

## **Background information on HRD developments in Delhi (Preparing Orissa to take advantage of the various HRD goals, plans and schemes in the 11<sup>th</sup> plan)**

### **Background Information:**

1. Information on the X1th plan as discussed in various PIB reports, Knowledge Commission reports and some news media articles:
  - (a) <http://www.orissalinks.com/?p=726> (UGC Chairman Prof. Thorat's speech as it appears in Hindustan Times on October 14<sup>th</sup> 2007)
  - (b) <http://pib.nic.in/release/release.asp?relid=31853> (PIB October 11<sup>th</sup> 2007: Summary of the recommendations of the National Conference on the development of higher education)
  - (c) <http://pib.nic.in/release/release.asp?relid=31735> (PIB Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 2007: Access, Equity and Quality are focus of new initiatives on higher education)
  - (d) <http://www.orissalinks.com/?p=652> (New Indian Express report on Sept 19<sup>th</sup> regarding GOI's expectations about the world class central universities)
  - (e) <http://pib.nic.in/release/release.asp?relid=31234> (Prime minister's remark on the full planning commission meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> 2007)
  - (f) <http://pib.nic.in/release/release.asp?relid=30580> (PIB of Aug 29<sup>th</sup> 2007: Central University in each state)
  - (g) <http://pib.nic.in/release/release.asp?relid=29937> (PIB of Aug 15<sup>th</sup> 2007: PM's independence day speech)
  - (h) [http://pib.nic.in/release/rel\\_print\\_page.asp?relid=2288](http://pib.nic.in/release/rel_print_page.asp?relid=2288) (PIB of July 6<sup>th</sup> 2004: On proposal received on IITs. Orissa is one of the 9 states that had sent proposal prior to 2004.)
  - (i) <http://www.orissalinks.com/?p=714> (Financial Times article on October 10<sup>th</sup> that states only 35 computer science PhDs per year from India)
  - (j) <http://knowledgecommission.gov.in/downloads/recommendations/HigherEducationNote.pdf> NKC note on higher education (dated 29<sup>th</sup> November 2006)
  - (k) <http://knowledgecommission.gov.in/downloads/recommendations/HigherEducationLetterPM.pdf> NKC recommendations on Higher Education (dated 29<sup>th</sup> November 2006) – Point 6

2. Excerpts from Prof. Thorat's speech:

*“ the current access at 10 per cent is too low when compared with the world average of 23 per cent and 40 to 60 per cent in case of the developed countries. Besides, there*

*are regional and social group imbalances in access, which varies between 6 to 8 per cent for the SC, ST, OBC and Muslims. The most deprived are the poor, for whom access is no more than 2 per cent. The GER in rural areas, at 7.5 per cent, compares poorly with the urban areas, at 24 per cent. Besides, regional disparities are also noticeable, with as many as 350 districts in the country having GER lower than the national average and 29 districts having GER of less than 5 per cent.*

...  
*the affiliating university system is over-burdened as the number of colleges affiliated to each university has been on the rise.*

*Enhancing access with inclusion and excellence are the main challenges, which the Eleventh Plan approach recognised. It recognised that increase in access will have to come with focus on the regions and social groups that presently have lower GER. These also happen to be the regions with lower quality educational institutions.*

*The strategy of the Eleventh Plan will revolve around the issue of expansion, inclusiveness and quality, including academic reforms. The Plan sets a target GER of 15 per cent by 2012.*

*... Under the PM's initiative, the establishment of a college in each of the 350 districts with low GER and less number of colleges per lakh population has been announced. Besides, there will be focus on hilly, border, tribal, remote, rural and small town areas.*

*... Third, it will focus on adequate availability of quality teachers, which, in turn, will require enhanced funding for research and fellowships for PhD.*

3. Excerpts from the PIB of Oct 11<sup>th</sup> titled "Summary of the recommendations of the National Conference on the development of higher education"

*The participants agreed with the two-pronged strategy of establishment of new institutions and also capacity enhancement of existing institutions. They however emphasised that this should be done with due regard to the social and market relevance and changing preference of students and that the focus of expansion should be on inclusion and excellence and an approach that is expedient.*

- a. *Capacity addition in existing institutions*
- b. *Focus on smaller towns, rural and remote areas and backward regions where GER is lower than the national average;*
- c. *A women university in each state*
- d. *Established universities to set up rural campuses*

e. Priority to professional and technical courses in public institutions;

...

