

डॉ. (श्रीमती) पंकज मित्तल  
(पूर्व कुलपति, बीपीएस महिला विश्वविद्यालय, हरियाणा)  
महासचिव

Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal  
(Former Vice Chancellor, BPS Women University, Haryana)  
Secretary General



भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय संघ

ए०आई०यू० हाउस, 16, कॉमरेड इंद्रजीत गुप्ता मार्ग  
(कोटला मार्ग), नई दिल्ली-110 002

**Association of Indian Universities**

AIU House, 16, Comrade Indrajit Gupta Marg (Kotla Marg),  
New Delhi-110 002

AIU/MEET/ZM/South/2025-26  
October 10, 2025

Dear Vice Chancellor/Director,

**Greetings from AIU!**

Building a self-reliant nation requires a strong foundation of knowledge creation and innovative practices that address both local needs and global challenges. In the contemporary context, education and research serve as critical drivers for nurturing intellectual capital, fostering indigenous solutions, and advancing technological capabilities. By integrating traditional wisdom with modern scientific inquiry, India can cultivate an ecosystem that encourages creativity, entrepreneurship, and sustainable development. Such an approach not only strengthens economic independence and competitiveness but also reinforces the nation's cultural identity while paving the way for inclusive and future-ready growth.

In light of contemporary trends and evolving advancements, this is an opportune moment to examine India's pivotal role in advancing self-reliance through the strategic integration of knowledge and innovation. Therefore, for the year **2025-26**, AIU has chosen the main theme **"Shaping Self-Reliant Bharat through Knowledge and Innovation"** for the **100<sup>th</sup> AIU Annual General Body Meet and National Conference of Vice Chancellors** scheduled to be held tentatively during **April-May, 2026**. As a run up to the Annual Meet, all the five Zonal Meets— South, East, West, Central and North shall be dedicated to its various sub-themes.

I am glad to inform you that **AIU South Zone Vice Chancellors' Meet 2025-26** is being hosted by **M S Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bengaluru, Karnataka** during **20-21 Jan, 2026**. The broad theme of the Meet is **'Promoting Entrepreneurship & Startups in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)'**. I extend a cordial invitation to you to attend the Meet.

The Meet will have three Technical Sessions and one AIU Business Session apart from Inaugural Session and Valedictory Sessions. In the AIU Business Session, a brief of various initiatives undertaken by AIU in the recent past to improve the value-added services being provided to the member universities, for a better and enriching experience will be presented. Thereafter, regional issues and problems in the field of higher education; issues related to apex bodies; and issues related to AIU will be discussed. **I request you to kindly make it convenient to attend the Meet and contribute in the interactions of both Technical Sessions and AIU Business Session.**

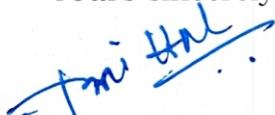
Kindly block the dates in your diaries and finalize your travel programme well in advance. I request you to kindly confirm your participation and please send the information related to your travel through Google Form Link- "[CALL OUT IN GOOGLE FORMS](#)". The details of nodal officers of the Meet are **Dr. S Ashok Rao**, Registrar, MSRUAS, Bangaluru, Mob: 9844508507, Email: registrar@msruas.ac.in; & **Prof Abby Mathew**, Dean, MSRUAS, Bengaluru, Mob: 9844005139, Email: dean.hc@msruas.ac.in; and **Dr. Vijendra Kumar**, Head, Meetings Division, AIU, Mob: 7042049614, Email: [meetings@aiu.ac.in](mailto:meetings@aiu.ac.in).

The recommendations of this Zonal Meet will be taken up for discussions at the National Conference of Vice Chancellors/ Annual General Body Meeting in the respective Session. Further, the recommendations of the Annual Meet will be forwarded to Government, universities and other related bodies for taking appropriate action at their respective level. The Programme Sheet containing all the details of the **AIU South Zone Vice Chancellors' Meet - 2025-26** shall be shared with you closer to the Meet.

Looking forward for your presence and cooperation.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(Pankaj Mittal)

**All Vice Chancellors/Directors of  
AIU Member Universities/Institutions (South Zone)**