

F. No. 24-24/2025-U.Policy
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of Higher Education
(U.Policy Section)

519-C, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated the 4th September, 2025

Subject: Minutes of the 4th Meeting of Project Approval Board (PAB) of PM-USHA

The undersigned is directed to forward the Minutes of the 4th Meeting of Project Approval Board (PAB) under Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA) held on 22nd August, 2025 at ICAR, AP Shinde Symposium, NASC Complex, PUSA, New Delhi held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education.

Encl.: Minutes


(Ghanshyam)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

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To,

1. Chairman, University Grants Commission
2. Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education
3. Secretary, University Grants Commission
4. Representative of State Higher Education Council of the participating States
5. Principal Secretary, Higher Education of the participating States
6. Professor Nageshwar Rao, Ex-Vice Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi (Expert Member)
7. Professor Varadraj Bapat, Vice chancellor, SJM school of Management Studies, IIT Bombay (Expert Member)
8. Additional Secretary (Education), Ministry of Education
9. Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, Ministry of Education
10. Advisor (Higher Education), NITI Aayog
11. Joint Secretary (ICC & RUSA), Ministry of Education

Copy for information to:

1. Joint Director (RUSA)
2. O/o Secretary (HE)
3. O/o Additional Secretary (Education)
4. O/o Joint Secretary (ICC & RUSA)

Minutes of the 4th Project Approval Board (PAB) held on 22nd August, 2025

The 4th PAB meeting of Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA) was held on 22nd August, 2025 at 09:00 AM at ICAR, AP Shinde Symposium, NASC Complex, PUSA, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Secretary (HE), MoE. The list of participants is at **Annexure- 1**

2. At the outset, the Joint Secretary (ICC & RUSA) welcomed all the PAB members and participants from the States/ UTs. This was followed by a welcome address by Additional Secretary (Edu.). Additional Secretary (Edu.) shared that unlike the earlier meetings of PM-USHA where approval of projects was involved, the meeting would emphasize on review of projects approved under the scheme and the challenges faced by the States/ UTs while executing the scheme.

3. The item-wise agenda was presented by Joint Secretary (ICC & RUSA) before the PAB for further deliberation and decision.

4. The item-wise decisions taken in the meeting are as under.

Item No. 1.1: Progress under RUSA 1.0

The overall status of projects approved is summarized below.

<i>Amount Approved (Rs. Cr.)</i>	<i>Total Projects Approved</i>	<i>No. of Projects Completed</i>	<i>No. of Ongoing Projects</i>	<i>Not yet started</i>
7909.08	1616	1233	381	2

Component wise and State/UT wise details of the completed, ongoing and yet to start projects are attached at Annexure 1A and 1B respectively.

Out of total ongoing projects, 29 projects are between 0-50% (Annexure 1C), 37 projects have physical progress between 74-51% (Annexure 1D), 317 projects have physical progress between 75-99% (Annexure 1E).

In PAB 3, the board was apprised about the status of 36 projects having physical progress of 50% and below. As directed by PAB, the States/UTs were requested to submit a report indicating reasons for delay of the Slow-moving projects and commitment to complete them.

The progress of ongoing projects under RUSA 1.0 is at Annexure 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D and 1E is placed for consideration and further decision of the PAB.

Item No. 1.2: Review of projects approved under the components Erstwhile Model Degree college (EMDC)/ New Model Degree College (NMDC)/ New Colleges (Professional & Technical) (NPC) in RUSA 1.0

Total 132 projects have been approved under the components Erstwhile Model Degree college (46), New Model Degree College (60) and New Colleges (Professional & Technical) (26) for a total amount of Rs. 1573.58 cr. The status of these projects is summarized below.

Total Projects	Completed	Functional either from own or transit building	No of projects Inaugurated	Faculty Positions Sanctioned	Recruitment Process Started or completed	Academic Session started	Academic Session To be started in 2025-26 or later
132	97	114	12	101	80	97	14

Academic session is yet to start in 35 colleges out of which 14 colleges have shared tentative academic year for starting the session and 21 have not given any commitment for the same.

The detailed report about completion, functionality, faculty details, academic session is attached at Annexure 1F.

The States/UTs may be requested to expedite the completion of approved colleges and make them functional in the coming academic year.

