

Summary of the 3rd Meeting of the National Task Force constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, held on 26.04.2025 at 04:30 PM at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Janpath, New Delhi.

1. After welcome by the Chairperson, the Convenor briefed the NTF about the communications sent to States/UTs for nominating Nodal Officers to assist taskforce, the preparation of wireframe of the website, which will be ready to launch soon, creation of email ID for use of taskforce. She further informed that an appropriate place is being explored for secretariat. She assured that a reminder will be sent to remaining States/UTs for nominating their nodal officer to provide data/information to NTF for its consideration.
2. After discussing the Action Taken Report, the Chairperson outlined the meeting's agenda, emphasizing the need to finalize the research design, methodology, questionnaires, visits, interviews, timeline, and resources and invited the members to share their insights, concerns, and suggestions to streamline the process. The chairman also stressed on the importance of speeding up the process of creating the website by the NIC.
3. Preparation of questionnaires is underway for students, faculty/teachers, parents, mental health professionals and policymakers, by adopting a mixed-method approach to develop survey questionnaires and qualitative inputs. The selection of institutions for field visits would be inclusive. Plans for a pilot also underway though details not yet finalised. Pilot would aid in testing for effectiveness of research tools. Sampling should include students from different social groups.
4. The Review of existing reports on the subjects of ragging, caste based discrimination, sexual harassment underway.
5. The taskforce needs to understand the regulatory mechanisms followed by different institutions to address concerns related to mental well-being.
6. It was emphasized that the burden of coping should not rest on the individual alone-the system must be designed to protect and include the most vulnerable. There is a complexity of factors like toxic competitiveness, social isolation, and institutional pressures. A layered strategy-both proximal and distal-needs to be adopted.
7. Different ideas were floated regarding the use of the website with the emphasis being on its focus as the site for receiving information from the public.
8. The Core group would undertake further meetings to finalise their tasks in relation to the questionnaires and undertaking pilot visits.

Members Present

S. No	Member
1.	Justice S. Ravindra Bhat , Former Judge, Supreme Court of India, Chairperson
2.	Dr. Alok Sarin , Consultant Psychiatrist, Sitaram Bhartia Institute of Science & Research, New Delhi, Member
3.	Mr. Arman Ali , Executive Director, National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People, Member
4.	Prof. Rajendar Kachroo , Founder, Aman Satya Kachroo Trust, Member

5.	Dr. Seema Mehrotra , Professor of Clinical Psychology, NIMHANS, Member
6.	Dr. Nidhi S. Sabharwal , Associate Professor, Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education, National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, Member
7.	Ms. Aparna Bhat , Senior Advocate (as amicus curiae), Member
8.	Shri Anil Malik , Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, Ex-officio Member
9.	Shri Biswaranjan Sasmal , Additional Secretary, Department of Social Justice & Empowerment, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India – representing Secretary, MoSJE
10.	Mrs. Sunita Moorti Anand , Additional Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs
11.	Dr. K.M. Arya , Dy. Legal Advisor, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India
12.	Shri Kaustubh Giri , Deputy Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare - representing Joint Secretary, D/o H&FW
13.	Prof. Vinod Kumar Shanwal , NCERT - representing Addl. Secretary, DoSEL
14.	Ms. Rina Sonowal Kouli , Joint Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Convener of the Task Force
15.	Shri Syed E. Rizwi , Joint Secretary, Department of Higher Education
16.	Shri Kunal Kashyav , Dy. Director, NIC, Department of Higher Education
17.	Ms. Sonam , Assistant Secretary, D/o Higher Education