

ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES



ANNUAL REPORT

2020-21

by

Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal
Secretary General

95th Annual Meeting
14-15 April, 2021

Place of Annual Meet: Virtual Mode

GOVERNING COUNCIL

(As on 31.03.2021)

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ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES

Annual Report 2020-21

I have great pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Association of Indian Universities for the year 2020-21 at the 95th Annual Meet of the Association being held at this beautiful and serene campus of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat. AIU functions through its various divisions, mainly Meetings, Research, Evaluation, Student Information Service, International, Publications & Sales, Library and Documentation, Sports, Youth Affairs, Finance and Administration.

MEETINGS DIVISION

Dr. Tej Partap, Vice Chancellor, GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand took over as the President, AIU and Col. Dr. G Thiruvassagam, Vice Chancellor, AMET University, Chennai took over as the Vice President of the Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi in pursuance of the decision taken at the 94th Annual Meeting (Business Session) held through virtual Mode on June 26, 2020.

A. Zonal Meetings

During the year Zonal Vice Chancellors' Meet 2020-21 were held as per detailed below:

Sl. No.	Host University	Date
East Zone		
01	JIS University, Agarpara, Kolkata on the theme Implementation Strategy for NEP 2020: Equity and Access in Higher Education including Promotion of Indian Languages, Art & Culture	18-19 January, 2021
West Zone		
02	Jaipur National University, Jaipur, Rajasthan on the theme Implementation Strategy for NEP 2020: Reimagining Teacher Education, Vocational Education and Professional Education	28-29 January, 2021
Central Zone		
03	Sri Sri University, Cuttack, Odisha on the theme Implementation Strategy for NEP 2020: Promoting Quality, Research and Internationalization in Higher Education	8-9 February, 2021

North Zone		
04	Guru Govind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi on the theme: Implementation Strategy for NEP 2020: Holistic and Multidisciplinary Education with Technology Integration	15-16 February, 2021
South Zone		
05	GITAM (Deemed to be University), Visakhapatnam, A.P on the theme Implementation Strategy for NEP 2020: Governance Reforms and Financing of Higher Education	24-25 February, 2021

Recommendations of the Zonal Meets' 2020-21 have been included in the agenda of the 94th Annual Meet (General Session) for discussion.

B. Annual Meet

Due to wide spread COVID-19 pandemic, the 94th Annual Meet of the Association was held on June 26, 2020 through virtual Mode wherein it was decided to hold 95th Annual Meet at Dr. Babsaheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Accordingly, the 95th Annual Meet is being held at Dr. Babsaheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat on April 14-16, 2021. The theme for discussion during the AIU national seminar on April 14-16, 2021 is **“Implementing NEP 2020 to Transform Higher Education in India”** with following sub-themes:

- *Implementation strategies for NEP Recommendations on Access, Equity, Skills, Holistic and Multidisciplinary Education and Promotion of Languages*
- *Implementation strategies for NEP Recommendations on Quality, and Excellence, Research and Internationalization*
- *Implementation strategies for NEP Recommendations on Governance, Financing of Higher Education, Autonomy and Technology Integration*

A special issue of the University News on the topic is being brought out on this occasion.

C. Membership

During the year, the following Universities/Institutes have been granted provisional membership of the Association of Indian Universities:

Sl. No.	University	Date of Membership
1.	Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University, Kerala	01.04.2020
2.	Chhindwara University, Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh	01.04.2020
3.	Shri Guru Ram Rai University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand	01.04.2020

4.	Sri Siddhartha Academy of Higher Education, Tumkur, Karnataka	01.04.2020
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The Governing Council, at its 359th Meeting held through virtual mode May 20, 2020 accorded membership of the Association to Universities listed at Sl. No 01 to 04 above.

5.	Sri Krishna University, Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh	20.05.2020
6.	Marwadi University, Rajkot, Gujarat	01.04.2020
7.	Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences, Bhangagarh, Guwahati, Assam	01.04.2020
8.	Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj University, Panvel, Navi Mumbai Maharashtra	08.06.2020
9.	Malwanchal University, Indore, Madhya Pradesh	19.06.2020
10.	JG University, Uvarsad, Gandhinagar, Gujarat	20.05.2020

The Governing Council, at its 360th Meeting held through virtual mode June 19, 2020 accorded membership of the Association to Universities listed at Sl. No 05 to 10 above.

Sl. No.	University	Date of Membership
11.	C.V Raman Global University, Odisha, Bhubaneswar	11.06.2020
12.	Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence, Dist. Kalburagi, Karnataka	10.06 2020
13.	Maharishi University of Management and Technology, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh	15.10.2020
14.	RKDF University, Ranchi	08.07.2020
15.	Bikaner Technical University, Bikaner, Rajasthan	03.07.2020
16.	Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Tirupati	01.04.2020
17.	RIMT University, Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab	30.07.2020
18.	National Sports University, Imphal, Manipur	01.04.2020
19.	Bhartiya Engineering Science & Technology Innovation University, Anantapur, A.P	18.08.2020
20.	SAM Global University, Raisen, Madhya Pradesh	20.05.2020
21.	Central University of Andhra Pradesh, Ananthapuramu	01.04.2020
22.	Dr. C.V. Raman University, Bhagwanpur (Vaishali), Bihar	12.10.2020
23.	G H Raisonni University. Amravati	06.10.2020
24.	James Cook University, Singapore (Associate Membership)	01.04.2020

The Governing Council, at its 361st Meeting held on November 05, 2020 accorded membership of the Association to Universities listed at Sl. No 11 to 24. The James Cook University, Singapore was granted Associate Membership of AIU in its 358th Meeting dated March 03, 2020 w.e.f April 01, 2019, subjected to submission of a letter from Indian Embassy/ High Commission of India in the country where university is located/ operating mentioning that university is accredited by that Singapore before granting them Associate Membership of AIU. However, on receipt of the ibid letter, the items pertaining to associate membership of AIU in respect of James Cook University, Singapore was again placed before the Governing Council in its 361st GC Meeting for its approval and the GC resolved to grant associate membership to James Cook University, Singapore w.e.f April 01, 2020.