Item No. 1.3: Review of projects approved for total amount of Rs. 50 Cr and above

Under RUSA 1.0, there are 15 Projects having total amount approved of Rs. 50 Cr and above under the components Creation of Universities by Conversion of Colleges in a Cluster (55 cr.) and Creation of Universities by way of Upgradation of Existing Autonomous Colleges (55 cr). Out of 15 projects, 6 projects have been completed.

S. No.	Component Name	Total Amount approved (Cr)	Completed	Ongoing	Grand Total
1	Creation of Universities by Conversion of Colleges in a Cluster	385.00	2	5	7

S. No.	Component Name	Total Amount approved (Cr)	Completed	Ongoing	Grand Total
2	Creation of Universities by way of Upgradation of Existing Autonomous Colleges	440.00	4	4	8
	<i>Grand Total</i>	825.00	6	9	15

For information and approval of PAB, the component wise and institution wise progress report is at Annexure 1G.

The States/UTs may be requested to expedite the completion of the projects, provide specific timeline and adhere to the same for the completion.

Decision of the PAB in respect of Item Nos. 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3:

Based on the justification given by the States/ UTs during the meeting, the PAB decided that all the projects of RUSA 1.0 have to be completed by 31st March, 2026 and the Ministry shall not carry forward the committed liabilities of these ongoing RUSA 1.0 projects after the scheme period of PM-USHA i.e. post 31st March, 2026. The PAB decided that in case the project is not completed by 31st March, 2026, the respective States/ UTs would have to bear the balance costs for completion of these projects, after the due date. The timelines decided by the PAB for completing the ongoing RUSA 1.0 projects are as under:

- i. Projects having physical progress 75%- 99% must be completed by 31st October, 2025.
- ii. Projects having physical progress 51%-74% must be completed by 31st December, 2025.
- iii. Projects having physical progress below 50% must be completed by 31st March, 2026.

The States/ UTs were also informed that in the next phase of the scheme, while approving projects, weightage would be given to the States/ UTs that ensure timely completion of the projects and have better efficiency of financial expenditure.

The PAB decided that irrespective of the status of a project, all the EMDCs/ NMDCs and NPCs would have to become functional in the upcoming Academic Session. It is the responsibility of the respective State/ UT Governments to ensure that all the formalities for making the projects functional including sanctioning faculty positions, recruitment, admission of students, etc. is completed timely for the next Academic Session i.e. 2026-27. Furthermore, necessary steps may be taken to

obtain requisite approvals from AICTE under the New Colleges (Professional & Technical) component for the upcoming Academic Session.

Representative from NITI Aayog stated that for functional projects without sanctioned faculty positions or appointed faculty, States/UTs may be encouraged to sanction faculty positions and expedite recruitment, as the absence of faculty adversely affects the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) and the quality of higher education. In next phase of the scheme, while approving grants to States/ UTs, incentivizing and assigning weightage to those States/ UTs that prioritize appointment of the permanent faculty and emphasize on making the project fully functional may be considered.

Item No. 2.1: Progress under RUSA 2.0

The overall status of projects approved is summarized below.

<i>Amount Approved (Rs. Cr.)</i>	<i>Total Projects Approved</i>	<i>No. of Projects Completed</i>	<i>No. of Ongoing Projects</i>	<i>Not yet started</i>
5870.22	971	291	678	2

Component wise and State/UT wise details of the completed, ongoing and yet to start projects are attached at Annexure 2A and 2B respectively.

Out of total ongoing projects, 8 projects have physical progress between 0-25% (Annexure 2C), 35 projects have physical progress between 26-50% (Annexure 2D), 138 projects have physical progress between 51-74% (Annexure 2E), 499 projects have physical progress between 75-99% (Annexure 2F).

In PAB 3, the board was apprised about the status of 12 projects having physical progress of 25% and below. As directed by PAB, the States/UTs were requested to submit a report indicating reasons for delay of the Slow-moving projects and commitment to complete them.

The progress of ongoing projects under RUSA 2.0 is at Annexure 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E and 2F is placed for consideration and further decision of the PAB.

