

Summary of the 2nd Meeting of the National Task Force, held on 12.04.2025 at 04.30 PM at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Janpath, New Delhi

1. After introduction of all the Members, the Chairperson sought observations.
2. **Representative from dept of Higher education** informed that communications have been sent to all relevant ministry departments and regulatory bodies.
3. **Members of the Core group** reported on the work initiated and shared ideas for future tasks in relation to looking at existing secondary data, earlier reports on student suicides, examining counselling services in higher educational institutions, look into practice of ragging and existing regulations, the need for a larger perspective on mental health, the needs of specially-abled students, creating a social media handle and website, and other concerns.
4. Ex-officio members from Education, NCERT, Legal Affairs shared the guidelines and schemes being currently offered, as well as challenges being faced. NIC shared that a dedicated website is under preparation .
5. The Task Force decided to form three working groups each looking after different tasks. Progress of working groups was discussed. This includes compiling and reviewing previous reports, examining existing laws and regulations, and developing a methodology for designing questionnaires.
6. After detailed discussion, the following were decided:-
 - (i) Standardized Statement for public and press be prepared and released.
 - (ii) Need to prepare Questionnaires for circulation.
 - (iii) Field visits may be scheduled by the Members.
 - (iv) Need to create a common email while the website is under process.
 - (v) Sub-Groups can co-opt some researchers and data analysts for assistance.
 - (vi) Next meeting of the National Task Force will be held on 26.04.2025.

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.	Prof. Mary E. John (Retired) , Former Director, Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi, Member

4.	Mr. Arman Ali , Executive Director, National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People, Member
5.	Prof. Rajendar Kachroo , Founder, Aman Satya Kachroo Trust, Member
6.	Dr. Seema Mehrotra , Professor of Clinical Psychology, NIMHANS, Member
7.	Prof. Virginius Xaxa , Visiting Professor, Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi, Member
8.	Dr. Nidhi S. Sabharwal , Associate Professor, Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education, National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, Member
9.	Ms. Aparna Bhat , Senior Advocate (as amicus curiae), Member
10.	Sh. Vineet Joshi , Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India, Ex-officio Member and Member Secretary
11.	Sh. Amit Yadav , Secretary, Department of Social Justice & Empowerment, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, Ex-officio Member
12.	Sh. Anil Malik , Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, Ex-officio Member
13.	Dr. K.M. Arya, Dy. Legal Advisor , Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India
14.	Sh. Anandrao V. Patil , Additional Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy
15.	Prof. Vinod Kumar Shanwal , NCERT
16.	Shri Vijay Nehra , Joint Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare
17.	Ms. Rina Sonowal Kouli , Joint Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Convener of the Task Force
18.	Shri Syed E. Rizwi , Joint Secretary, Department of Higher Education

19.	Shri. Mohd. Anwar, Sr. Director, NIC, Department of Higher Education
20.	Ms. Sonam, Assistant Secretary, D/o Higher Education