25.	Chinmaya Vishwavidyapeeth, Ernakulam, Kerala	01.04.2020
26.	The Maharaja Bhupinder Singh Punjab Sports University, Patiala	01.04.2020
27.	Shri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara University, Dharwad, Karnataka	01.04.2020
28.	Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Law University, Jaipur, Rajasthan	01.04.2021
29.	Nirwan University, Jaipur, Rajasthan	01.04.2021

The Governing Council, at its 361st (a) Meeting held through circulation mode accorded provisional membership of the Association to Universities listed at Sl. No 25 to 29 above.

With the admission of above Universities to membership of AIU, the total membership of AIU rose to 827 including 17 Associate Members from foreign countries.

D. Governing Council Meetings

S. No.	Details of the Meeting	Venue	Date
1.	360 Governing Council Meeting	On-line Mode	19.06.2020
2.	361 Governing Council Meeting	On-line Mode	05.11.2020
3.	361 (a) Governing Council Meeting	Circulation Mode	Through E-mail circulation mode

E. Sub-Committee Meetings

S No	Details of the Meeting	Venue	Date
01	Equivalence Committee	Virtual	27.04.2020
02	Research Committee Meeting	Virtual	12.06.2020
03	Equivalence Committee	Virtual	22.07.2020
04	Cultural Committee Meeting	Virtual	24.09.2020
05	Finance Committee Meeting	Virtual	29.09.2020
06	Equivalence Committee	Virtual	01.04.2021

RESEARCH DIVISION

Research Division, one of the most dynamic and vibrant divisions of AIU has carved a niche by making significant academic contribution to the higher education system of the country. Established in 1975 as Research Cell with the financial support from the then Ministry of Education, Government of India, has the mandate of acting as a catalyst in the development of higher education. Having elevated to Research Division in 1993, it subsumed its responsibility of providing an intellectual platform to the community of higher education for debating the issues and policies of emerging concerns and providing research-based recommendation to government of India for enriching the policy framework on higher education. The Division, which takes care of all the academic activities of AIU, has received accolade and recognition through its pioneering research work which includes ‘Unit Cost of Higher Education’; ‘Question Bank’; ‘University-Industry Interaction in Higher Education’, Diminishing Autonomy of Universities, Comparative Analysis of Operational Aspects of Institutions of Higher Education for Determining the Quality Measures, Exploring the Concept of Eligible Enrolment Ratio for Assessing the Access to Higher Education, Assessment of Preparedness of Indian Higher Education Institutions for shifting to Online Education, etc. The Division also facilitates the activities of the member universities through providing expertise on up-to-date developments in the field of advance teaching and research and on experiments in the management and organization of higher education both in India and abroad. The academic activities of the Division are conducted with the objective of creating a solid theoretical and empirical foundation for policy-making and national reconstruction. The Division organizes a number of academic activities for promoting the cause of higher education.

Funding: The expenditures incurred on activities of Research Division are met out from the General Grants received from Ministry of Education (MoE) as annual grants. During the current Financial Year (2020-21), AIU received sanction of **Rs. 250 Lakhs** from the Ministry of Education out of which **Rs. 141.00 Lakh** has been received till **February 25, 2021**.

The regular academic activities of the Division include:

- I. Research Projects**
- II. Capacity Building Programmes such as Vice Chancellor’s Roundtable Conferences, Workshop /Seminar/Conference**
- III. ANVESHAN – Student Research Convention**
- IV. Data-base activities**
- V. Publications**

Activities Undertaken during 2020-21

I. Research Projects:

1. Exploring the concept of using Eligible Enrolment Ratio (EER) in Higher Education as a parameter. (Published as AIU Research Report 1/2020)
2. AIU-QASPIR on line Survey on preparedness of Higher Education Institutions. (Report in final stage of Printing)
3. “Student Development Index: Conceptualizing and Identifying Relevant Parameters” (Inhouse Project in progress.)
4. “Funding Agencies and Mechanism of Research Funding” (In house project in progress).

II. Capacity Building Programmes

Round Table of the Vice Chancellors/Directors:

1. Roundtable on “Exploring the concept of using Eligible Enrolment Ratio (EER) in Higher Education as a parameter” on July 27, 2020.

Workshops/Seminars/Webinars/Conferences in Collaborations

1. Groningen Declaration Network (GDN) 9th Annual Meeting on broad theme *Using Innovation to Disrupt: Creating a Sustainable Digital Ecosystem for Learners* April 15-17, 2020
2. Collaborative virtual Workshop on Responsible Research and Innovation: India and the World Today (RRING) on June 17, 2020 jointly with Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA).
3. Conducted online meeting of the Committee constituted for examining the legal aspects of establishing the Consortium on Indian Network for Internationalization of Higher Education.