Item No. 2.2: Review of projects approved under the components New Model Degree College (NMDC) and New Colleges (Professional & Technical) (NPC) in RUSA 2.0

Total 76 projects have been approved under the components New Model Degree College (69) and New Colleges (Professional & Technical) (7) for a total amount of Rs. 1010.00 cr. The status of these projects is summarized below.

Total Projects	Completed	Not Yet Started	Functional either from own or transit building	No of projects Inaugurated	Faculty Positions Sanctioned	Recruitment Process Started or completed	Academic Session started	Academic Session To be started in 2025-26 or later
76	25	2	46	29	49	45	44	25

Academic session is yet to start in 32 colleges out of which 25 colleges have shared tentative academic year for starting the session and 7 have not given any commitment for the same.

The detailed report about completion, functionality, faculty details, academic session is attached at Annexure 2G.

The States/UTs may be requested to expedite the completion of approved colleges and make them functional in the coming academic year.

Item No. 2.3: Review of projects approved for total amount of Rs. 50 Cr and above

Under RUSA 2, there are 30 Projects having total amount approved of Rs. 50 Cr and above under the components Creation of Universities by way of Upgradation of Existing Autonomous Colleges (55 cr), Enhancing Quality and Excellence in select State Universities (100 cr) and Research Innovation & Quality Improvement (50 cr).

S. No.	Component Name	Total Amount approved (Cr)	Ongoing	Grand Total
1	Creation of Universities by way of Upgradation of	55.00	1	1

S. No.	Component Name	Total Amount approved (Cr)	Ongoing	Grand Total
	Existing Autonomous Colleges			
2	Enhancing Quality and Excellence in select State Universities	1000.00	10	10
3	Research Innovation & Quality Improvement	950.00	19	19
	Grand Total	2005.00	30	30

For information and approval of PAB, the component wise and institution wise progress report is at Annexure 2H.

The States/UTs may be requested to expedite the completion of the projects, provide specific timeline and adhere to the same for the completion.

Decision of the PAB in respect of Item Nos. 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3:

Based on the justification given by the States/ UTs during the meeting, the PAB decided that all the projects of RUSA 2.0 have to be completed by 31st March, 2026 and the Ministry shall not carry forward the committed liabilities of these ongoing RUSA 2.0 projects after the scheme period of PM-USHA i.e. post 31st March, 2026. The PAB decided that in case the project is not completed by 31st March, 2026, the respective States/ UTs would have to bear the balance costs for completion of these projects, after the due date. The timelines decided by the PAB for completing the ongoing RUSA 2.0 projects are as under:

- i. Projects having physical progress 75%- 99% must be completed by 31st October, 2025.
- ii. Projects having physical progress 51%-74% must be completed by 31st December, 2025.
- iii. Projects having physical progress below 50% must be completed by 31st March, 2026.

The PAB sought justification of various States/ UTs on certain slow moving/ not yet started projects under RUSA 2.0.

With regard to the slow progress of the two projects in Bihar (Govt. New Model College, Katihar and Govt. New Model College, Araria) approved under New Model Degree College component, the State informed that the DPRs of both the projects have been prepared and tendering is underway and work will be started within a month. The State was asked to parallelly initiate the sanctioning of faculty positions and complete the recruitment of faculties in the current academic year only, so that the projects could be made functional by next Academic Session i.e. 2026-27.

Regarding the slow progress of NMDC, Mewat in Haryana approved under New Model Degree Colleges component, the State informed that the project is functional in make shift arrangement and faculty positions have been sanctioned although recruitment of faculties have not been initiated. The State was asked to expedite the completion of the project by 31st March, 2026.

Regarding slow progress of NMDC Wayanad in Kerala, approved under New Model Degree Colleges component, the State informed that the project completion will be expedited however the project is functional. The State was asked to expedite the completion of the project by 31st March, 2026.

In respect of the NMDCs and NPCs approved under RUSA 2.0, the PAB decided that irrespective of the status of a project, all the projects would have to become functional in the upcoming Academic Session. It is the responsibility of the respective State/ UT Governments to ensure that all the formalities for making the projects functional including sanctioning faculty positions, recruitment, admission of students, etc. is completed timely for the next Academic Session i.e. 2026-27. Furthermore, necessary steps may be taken to obtain requisite approvals from AICTE under the New Colleges (Professional & Technical) component for the upcoming Academic Session.