3. Rationalise the affiliating system: reduce the number of colleges per university; make affiliation more effective; autonomy to bigger and better colleges;

...

5. ... a. New universities and colleges in areas that have GER lower than the national average;

b. Strengthen and expand existing universities and colleges that are located in areas that have GER lower than the national average;

...

10. The national conference is in agreement with the strategies suggested by the UGC and the recommendations of the regional conferences;

a. Bring the non-12b colleges & universities under the ugc fold – on matching grant basis;

b. Priority funding for bringing B and C band universities at the level of A band universities;

11. Much depends upon the availability of quality teaching faculty but for which quality of higher education shall not improve;

12. State governments to accord priority to higher education - Remove ban on creation of faculty positions and appointment

4. Excerpts from the PIB of October 8<sup>th</sup> 2007 titled “Access, Equity and Quality are focus of new initiatives on higher education:

*Access, Equity and Quality are focus of new initiatives in Higher Education as per the meeting of the Consultative Committee relating to the Ministry of Human Resource Development which took place earlier today.*

...

*The 11th Plan objectives are aimed at increasing the Gross Enrolment Ratio(GER) (access rate) in higher education from the present 10% to 15% by 2012, while ensuring improvement in quality and enhancement of equity. Acknowledging that States’ share in Plan outlay being roughly four times the*

*Central plan outlay, co-opting States to contribute substantially would be critical to the achievement of the Plan objectives. The Ministry's proposal for the 11th Plan accordingly include incentives to States to allocate higher resources to colleges and universities, partial assistance to setting up of colleges of excellence in as many as 370 districts with low GER and less than four colleges per one lakh of population, special assistance for institutions in 88 minority concentration districts, substantially higher allocation for establishing women's hostels in order to rectify gender bias in enrolment, removal of regional imbalances through the establishment of 30 new central universities - sixteen of which would be in States which have no Central University at present.*

*... and the Ministry in consultation with the Planning Commission and the UGC was in the process of working out the concept of world 'class universities'. The proposals include higher level of assistance to State universities and colleges and also assistance from the UGC to the nearly 150 State universities and 6000 colleges which are not being assisted at present, in order to plug the quality gaps identified by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The Committee was also apprised of other new institutions proposed to be created such as the Indira Gandhi National Tribal University for which a Bill has already been introduced in Parliament, the proposed Workers' Technical University, introduction of Medical & Engineering Faculties in all Central Universities, the proposed Inter-University Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education, the proposed new Indian Institutes of Technology, the proposed new Indian Institutes of Science Education & Research and Research, Schools of Planning & Architecture, etc..*

*New initiatives in Technical Education include expansion and upgradation of 200 State Technical Institutions selected on the basis of appropriate criteria; expansion of centrally funded institutions (IITs, IIMs, NIITs, IIITs and NITTTRs (as per Oversight Committee recommendations for inclusion, expansion and excellence); strengthening departments/institutes of management and business administration in university system in view of increased demand for MBAs and limitations of IIMs to expand capacity and also affordability and setting up of new institutions in the XIth Plan (Eight IITs, Seven IIMs, Five IISERs, Two SPAs, 10 NITs, 20 IIITs, and 50 Centres for Training and Research in frontier areas) and also consider the feasibility of increasing the capacities of the existing IITs and IIMs by 200% or so.*

*... the Ministry is proposing that the XI Plan must aim to start at least about 1000 new Polytechnics (300 by State Governments, 300 in PPP mode and 400 by Private sector) which will result in the addition of about 2 lakh seats.*

5. New Indian Express report on Sept 19<sup>th</sup> regarding GOI's expectations about the world class central universities

*The State Governments have to compete among themselves in providing land in prime locations free of cost if they wanted to have prestigious Central University with world class facilities.*

*The Central Government is making mandatory for the States to provide land and other infrastructure facilities free of cost in the prime locations for setting up world class Universities.*

*After getting a nod from the Planning Commission for establishment of 14 Central Universities with world class standards in the 11th five-year plan, the Union Ministry of Human Resources Development made it clear that a prime location is the key for deciding the place for setting up such prestigious Central University.*

*Giving an example of what is prime location, the Union Ministry is asking the states to come out with proposals to provide land free of cost in attractive locations such as proximity to Council of Scientific Industrial Research (CSIR) Labs.*

*Sources said that prime location is very important keeping in view of the magnetism of the location for attracting top class faculty. The location of the new Central Universities would be decided on the basis of careful consideration of alternative possibilities proposed by the State Governments.*

6. Excerpts from the Prime minister's remark on the full planning commission meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> 2007.

*... To kick start the initiative, the proposal for setting up 6000 high quality model schools with costs to be shared by the Centre and the States needs to be finalised within the next few weeks.*

*There is now general agreement on setting up 16 Central Universities in States which do not have a university, 14 Central Universities in other States, 8 IITs, 7 IIMs and 5 Indian Institute of Science, Education & Researches. I am already getting requests from a large number of states for locating these institutions in their states. I am sure that with the large number of institutions we are considering, we would be able to satisfy every state to some extent.*

*Some of these universities/institutions should, ab initio, be targeted to achieve world class standards. For the Central Universities aimed at world class standards it will be necessary to be more ambitious in terms of infrastructure, especially if they are to include departments of science, medicine and engineering. This involves higher costs. The scope for private participation in these universities should therefore be systematically explored. The location of these institutions should be determined in a manner which balances the desire for achieving a greater geographical spread with the potential synergies arising from co-location. Location decisions should not be purely based on land availability.*

*We should encourage States to compete for the location of these prized Central Institutions.*

*... One area where I believe that we have slipped a lot in our commitments is in vocational education and skill development.*

*... We need to work hard to ensure that all that we have agreed today takes off in a reasonably short time frame. Proposals for setting up 6000 schools covering all blocks, having 30 Central Universities and providing large capacities in vocational education must be finalised within the next two months. Locational decisions must be taken fast. It is only then that the common man will have faith in our ability to deliver on our promises.*

7. Excerpts from the PIB of Aug 29<sup>th</sup> 2007 titled “Central University in each state”

*... The targeted GER, as against the present level of approximately 10%, is at least 15% by the end of the XIth Plan and 21% by the end of the XIIth Plan.*

*This was stated by the Minister of State for Human Resource Development Shri M.A.A.Fatmi in a reply to a question raised by Smt. N.P.Durga in Rajya Sabha today.*

8. Excerpts from the PIB of Aug 15<sup>th</sup> 2007 about the Prime Minister’s Independence Day speech.

*... We will support 6,000 new high quality schools — one in every block of the country.*

*... We will also ensure that adequate numbers of colleges are set up across the country, especially in districts where enrollment levels are low. We will help States set up colleges in 370 such districts.*

*... We will set up thirty new Central Universities. Every state that does not have a central university will now have one. In order to promote science and professional education, we are setting up five new Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, eight new Indian Institutes of Technology, seven new Indian Institutes of Management, and twenty new Indian Institutes of Information Technology.*

*... We will soon launch a Mission on Vocational Education and Skill Development, through which we will open 1600 new industrial training institutes (ITIs) and polytechnics, 10,000 new vocational schools and 50,000 new Skill Development Centres.*

*... We will ensure that annually, over 100 lakh students get vocational training - which is a four-fold increase from today’s level.*

*... We should seek not just functional literacy, but good quality education - education that is affordable, accessible, equitable - and available to every boy and girl who seeks to study. For the needy we will provide more scholarships.*

#### 9. Some Clarifications and comparisons with other states

(i) In response to the NDA government plan to upgrade 5-7 institutions to IIT level, 5 institutions have been selected for this purpose and they are in the process of being upgraded to IIT like institutions to be called IESTs (Indian Institution of Engineering Science and Technology). The five are: Andhra University Engg College In Vizag, Osmania University Engg College in Hyderabad, Institute of Technology of BHU in Benaras, Cochin University of Sc. & Tech in Kerala and Bengal Engineering and Science University in Howrah.

Note that two of these are in Andhra Pradesh. But in addition Andhra Pradesh has been granted a greenfield IIT. Thus asking for a greenfield IIT is not inconsistent with a skin for upgradation of an other institution to an IIT level institute. (Reference: Asking for a greenfield IIT for Orissa as well as upgradation of UCE Burla to a national level institute such as IEST.)

(ii) Bihar has also been granted a greenfield IIT and announcement has been also made regarding an IIM in Bihar. Bihar is asking for a greenfield central university in addition to the proposed upgradation of Patna University to a central university.