4. Conducted an online course on “Developing Digital practitioner” for faculty members of Indian Universities in collaboration with Quality Assurance Strategic Planning and Institutional Research (QASPIR), U.K. The Course is still on and the faculty members can register at any time.
5. Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi in collaboration with Shoolini University, Solan, Himachal Pradesh organizing a Webinar on the theme of World University Ranking in Indian Context on March 04, 2021, during 11.30 AM to 1:30 PM in virtual/online mode.

III. Anveshan: Zonal & National Student Research Convention

Anveshan: Zonal and National Student Research Convention is a regular and annual activity of Research Division in which innovative Research Projects are invited from universities. The projects are assessed at zonal level and final assessment is done at national level. Best projects are selected through a panel of three experts in each area and cash awards along with certificate of recognition is given to the young researches. Usually planning for organizing these events start from the beginning of the Financial Year.

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic and resultant lockdown the Zonal and National Research Conventions for the year 2020-21 could not be organized.

IV. Data Base

Initiative was taken to capture data on various aspects such as education structure, demographic profile, level and gender wise enrollment, number of teachers both male and female, pupil teacher ratio, accreditation and grading/ranking status, student facilities, etc. The data was collected and compiled from AISHE Report and a few other sources to create a repository of information pertaining to higher education state wise and of the country. The data has been published as India Higher Education Profile. In all likelihood it is going to be an annual and regular publication of Research Division.

V. Publications

During the year 2020-21 following publications were brought out:

1. Reimagining Indian Universities, Book,
2. COVID-19 Response Toolkit for Indian Higher Education Institutions.
3. Protecting Academic Interest of Students During Sharing Best Practices COVID-19 Pandemic.
4. Research Paper on Exploring Eligible Enrolment Ratio as an Alternative parameter to ass the Access to Higher Education (In Press)

VI. Establishment of Indian Network for Internationalization of Higher Education

A need for establishing a Network/Consortium of Universities interested in adopting and promoting internationalization of Higher Education was felt since long. The idea for establishing such a Network was conceived and a proposal was submitted to Governing Council of AIU. Following the approval of the Governing Council a proper Concept paper including the background, vision, mission, objectives, governance structure, membership criteria, etc. was developed and the same has been deliberated and discussed in two meetings of the Committee constituted by the Governing Council. The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee have been submitted for inclusion as agenda item in forth coming Meeting of Governing Council of AIU.

VII. Additional Activities:

1. Preparatory work for administration of Second Edition of Global survey on the impact of Covid-19 on higher education initiated by the International Association of Universities (IAU) was done. Select Member universities/institutions of various categories for pilot study were identified and information was disseminated to the member universities for participating in the survey.
2. Collaborated with Groningen Declaration Network (GDN) in organising their 9th Annual Meeting on broad theme *Using Innovation to Disrupt: Creating a Sustainable Digital Ecosystem for Learners* April 15-17, 2020.
3. Collaborative virtual Workshop on Responsible Research and Innovation: India and the World Today (RRING) on June 17, 2020 jointly with Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA).
4. Launched of AIU-QEDEX online programme for Professional Development of Faculty members and Administrators of our higher education institutions on December 10, 2020.
5. Student Experiences in Research Universities (SERU) survey in collaboration with the Association of Indian Universities and O P Jindal Global University assessing student experience during COVID-19 pandemic.
6. AIU-PRIA Blended Training Programme on Fostering Social Responsibilities during January 05-08, 2021
7. Conducted a short-term course on safe campus in collaboration with Martha Farrell Foundation (MFF) during February 25- 27, 2021.
8. Disseminated information received from of National Innovation Cell, Ministry of Education and AICTE regarding inviting nominations of Faculty for implementation of National Innovation and Start-up Policy in universities and other higher education Institutions.
9. Disseminated Information to the Member Universities regarding inviting applications by UNESCO-Equatorial Guinea International Prize for Research in Life Sciences.
10. Developed Concept Paper for organising a Webinar of Vice Chancellors World University Ranking.
11. Developed Approach Paper for AIU Portal on Academia-Industry Interface.
12. Conducted an online course on “Developing Digital practitioner” for faculty members of Indian Universities in collaboration with Quality Assurance

Strategic Planning and Institutional Research (QASPIR), U.K. The Course is still on and the faculty members can register at any time.

13. Initiated second edition of the Global Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education in collaboration with IAU with an objective of addressing the concerns of universities and higher education institutions in the current context by providing evidence-based data to underline the seriousness of the impact of COVID-19 on higher education.
14. Conducted Second CCTNS Hackathon & Cyber Challenge in collaboration with Cyber Peace Foundation. The Hackathon offered unique opportunity to the participants to advance their skill, knowledge and build networks for future growth.
15. Disseminated RASTRIYA KAMDHENU AAYOG (RKA)'s information to Member Universities for conducting Kamdhenu Gau-Vigyan Prachar-Prasar Online Exam throughout the country on February 25, 2021.
16. Facilitated the preparatory work for organizing Ahmedabad Toy Design Week Scheduled during February 03-07, 2021 initiated by Gujarat Student Start-up and Innovation Hub (i-Hub).
17. Partnered with ASSOCHAM for organizing a 14th National Education Summit from February 18-20, 2021 in virtual/online mode.
18. AIU circulated letter to member universities/institutions for participation in Yukti2.0 (MoE, GOI initiative) which will enable the government to ensure that innovators from education institutes are facilitated and suitable opportunities are extended to the innovations from HEIs.
19. Convened two meetings for establishing a Consortium of Indian Higher Education Institutions entitled as Indian Network for Internationalisation of Higher Education (INIHE)