Item No. 3: Diversion of projects approved under RUSA 2.0 in PAB 12, 2018 to other Departments in the State of Odisha

In 2018, six New Model Degree Colleges (NMDC) were approved in six aspirational districts (Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Kalahandi, Kandhamal and Koraput) under RUSA 2.0 in PAB 12 for a total amount of Rs. 12 Crore each (Annexure 3). All these projects have been digitally launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in 2019. It was observed that these projects have been diverted to other departments in the state and decision for these was sought from PAB in the 3rd meeting held on 19th November 2024. The PAB directed the State of Odisha to submit a detailed report for all six projects.

Thereafter, reply was sought from Odisha wherein the state has requested to cancel five NMDC (Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Kalahandi and Kandhamal) and refund the central share released to these five NMDCs amounting to Rs. 27.3 Crore to the Consolidated fund of India (CFI). In case of NMDC (Koraput) which was acquired by NHAI, the state has requested to establish another NMDC in the same block in Semiligudda, Koraput.

The request of the state for cancellation (5 NMDC) and re-establishment (1 NMDC) RUSA is placed for the consideration of the PAB.

Decision of the PAB:

PAB approved for cancellation of the projects. The proposals being received from State for replacement with another suitable works is being examined in the Ministry as per the approved list of works under RUSA 2.0 Components and shall be communicated separately to the State Government. But all works approved shall be completed within 31st March 2026.

Item No. 4: Requests from States/UTs regarding foreclosure, change of location and changes in activities undertaken in the projects.

Item No. 4.1: Request for foreclosure of the projects.

Based on the requests of following States/UTs and the justifications furnished thereto, 5 projects under RUSA 1.0 have been put up for foreclosure.

S. No.	State/UT	Component	Institution	Central Share Approved (Cr)	Central Share Utilized (Cr)	Remarks
1	Assam	Erstwhile MDC	Govt. Model Degree College, South Salmara	2	0.00	The project was approved by UGC and later subsumed under RUSA 1.0 in the State of Assam in PAB 1, 2013 with total approved amount of Rs. 4 Cr., out of which, central share released was Rs.

S. No.	State/UT	Component	Institution	Central Share Approved (Cr)	Central Share Utilized (Cr)	Remarks
						<p>0.5 Cr. and central share utilized was Nil.</p> <p>The state has informed that the work in the college has stopped due to legal dispute and the project is stuck.</p> <p>Therefore, the state has requested to foreclose the project. But it may be proposed for cancellation as no fund has been utilized by the institution. In case of cancellation, the State will remit the total central share released i.e. Rs 2.5 Crore (2 crore under UGC and 0.5 Cr under RUSA).</p>
2	Jammu &	Vocationalisation of Higher Education	State as a unit	4.86	0.5775	The project was approved in the State of J&K in PAB 3, 2014

S. No.	State/UT	Component	Institution	Central Share Approved (Cr)	Central Share Utilized (Cr)	Remarks
	Kashmir					<p>under RUSA 1.0 with total approved amount of Rs. 5.4 Cr., out of which, central share released was Rs. 0.6834 Cr. and central share utilized was Rs. 0.5775 Cr.</p> <p>The UT informed that the selected agency which onboarded in 2017, could provide training only to 1566 students against target of 10,800 students. The rigid conditions of the agreement made it difficult for the agency to achieve target placements.</p> <p>Therefore, the UT has requested to consider this project as completed and proposed to foreclose the project with savings of a total</p>

S. No.	State/UT	Component	Institution	Central Share Approved (Cr)	Central Share Utilized (Cr)	Remarks
						<p>amount of Rs. 4.7583 crore out of which central share is Rs. 4.2825 crore.</p> <p>Also, the UT is requested to remit the unutilized central share of Rs. 0.1059 Cr. to the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).</p>
3	Ladakh	Vocationalisation of Higher Education	State as a unit	1.863	0.076	<p>The project was approved in the State of Erstwhile J&K for two colleges in Ladakh region in PAB 3, 2014 under RUSA 1.0 with total approved amount of Rs. 2.07 Cr., out of which, central share released and utilized was Rs. 0.075938 Cr.</p> <p>The UT has stated that the support being provided under</p>

