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भारत सरकार
शिक्षा मंत्रालय
उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग
शास्त्री भवन
नई दिल्ली - 110 115
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
SHASTRI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI-110 115

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

Dated: 15th October, 2025

Dear Madan / Sir,

I would like to draw your kind attention to this Department's communications dated 05.04.2025, 05.05.2025, 20.06.2025, 17.07.2025, 30.07.2025, 13.08.2025, 23.08.2025 and 25.09.2025, in compliance of the judgment dated 24.03.2025 of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the Criminal Appeal No. 1425/2025 [SLP (CrL.) No. 13324/2024] and subsequent orders thereafter, which underscore the urgent need for comprehensive measures to address mental health concerns among students.

2. The National Task Force constituted in the matter has since commenced deliberations and launched a dedicated **website/portal (<https://ntf.education.gov.in>)** to gather diverse perspectives through survey questionnaires from students, parents, faculty members, mental health service providers, institutional representatives, and general public including alumni, NGOs, and concerned citizens.

3. Despite a number of communications and a meeting with ACS/Pr. Secretary/Secretary, Higher & Technical Education and nominated Nodal Officers of States/UTs on 27.08.2025 to get the Institutional Survey filled-up by Higher Education Institutions of their respective State/UT, so far, responses have been received from 4,83,200 students; 58,245 faculty; 75,482 parents; **3617 HEIs**; 2612 mental health providers and 97,552 concerned citizens. As far as Institutional Survey is concerned, a large number of Higher Education Institutions (more than 57,000 HEIs) have not filled-up the respective Survey Form.

4. I would like to bring your kind attention towards Order dated 10.10.2025 of Hon'ble Supreme Court (copy enclosed) wherein Hon'ble Court has viewed these miniscule number of responses of Institutional Survey very seriously and directed all Higher Education Institutions to cooperate and join the survey on NTF Website immediately, in the interest of the students. Through the order, Hon'ble Court has given one last opportunity to all HEIs for filling up of Institutional Survey, failing which the Court might pass Order which may bring a bad name to the Institution.

5. Hon'ble Court vide Para 8 of the aforementioned Order has also observed that some States/UTs have appointed Nodal Officer below the rank of Joint Secretary and has directed all States/UTs to rectify this at the earliest. A copy of aforementioned Order is enclosed for perusal and immediate action.

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6. Since the National Task Force is in process of finalising its Interim Report, I would therefore seek your kind cooperation and request you on the following:-

(i) Kindly instruct Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) of your State/UT to complete the survey form using AISHE Login Credential **immediately, by 29.10.2025**.

(ii) Advise State Regulatory Authorities in the field of Higher Education for wider dissemination of website of NTF-Mental Health and urge them to further direct HEIs to fill the survey.

(iii) Ensure that the appointed Nodal Officer should not be below the rank of Joint Secretary in light of Para 8 and 9 of the referred Order. Nomination of Nodal Officers received from States/UTs is enclosed for reference.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Encl: As above

(Rina Sonowal Kouli)

ACS / Pr. Secretary / Secretary to Higher & Technical Education, All State / UT Governments

Copy to:- Nominated Nodal Officers of States/UTs

(Rina Sonowal Kouli)