EVALUATION DIVISION

Equivalence and Recognition of Qualifications: AIU is the nodal agency for granting equivalence to the degrees awarded by the accredited foreign universities and institutions for the purpose of admission to higher academic courses and employment. The equivalence of foreign degrees is carried out by the Evaluation Division. The Division has automated the equivalence of foreign degrees. Applications are received online, processed and equivalence certificate is issued online. The highlights of activities of the Division during financial year 2020-21 are as follows: -

- Around 2065 (1400 online + 665 offline) Equivalence Certificates were issued to the students;
- Around 256 enquires were received from the Nationalised Banks pertaining to disbursement of Educational Loans to the students intending to join Foreign Universities and replied;
- Replies to about 2000 queries received from various agencies/individuals/universities/institutions were given;

- Email replies to about 5900 received from individuals/universities were given;
- More than 6,200 Telephonic enquiries were received and replied;
- Approximately 500 Visitors visited the Division to seek clarification with regards to equivalence of their qualifications/accreditation status of foreign universities etc. and were replied;

The Division is also responsible to accord equivalence to the Two-year Full Time Postgraduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) and 04 years Fellowship Programme in Management (FPM) awarded by the stand-alone institutions falling outside the purview of universities equating their PGDM with Master of Business Administration and PhD degree respectively of Indian University for the purpose of admission to higher studies.

Besides these, throughout the Year the Evaluation Division has provided professional assistance on the status of foreign qualifications to Universities, Ministries of Government of India, Union Public Service Commission, Indian Council of Cultural Relations, Medical Council of India, AAYUSH and other Central/State Government Agencies dealing with nomination/selection/employment of prospective Indian students having obtained their degrees from foreign universities and also for deciding the eligibility of the foreign students intending to pursue higher education in Indian Universities.

STUDENTS INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION

The activities of Students Information started at AIU in the year 1927 with the Publication of Universities Handbook. In the year 1997, a Division named as ‘Students Information Services’ was set up. The Division provides requisite information on university institutions, professional bodies, accredited courses conducted by all universities, teaching staff of university departments, etc. It brings out comprehensive Universities Handbook giving detailed information about the universities, their faculty, administration, disciplines in which it offers courses at all levels, admission schedule and academic calendar. It also brings out handbooks on professional courses including Management Education, Engineering Education, Health Sciences Education, Computer Education and Distance Education. The Division provides information to the stakeholders in India on their eligibility for admission to an Indian university or on the standing of an institution through e-mail, post and telephone. Presently the division is revising and updating the 34th Edition of ‘Universities Handbook’.

INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

The International cell was established in AIU in the 1997. Keeping in view the Globalization, Internalization of Higher Education necessitating increasing international academic collaboration in the areas of common interest particularly exchange of students/faculty/research and technical staff, joint research projects, sharing of information,

joint training credit transfer, dual/joint degree programmes, recognition of courses and programmes, equivalence of degree etc. between the universities of India with their foreign counter parts, the Governing Council of AIU in its meeting held on 1.10.2009, upgraded the International Cell on International Division. The division has become fully functional since May 2010 after the appointment of one Deputy Secretary and one Consultant in the Division. The division besides updating and making the earlier MoUs functional, takes initiatives in collaborating with Associations of Universities of other countries and coordinates the activities related to the division. The Division also keeps records of the MoUs/Collaboration with International Organisation and representation of AIU in various International forums.

Keeping pace with Globalization and Internationalization of Higher Education, AIU has enhanced its international interface further by collaborating with various national and international agencies. To coordinate and facilitate these activities, AIU upgraded the International Cell to International Division in its 300th meeting of Governing Council held on October 1, 2009 which henceforth will be dealing with various National and International collaborations. AIU collaboration with International agencies like University of UK International for sharing of best practices exchange and student research work etc.

PUBLICATION AND SALES DIVISION

Activities of the Division

1. The activities of the Publication & Sales Division may be categorized as per the following: -
 - (a) Printing & Publishing
 - (b) Sale of AIU Publications
 - (c) Advertisement in University News
 - (d) Subscription to University News

Printing & Publishing

2. All the printing & publishing needs of different divisions of AIU are being undertaken through the empaneled printers and also, as per the approved rates including the printing of University News – a weekly chronicle of Higher Education & Research.
3. During the period under report, the following Publications, Reports, etc. have been brought out :-
 - (a) **Publications (Priced & Un-priced) - Printed/Re-printed, etc.**
 - i) Directory – AIU Members (August 2020)
 - ii) AIU Audited Accounts, Employees Group Gratuity Scheme and PF Trust (2019-2020)

- iii) Edited Volume on “*Reimagining Indian Universities*”
- iv) Edited Volume on ‘Protecting Academic Interest of Students during COVID-19 Pandemic - Sharing Best Practice’
- v) Bibliography - Social Sciences (2018)
- vi) Bibliography - Humanities (2018)
- vii) Bibliography - Science & Technology (2018)
- viii) Bibliography - Social Sciences (2019)
- ix) Bibliography - Humanities (2019)
- x) Bibliography - Science & Technology (2019)