S. No.	State/UT	Component	Institution	Central Share Approved (Cr)	Central Share Utilized (Cr)	Remarks
						<p><i>PM-USHA is adequate to meet the current and projected demands of Vocationalisation in the UT.</i></p> <p><i>Therefore, the UT has requested to consider this project as completed and proposed to foreclose the project with savings of a total amount of Rs. 1.985622 crore out of which central share is Rs. 1.787062 crore.</i></p>
4	West Bengal	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Syama Prasad College, Kolkata	1.20	0.5	<p><i>The project was approved in the State of West Bengal in PAB 7, 2015 under RUSA 1.0 with total approved amount of Rs. 2.0 Cr., out of which, central share released and</i></p>

S. No.	State/UT	Component	Institution	Central Share Approved (Cr)	Central Share Utilized (Cr)	Remarks
						<p>utilized was Rs. 0.5 Cr.</p> <p>The state has informed that no further claim was made under the two heads i.e. "Creation of New facilities" and "Renovation/ Upgradation of existing facilities" mentioned in the proposal submitted by the Institution.</p> <p>Therefore, the State has requested to consider this project as completed and proposed to foreclose the project with savings of a total amount of Rs. 1.5 crore out of which central share is Rs. 0.9 crore.</p>

S. No.	State/UT	Component	Institution	Central Share Approved (Cr)	Central Share Utilized (Cr)	Remarks
5	Delhi	Preparatory Grant and MMER	-	3.06	0.076	<p>The project i.e. Preparatory Grant (Rs. 6 Cr) along with corresponding MMER (Rs.0.06 Cr.) was approved in UT of Delhi in PAB 8, 2015 under RUSA 1.0 with total approved amount of Rs. 6.06 Cr., out of which, central share released was Rs. 1.53 Cr. and central share utilized was Rs. 0.0764973 Cr.</p> <p>Therefore, it is proposed to foreclose the project with savings of a total amount of Rs. 5.91 crore out of which central share is Rs. 2.9835027 crore.</p> <p>Also, the UT is requested to remit the unutilized central</p>

S. No.	State/UT	Component	Institution	Central Share Approved (Cr)	Central Share Utilized (Cr)	Remarks
						share of Rs. 1.4535027 Cr. and interest due Rs. 0.129066 Cr. to the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).

Decision of the PAB:

After considering the requests made by the States/UTs, the decision taken by the PAB for the 5 projects is detailed below:

- i. In respect of the Government Model Degree College at South Salmara in State of Assam (approved under the Erstwhile MDC component) the PAB cancelled the project. The State was directed that the Central Share amounting to Rs. 2.5 Cr. (Rs. 2 Cr. by UGC and Rs. 0.5 Cr. under RUSA) released to the project along with interest amount accrued should be remitted by the State to the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).
- ii. In respect of the Vocationalisation of Higher Education component approved in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir under RUSA 1.0, the PAB cancelled the project. The UT was directed that the total released central share along with interest amount accrued should be remitted to the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).
- iii. In respect of the Vocationalisation of Higher Education component approved in the UT of Ladakh under RUSA 1.0, the PAB cancelled the project. The UT was directed that the total released central share along with interest amount accrued should be remitted to the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).
- iv. Based on the request from the State of West Bengal to foreclose Syama Prasad College, Kolkata approved under Infrastructure Grants to Colleges component under RUSA 1.0 and to consider the project to be completed with savings, the PAB approved the same. The State was directed that unutilized central share for the project (if any) along with interest amount accrued, should be remitted to the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).

v. In respect of the Preparatory Grants (Rs. 6 Cr.) along with the corresponding MMER (Rs. 0.06 Cr.) approved to the UT of Delhi under RUSA 1.0, the PAB cancelled the project. The UT was directed that the total released central share along with interest amount accrued should be remitted to the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).

