

No. 5-21/2025-PN.II
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of Higher Education

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated 05.04.2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: National Task Force constituted by Supreme Court of India in the matter of Criminal Appeal No. 1425/2025 @ SLP (Crl) No. 13324/2024 titled Amit Kumar & Ors Vs. Union of India & Ors in the Supreme Court of India.

With reference to subject mentioned above, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, in its judgment dated 24.03.2025 in Criminal Appeal No. 1425/2025 [SLP (Crl.) No. 13324/2024], has issued significant directions concerning the prevention of student suicides in Higher Educational Institutions. The judgment underscores the urgent need for comprehensive measures to address mental health concerns among students. The relevant portion of the signed reportable judgment dated 24.03.2025 is enclosed for reference.

2. The Hon'ble Court has constituted a National Task Force under the Chairmanship of Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India and other experts from various domains as members, to discuss and deliberate the issues related to mental health concerns among students, prevention of commission of the suicides in educational institutions and recommend preventive measures. The key areas of focus include:

- i. Identifying predominant causes which lead to commission of suicides by students such as academic pressure, discrimination, financial burdens, and mental health stigma.
- ii. Analysis of the effectiveness of existing student welfare and mental health regulations/policies.
- iii. Proposing reforms to strengthen institutional frameworks and create a supportive academic environment.

3. The matter in the question has been partly heard by the Hon'ble Court and the National Task Force has to submit its interim report within 4 months from the date of the order and final report within 8 months.

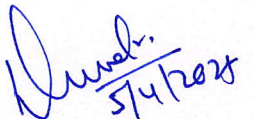
4. Action in compliance of order dated 24.03.2025 has been initiated at Ministry and an online preliminary meeting of National Task Force has been held 29.03.2025 to discuss further course of action. **Minutes of the Meeting is enclosed.**

6. As was decided in the online meeting held on 29.03.2025, the **next meeting is proposed to be held on 12.04.2025 (Saturday) at 4.30 PM at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Janpath, New Delhi.**

7. It is requested to kindly make it convenient to attend the meeting on the said date and venue and also furnish suggestions and details of existing regulations/mechanism, if any, on the matter for the consideration of the National Task Force.

8. Ms. Rina Sonowal Kouli, Joint Secretary (Email: rinasonowal.edu@nic.in and Phone No. 011-23385162 and 0-1123381721) of this Department who is the Convenor of the National Task Force, may be contacted in case of any further assistance in the matter.

Encl: As above


(Devendra Kumar Sharma)
Director

To,

- (i) **Secretary, D/o Social Justice & Empowerment, MoSJ&E**
- (ii) **Secretary, M/o Women & Child Development**
- (iii) **Secretary, D/o Legal Affairs, M/o Law & Justice**

Copy to:-

- (i) **PPS to Secretary, D/o Higher Education, MoE**
- (ii) **PPS to Joint Secretary (HE), D/o Higher Education, MoE**