(b) **Reports, etc.**

- Anveshan 2018 - National Student Research Convention - *a Compendium*
- AIU Audited Accounts, Employees Group Gratuity Scheme and PF Trust (2018-2019)
- Covid-19 Response Tool Kit for Indian Higher Education Institutions : Institutional Resilience for Academic Planning and Continuity in collaboration with O P Jindal Global University
- Occasional Paper 1/2020 : Measuring Access to Higher Education through Eligible Enrolment Ratio (EER)
- Occasional Paper 1/2021 : Preparedness of Indian Higher Education Institutions for Online Education-2021’ - A Survey Report by AIU and QASPIR
- Annual Report for 95th Annual General Meet (2020-21)

Sale of AIU Publications

4. **Promotion of Sales** : The sale promotion of AIU publications is being done through various advertisement in the issue of University News journal, AIU Website, exhibitions, dispatching of publicity materials and circulars to the Universities, Institutions, Foreign Mission in India, AIU publications.
5. **Publication and other Materials on Complimentary Basis** : As and when new publications, reports, etc are published, the same are being dispatched to the Vice Chancellors/Director Generals/Directors/Provosts of member Universities, President, Vice President, Prime Minister of India, Ministry of Education, some dignitaries of Ministries and Apex autonomous bodies, etc on complimentary basis.

Advertisements in University News Journal

6. AIU regularly receives advertisements for publishing in weekly journal - University News from member Universities, Institutions/Colleges, Govt. departments, Advertising Agencies, Book Sellers and other parties. These advertisements are being considered for inclusion in the issues on pre-payment basis and thus, generating the Fund for AIU.

Special issues of University News

7. Apart from the regular weekly issue of University News, the following **Special Issues** were printed on the occasions/topics as mentioned below :
- **Volume 58 No. 33 (August 17-23, 2020)** : Special Issue on “*Reimagining Indian Universities*” on occasion of Virtual National Conference of Vice Chancellors’ Meet (August 17-18, 2020) and Foundation Day Lecture to commemorate 94th Foundation Day of AIU.
 - **Volume 59 No. 3 (January 18-24, 2021)** : Special Issue on “*Implementation Strategies for National Educational Policy-2020 : Equity and Access in Higher Education including Promotion of Indian Languages, Art & Culture*” on the occasion of AIU East Zone Vice Chancellors’ Meet 2021 (January 18-19,2021), hosted by JIS University, Kolkata, West Bengal.
 - **Volume 59 No. 4 (January 25-31, 2021)** : Special Issue on “*Implementation Strategies for National Educational Policy-2020 : on Reimagining Teacher Education, Vocational Education and Professional Education*” on the occasion of AIU West Zone Vice Chancellors’ Meet 2021 (February 28-29, 2021), hosted by Jaipur National University, Jaipur..
 - **Volume 59 No. 6 (February 08-14, 2021)** : Special Issue on “*Implementation Strategies for National Educational Policy-2020 : Promoting Quality, Research and Internationalization in Higher Education*” on the occasion of AIU Central Zone Vice Chancellors’ Meet 2021 (February 08-09, 2021), hosted by Sri Sri University, Cuttack, Odisha.
 - **Volume 59 No. 7 (February 15-21, 2021)** : Special Issue on “*Implementation Strategies for National Educational Policy-2020 : on Holistic and Multidisciplinary Education with Technology Integration*” on the occasion of AIU North Zone Vice Chancellors’ Meet 2021 (February 15-16, 2021), hosted by GGS Indraprastha University, New Delhi.
 - **Volume 59 No. 8 (February 22-28, 2021)** : Special Issue on “*Implementation Strategies for National Educational Policy-2020 : on Governance Reforms and Financing of Higher Education*” on the occasion of AIU South Zone Vice Chancellors’ Meet 2021 (February 24-25, 2021), hosted by Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management (GITAM), Visakhapatnam.

Subscriptions of University News

8. The subscription to University News is available on advance payment towards subscription. Apart from the paid subscribers, the copies of University News are being sent on complimentary basis to the Vice Chancellors/Director Generals/Directors/Provosts & Registrars of member Universities/ Institutes, President, Vice President & Prime Minister of India, Ministry of Education, important dignitaries of Ministries, dignitaries/academics of Apex Autonomous bodies, etc on complimentary basis, contributors of Articles and also, on

exchange basis on the recommendations of Library and Documentation Division, AIU. The subscription of University News is a source of generating Fund for AIU.

LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION DIVISION

In fulfillment of its objectives 'to act as a service agency and a clearing house of information', the Association has established a Library and Documentation Centre. This is engaged in a two-pronged programme of development. The first relates to strengthening its resources while the second aims at dissemination. In pursuance of these goals it has launched an ambitious programme of collection development and evolving instruments to reach the information to maximum numbers. The total number of books in the library today stands 21,179. The Library is particularly strong in its collection of Reports and Documents, emanating from governments and non-commercial and highly specialized educational associations and organizations. The Annual Reports, Calendars, Handbooks, Acts of the different Universities and Supreme Court Judgment on Educational Matters also available in the Library, which are regularly in demand and consulted by numbers of users.

During the year 2020-21, the library received 150 periodicals (109 Indian and 41 foreign). Of these 37 were subscribed, 35 were received gratis and 44 received in exchange of 'University News'. Around 375 students and scholars visited the library during the year. Around 545 telephonic and email queries were attended during the year.

Publications

Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations:

1. Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations: Science and Technology 2018
2. Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations: Science and Technology 2019
3. Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations: Social Sciences 2018
4. Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations: Social Sciences 2019
5. Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations: Humanities 2018
6. Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations: Humanities 2019

In Progress:

1. Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations: Science & Technology – 2020
2. Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations: Social Sciences – 2020
3. Bibliography of Doctoral Dissertations: Humanities – 2020

Theses of the Month

A list of Doctoral Theses accepted in Science & Technology, Social Sciences and Humanities by Indian Universities and other Institutions of Higher Education is compiled and published regularly under the column Theses of the Month in University News, every week. For the year 2020-21 so far the reported number of thesis is 3700.

Library Automation

1. Metadata of 5420 books has been created successfully
2. Web-OPAC installed to access library collection remotely

Innovative Library Services

1. Online “Press Clippings in Education” service on daily basis to Vice Chancellors of AIU Member Universities, AIU staff on regular basis and Vice chancellors of Other Indian Universities on demand.
2. Online Monthly Compendium of “Press Clippings in Education” to Vice Chancellors of AIU Member Universities, AIU staff on regular basis and Vice chancellors of other Indian Universities on demand.

UNIVERSITY NEWS UNIT

The University News maintained its longstanding tradition of regularity of appearance in the year 2020-21 also. It has carved a niche for itself in the field of higher education in the country by maintaining richness, relevance and state-of-the art contents. During the lockdown period we have started the online version of University News. The Special Issues brought out in the year 2020-21 are:

- Special Issue on ‘**Implementation Strategy for National Education Policy-2020 to Transform Higher Education in India: Equity and Access in Higher Education including Promotion of Indian Languages, Art & Culture**’ brought out on the occasion of East Zone Vice Chancellors’ Meet-2021 (Vol. 59 No 03, January 18-24,2021).
- Special Issue on ‘**Implementation Strategy for National Education Policy-2020 to Transform Higher Education in India: Reimagining Teacher Education, Vocational Education and Professional Education**’ brought out on the occasion of West Zone Vice Chancellors’ Meet-2021 (Vol. 59 No 04, January 25-31, 2021).
- Special Issue on ‘**Implementation Strategy for National Education Policy-2020 to Transform Higher Education in India: Promoting Quality, Research and Internationalization in Higher Education**’ brought out on the occasion of AIU Central Zone Vice Chancellors’ Meet-2021 (Vol. 59 No 06, February 08-14, 2021).
- Special Issue on ‘**Implementation Strategy for National Education Policy-2020 to Transform Higher Education in India: Holistic and Multidisciplinary Education**

with Technology Integration' brought out on the occasion of AIU North Zone Vice Chancellors' Meet-2021 on February 15, 2021. (Vol. 59 No 07, February 15-21, 2021)

- Special Issue on '**Implementation Strategy for National Education Policy-2020 to Transform Higher Education in India : Governance Reforms and Financing of Higher Education'** brought out on the occasion of AIU South Zone Vice Chancellors' Meet-2021 on February 22, 2021. (Vol. 59 No 07, February 15-21, 2021)

SPORTS DIVISION

- AIU has been mandated to organize Zonal, Inter Zonal and National University Games for all four zones in Higher education sector covering entire India. Accordingly, AIU organized Inter-University Tournaments Inter-Zonal (National) levels across various sporting events/games for the purpose of **selecting top athletes** for participation in 1st Khelo India University Games-2020.
- 1st Khelo India University Games (KIUG)-2020 was successfully held in coordination with AIU in 17 disciplines approved by Govt. of India, Ministry of Youth & Affairs & SAI, at the campus of KIIT University, Bhubaneswar from February 22, 2020 to March 01, 2020 approximately 4000 students in 17 disciplines participated in this Mega Event. The Next Edition of Khelo India-2021 has been awarded to Jain University, Bangalore in association with Karnataka State and Govt of India, Ministry of Youth & Affairs & SAI.
- World University Sports Federation (FISU) has introduced 1st International E-Sports Football Challenge where they have picked 32 male and 12 female players who were allowed to participate in two separate tournaments. Indian Universities fielded 3 players to represent in Asian continent quota of 7 players.
- Sports Division, AIU has completed the formalities and submitted a General Entry Form for participation of Indian Universities teams in forthcoming World University Games 2021.
- Further, Sports Division AIU has prepared a comprehensive schedule of training camp in different sports in member universities affiliated to AIU.
- Indian Universities Chess (MW) team participated in 1st ever virtual Asian Universities Chess Championship organized by Iran University Sports Federation wherein. Men team secured 4th position in highly contested matches.
- Further, Sports Division AIU has initiated the process of selection trials for participation in forthcoming World University Games 2021.

YOUTH AFFAIRS DIVISION

The Youth Affairs & Sports Division organizes several youth programmes at Zonal, National and International level pertaining to promotion of National Integration, Communal Harmony, Youth Leadership and Capacity Building including IUNCB Meeting, Inter-University Zonal and National Youth Festivals, AIU International Youth Festival, South Asian Universities Youth Festival, I.U. National Qawwali Competitions, Moot Court Competition, AIU National Youth Trekking and Adventure Camp, National Women Student Parliament, etc. Youth Affairs Division, AIU organised a virtual Meeting of Inter-University National Cultural Board (15th IUNCB) on September 24, 2020.

Youth Affairs Policy 2020

A new AIU Youth Affairs Policy 2020 was drafted under the leadership of Hon'ble Secretary General, AIU by Youth Affairs & Sports Division and the same was placed for deliberation and approved principally.

Major highlights of Youth Affairs Policy – 2020:

- To promote cultural ties between India and the Asian countries, up-gradation of SAUFEST to ASIAN festival, by understanding the geographical limitations involving all Asian countries to come on common platform for sharing views, experiences, innovations and common ideas was considered and the Rules and Regulations for the same were drafted.
- In line with the sports, all the best performing universities in the field of art and culture that are promoting and supporting their talents, a new Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan National Youth Affairs Award Scheme for best performing universities and best student artists was introduced and the Guidelines for the Award Scheme was drafted.

Online Cultural Event

Youth Affairs Division, AIU, in its endeavour to Unite India, organized the 1st online event enabling students to participate in various cultural activities (Dance, Poetry, Acting, Nazm/Ghazal) through the concept of “*Kush Artistic Karo-Na*”, to stay connected with the students of higher education institutions in which 2359 students from about 600 higher education institutions participated.

Cultural Exchange Programme

To promote cultural exchange at the level of universities and to showcase the rich cultural heritage of India to foreign universities in the world, a cultural exchange programme in collaboration with ICCR has been initiated and principally approved which will be implemented in the upcoming session.

FINANCE DIVISION

The Division strives hard to provide value-based services to various stakeholders with a view to serve the cause of higher education as well as to meet the financial needs of the organization. The Division manages:

- ❖ Budgeting & Forecasting
- ❖ Accounting of Receipts
- ❖ Expenditure Management
- ❖ Books of Accounts
- ❖ Finance Committee
- ❖ Management of Funds
- ❖ Salaries & EPF
- ❖ Provident Fund Trust
- ❖ Statutory & Government Audit

The Division has been functioning ever since the inception of AIU in 1925.

Finance Committee Meeting

During the year, Finance Committee Meeting was held on 29.0.9.2020 at AIU House under the Chairmanship of Prof. Tej Partap, President, AIU wherein following important proposals were considered and approved:

- a) The Revised Budget Estimates for 2020-21;
- b) Budget Estimates for 2021-22;
- c) Audited Accounts of the Association from M/s. Sanjay Satpal and Associates, Chartered Accountants which include Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account, Receipt and Payment Account for the year 2019-20 of AIU and AIU Employees' Group Gratuity Scheme;
- d) Audited Accounts of AIU Provident Fund Trust from M/s. Gaurav K Arora, Chartered Accountants which include Revenue Account, Balance Sheet for the year 2019-20;
- e) Appointment of Statutory auditors of AIU, AIU Employees' Group Gratuity Scheme & AIU Provident Fund Trust for the Financial Year 2020-21;
- f) Implementation of Expenditure, Advance & Transfer (EAT) Module' of Public Finance Management System (PFMS) in AIU as per the direction of the MoE for getting the Grant-in-aid General under OH-31;
- g) Implementation of Online Payment Portal (<https://payment.aiu.ac.in>) for transfer of funds directly to our Bank Account by using Debit Card, Credit Card, Net Banking and UPI option including BHIM App and Bharat QR Code by the applicants/universities;
- h) Implemented enhanced rates of Subscription of University News effective from 1.4.2020 as per the approval of the Finance Committee and the Governing Council.

- i) Implemented revised rates of Annual Subscription. Equivalence Fee, Fee-PGDM and Advertisements by separately charging GST, over and above the fee being charged by AIU, effective from 1.4.2020.

Grant-in-Aid from the MoE

The Division has been providing required information and financial statements of Receipts and Expenditure to the Ministry of Education for procuring the Grant on year-to-year basis.

Physical & Financial targets for the FY 2020-21 were sent to the Ministry of Education for approval of grant in favour of AIU.

Ministry of Education has allocated the Budget Estimate of Rs.250.00 lakhs in favour of AIU for the FY 2020-21 under the Grants-in-Aid General (Object Head-31).

Output-Outcome Budget 2020-21 was submitted to the Ministry.

The grant of Rs. 91.00 lakhs have been released by the MoE during the period 1.4.2020 to 31.1.2020.

The expenditure incurred on activities of Research Division, Sports & Youth Affairs Division and Meetings Division have been met from the Grants-in-Aid (General) received from the MoE.

Utilization Certificate for the Grant received in the FY 2019-20 was sent to MoE under GFR 12 – A during January, 2021.

Initiatives & Activities

AIU has continued and further strengthened new, paperless payment solution for depositing fee by Member Universities, Institutes and Applicants for following services:

- Fee for Annual Subscription
- Processing Fee for New Membership
- Fee for Inter University Tournaments (Non-Member Universities)
- Fee for Youth Festivals (Non-Member Universities)
- Fee for Equivalence Certificate
- Fee for Equivalence Enquiry
- Fee for Vice Chancellors' Retiring Rooms
- Fee for Conference Rooms

As part of automation initiative taken by AIU, all the Staff Members of the Association were given access to Online Pay Slips and Other Statutory Reports relating to Provident Fund and Family Pension Contribution through a URL <http://103.199.120.241/aiue> for easy access of salary related data.

Annual Subscription

Annual Subscription Notices for the year 2020-21 were sent to the Member Universities in March, 2020. Subscription of Rs.4.90 crores has been received during the period 1.4.2020 to till date.

Income Tax Proceedings U/S 143 (3) by the Assessing Officer

The Assessment proceedings for the AY 2017-18 were completed by the Assessing Officer u/s 143(3) of the Income Tax Act, 1961. The Assessing Officer, while passing the order u/s 143 (3) of the Income Tax Act, disallowed the benefit of application of Rs. 1,03,38,881/- as per clause (2) of explanation to section 11 (1) of the Income Tax Act ignoring the facts of the case, statutory provisions and evidence and explanation filed during the course of assessment proceedings.

AIU preferred an appeal before the CIT (Appeal) against the arbitrary order issued by the Assessing Officer.

Renovation Work of AIU House

The process of Renovation/Refurbishing work of AIU House is in progress. As per the revised agreement/addendum approved by the Governing Council, funds amounting to Rs.1,29.00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Twenty-Nine Lakhs Only) were released in favour of M/s. RITES in accordance with Clause 3.4 of the Agreement in January 2021.

Provident Fund Trust

Non-refundable Advances from EPF to fight Covid-19 Pandemic were released to eligible AIU Provident Fund Members under New Rule 68 L (3) introduced by the Employees' Provident Fund Organization effective from March 2020. All the claims were released on top priority basis.

GST Audit

GST Audit for the Financial Year 2018-19 was conducted by M/s. Gaurav K Arora & Company during the month of December, 2020 and final Return was filed on the GST Portal on 31.12.2020.

ADMINISTRATION

The Administration Division of the AIU plays a vital role in the implementation of the Policy of the General Body, Governing Council, Staff Affairs Committee, various other Committees and is responsible for all Establishment & personnel matters. The objective of the division is 5Cs – Comprehensive, Conducive, Contributing, Cohesive and Co-

operative administration.

The Division provides manpower support to all the Divisions of AIU. It has the responsibility of creating conducive environment, work culture and to enhance developmental activities for the growth of the Association. The Division also takes care of infra. facilities and housekeeping at AIU House.

This Division also maintains Office-cum-Rest Rooms for the Vice Chancellors/Directors and functions as a facilitator to the member Universities/ Institutions.

During the year, a meeting of the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) was convened and the following employees were promoted to the next higher posts against the promotion quota posts:

Sl. No.	Name of employee & designation	Promoted to the post of	Date of promotion
1.	Dr. S Rama Devi Pani, Assistant Director (Res)	Deputy Director (Res)	01.07.2020
2.	Shri N.C. Nath, Section Officer	Under Secretary	01.07.2020
3.	Shri Surender Singh, Assistant	Section Officer	01.07.2020
4.	Shri Balwan Singh, MTS	Lower Division Clerk	01.07.2020
5.	Shri Bahadur Singh, MTS	Lower Division Clerk	01.07.2020

The following employees have been retired from the services of the Association:

1. Shri M.K. Chawla, Stenographer w.e.f.31.7.2020(A/N)
2. Smt. Veena Chawla, Assistant w.e.f.31.8.2020 (A/N)

AIU has organized a free health check-up camp by Doctors/s Team of Medanta- The Medicity, Gurugram on 1st March, 2021 for its employees.

Building Renovation:

The renovation/refurbishing/interior designing of AIU Building has been started with effect from March, 2021 by M/s RITES, Project Management Consultant of AIU. Dr. Amarendra Pani, Joint Director (Res) has been appointed as Nodal Officer/ Coordinating Officer to co-ordinate with M/s RITES, SPA and others for monitoring the progress and smooth completion of the renovation/ refurbishing/interior furnishing work of AIU Office/Building.

Computer Section

The section is committed to provide uninterrupted IT and network services to various AIU divisions. Various AIU Activities has been automated for the betterment of the services provided to all its Member Universities as well as other Stakeholders across the

globe. The work of automation is being done in collaboration with INFLIBNET, Gandhinagar. Various Activities like Evaluation, Sports, Youth Affairs, Sales of Publication, Membership Management, VC Seniority etc. have been automated and access of the services offered to Member Universities are available on Membership University Portal ().

Further, the section maintains following on day to day basis:-

1. AIU website with epigrammatic information and user-friendly layout (<https://www.aiu.ac.in>) maintenance and periodic updating of the information;
2. Monitoring of Internet Leased Line Connection procured from Reliance JIO to provide better Internet connectivity to AIU users for providing better services to its member Universities.
3. Network maintenance in premises including monitoring of local network and Wi-Fi.
4. Monitoring of Unified Thread Management in the premise for gateway level security and betterment of the network.
5. Procurement of latest configuration Computers, Laptops and other peripherals for official uses in various AIU divisions.
6. Patronage of IT peripherals like Hardware/ Printers/ Scanners etc. along with coordination with CAMC.

RTI Cases

The Association of Indian Universities falls under the ambit of RTI Act, 2005 and it is obligatory in its part to provide information to application under the RTI Act. The RTI Cell provide information to applicants related to various activities of Association to applications filed under RTI Act, 2005:

1. During the year 439 RTI applications received online through RTI Portal, 73 Offline RTI Applications, seeking information under section RTI Act 2005 were replied by this office. These applications were received through online RTI-MIS provided by the nodal Ministry of AIU i.e. Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. (<https://rtionline.gov.in>).
2. 60 Online and 02 Offline First Appeal cases were replied. In one Second appeal case appeared before Hon'ble Information Commissioner, decision of which was in favor of AIU.
3. Disposed of 22 online Public Grievance cases received through portal provided by the nodal Ministry of AIU i.e. Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India (<https://pgportal.gov.in>)

Thank you



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