Item No. 4.2: Request for change of location

Item No. 4.2 (a): Change of project site of New Professional College (Music & Fine Arts), Tsiesema, Nagaland under the New Professional College component (RUSA 1.0)

The New Professional College (Music & Fine Arts), Dimapur was initially approved in PAB 14, 2018 under RUSA 1.0 under the component New Professional College (NPC) with total amount approved of Rs. 26 Cr. and was relocated to Tsiesema, Kohima, under the 16th PAB, 2019. The State has now proposed a further change of the RUSA 1.0 approved project site to Terhiiba, Tsiesema citing non-feasibility of construction at the Tsiesema due to landslides caused by incessant rains during July- August 2023. Total amount Rs. 19.5 Cr. (Rs. 17.55 cr. Central Share) has been released for this project till now.

The State has informed that Out of the total released amount of Rs. 19.50 Cr., Rs. 4.42 Cr. have been utilised for works at the old site at Tsiesema, Kohima which got washed away due to landslide in August, 2023. However, due to the landslide, the construction was damaged, hence efforts are being made by the HE Dept. of Nagaland to recover this amount from the State. An amount of Rs. 8.59 Cr. has been reallocated to other projects through Fund Transfer Mechanism (FTM), while Rs. 1.54 Cr. is under process for payment towards ongoing works at the new site. An amount of Rs. 4.96 Cr. is still unutilized and available in the SNA account of the state.

Post landslide at Tsiesema, Kohima, the State Government has allotted an alternative site within the same locality i.e. Terhiiba at Tsiesema, where site levelling has been completed and foundation works are in progress. The Department has revised the DPR considering price escalation, ensuring it remains within the approved project cost. Any unforeseen escalation beyond the approved cost shall be met by the State Government, upon request from the Department. The proposed project completion timeline is December 2026.

In view of the above, the request for change in location of the college is put up for kind consideration and decision of the PAB.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB approved the request made by the State subject to the following conditions:

- i. The expenditure incurred at the previous location, where construction was damaged due to a landslide, shall not be borne by the Central Government. In addition to the approved central share of Rs. 23.4 crore, any further funds required for the completion of the project will also not be borne by the Central Government.
- ii. As the project is approved under RUSA 2.0, the State shall not be entitled to claim any funds from the Central Government beyond 31st March 2026, even within the approved central share.

Item No. 4.2 (b): Change of project site of Sivanath Sastri College, Kolkata, West Bengal under the Infrastructure Grants to Colleges component (RUSA 2.0)

The Sivanath Sastri College, West Bengal was approved in PAB 12, 2014 under RUSA 2.0 under the component Infrastructure Grants to Colleges (IGC) with total amount approved of Rs. 2 Cr. and total released amount of Rs. 0.40 Cr. which was utilized for procurement purposes.

The College has now sought approval for change of location from Kolkata district to Sonarpur, 24 Paraganas, South citing that the building at the earlier location was not owned by the College. It has been informed that the College has purchased a plot of land at Sonarpur, 24 Paraganas, South and has requested an amount of Rs. 1.00 Cr. from the RUSA 2.0 grant for construction of a hostel block at the new location.

As per the guideline of RUSA 2.0 under IGC component, "The State can spend maximum 50% of the total cost in case of new construction, renovation/upgrade and equipment each. For e.g., the expenditure ratios could be 40:50:10; or 50:30:20; or 45:45:10, etc." As per the information provided by the State, out of the total approved amount of Rs. 2 crore, Rs. 0.40 crore (20%) has already been utilized for procurement of equipment. An amount of Rs. 1 crore (50%) has been proposed for new construction. However, no proposal has been submitted for the remaining Rs. 0.60 crore (30%). This expenditure pattern corresponds to the 50:30:20 allocation category.

In view of the above, the request for change in location of the college is put up for kind consideration and decision of the PAB.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB approved the request made by the State subject to the condition that, since the project is approved under RUSA 2.0, the State shall not be entitled to claim any funds from the Central Government beyond 31st March 2026, even within the approved central share.

Item No. 4.3: Request for extension of deadline of New Professional College (NPC), Lunglei, Mizoram approved under RUSA 1.0

The Mizoram Engineering College, Lunglei, Mizoram was approved in PAB 5, 2014 under RUSA 1.0 under the component New Professional College (NPC) with total amount approved and released of Rs. 26 Cr. Among other projects, the NPC was digitally inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in February 2019.

However, in the course of various review meetings held with the State, it was informed that the project has been completed, but is still not functional due to lack of certain infrastructure in the College, such as approach road, power supply, water connection, etc. The state has ensured to complete the necessary infrastructure with the state fund and committed to make the project operational by July 2026 positively.

The request from the state of Mizoram for extension of deadline till July, 2026 to make the Mizoram Engineering College, Lunglei project under RUSA 1.0 operational has been put up for kind consideration of PAB.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB approved the request based on the commitment of the State to complete all the necessary infrastructure required for making the project functional by next Academic Session i.e. 2026-27.

Item No. 4.4: Request for relaxation in RUSA norms under the component Infrastructure Grants to Colleges (IGC)

The Govt. College Thrippunithura, Ernakulum, Kerala was approved in PAB 16, 2019 under RUSA 1.0 under the component Infrastructure Grants to Colleges (IGC) with total amount approved of Rs. 2 Cr. and total amount released of Rs. 1 Cr. (Rs. 0.60 cr. Central Share).

The state has informed that the land owned by the college is marshy with low load-bearing capacity and needs huge expenditure for construction. Also, lack of transportation facilities is another hurdle. The institution has submitted revised proposal with total cost of Rs 1.26 crore (76 lakhs for renovation works (60% of the total cost) and 50 lakhs for purchase (40% of the total cost).

However, as per the RUSA 1.0 guidelines, the IGC component had following financial norms:

- *Creation of New Facilities shall not exceed 35%,*
- *Renovation/ Upgradation of existing facilities shall not exceed 35%*

- purchase of new equipment shall not exceed 30% of the total cost of the project.
- Repairs and maintenance cost shall not exceed 10% of total cost

Therefore, the state has sought relaxation in RUSA norms for approving the revised proposal of the institute wherein renovation and procurement could be undertaken in place of new construction.

The request from the state of Kerala for relaxation in RUSA norms for approving the revised proposal of the institute has been put up for kind consideration of PAB.

Decision of the PAB:

The request for relaxation in RUSA norms for Govt. College Tripunithura, Ernakulam approved under Infrastructure Grants to Colleges component along with revision in total approved amount of Rs. 2 Cr. to Rs. 1.26 Cr., was approved by PAB.

Item No. 5: Relaxation for proposals awaiting for fund release under Research, Innovation and Quality Improvement component of RUSA 2.0

A total of 19 units were approved under the component of 'Research, Innovation and Quality Improvement' (RIQI) in RUSA 2.0. The central grants have been released to 11 units for both Entrepreneurship, Employability and Innovation Hub (15 crore) & Research and Innovation (35 crore) sub-components (Table 5.1). Remaining 8 universities have received funds for only under Entrepreneurship, Employability and Innovation Hub (15 crore) sub-component. Whereas, under the subcomponent of Research & Innovation, these 8 Universities submitted the revised proposal with deficiency or after due date (Table 5.2). Resultantly, no central funds have been released.

Table 5.1: 11 units that received funds for both Entrepreneurship, Employability and Innovation Hub (15 crore) & Research and Innovation (35 crore) sub-components

S. No.	State	Name of University
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	University of Kashmir, Jammu & Kashmir
2.	Rajasthan	University of Rajasthan, Rajasthan
3.	Rajasthan	Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Rajasthan
4.	Kerala	Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala
5.	Kerala	University of Science & Technology, Kerala

S. No.	State	Name of University
6.	Tamil Nadu	Bharthiar University, Tamil Nadu
7.	Tamil Nadu	Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu
8.	Tamil Nadu	Anna University, Tamil Nadu
9.	Tamil Nadu	Bharathidasan University, Tamil Nadu
10.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai Kamraj University, Tamil Nadu
11.	Tamil Nadu	University of Madras, Tamil Nadu

Table 5.2: Eight Universities that submitted the revised proposal with deficiency or after due date

S. No.	State /UT	University	Status of DPR Submission (Last Date of Submission of R&I proposal was 19.11.2019)	Remarks
1	Andhra Pradesh	Acharya Nagarjuna University	04.01.2024	DPR Submitted after the delay of almost 49 Month
2	Chandigarh	Panjab University	30.12.2019	DPR Submitted after the delay of 1.5 Month
3	Haryana	Guru Jambheshwar University of Science & