of student suicides in Higher Educational Institutions. A copy of OM dated 05.04.2025 along with copy of judgement dated 24.03.2025 is again enclosed for reference.

2. The National Task Force has started deliberation on the issues as per the mandate entrusted to it by Hon'ble Supreme Court and is required to submit its interim report within four months and final report within eight months from the date of the order.

3. I would like to draw your kind attention towards National Suicide Prevention Strategy of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, UGC's Guidelines for promoting physical fitness, sports, mental health, and emotional well-being in HEIs issued on 13.04.2023 and this Ministry's Framework for emotional and mental well-being of students in HEIs issued on 10.07.2023. In light of these guidelines / framework, your institution must be taking initiatives like Mental health screenings for students; establishing crisis helplines and psychological support centers; community awareness programs to break the stigma around mental illness and suicide, Grievance redressal mechanism; Third Party faceless evaluation mechanism, etc.

4. Given the gravity of the matter, I kindly request your institution to provide necessary data/information with regard to existing mechanism/initiative taken in light of the above guidelines/framework, specially information related to counselling system, number of counsellors, system of third party faceless evaluation mechanism, and the outcome of such initiatives.

5. The National Task Force shall analyze the data received from Higher Educational Institutions and engage with all stakeholders to develop effective recommendations.

6. I therefore request you to submit the required information at the earliest. Your cooperation and prompt action will significantly contribute to fostering a safer and more supportive academic environment for students.

7. Ms. Rina Sonowal Kouli, Joint Secretary (Email: [rinasonowal.edu@nic.in](mailto:rinasonowal.edu@nic.in) and Phone No. 011-23385162 and 011-23381721) of this Department who is the Convenor of the National Task Force, may be contacted in case of any further assistance in the matter.

With regards,

Encl: As above

Yours sincerely,

  
(Dr. Vineet Joshi)

Vice Chancellors/Heads of Central Universities and Centrally Funded Higher Education Institutions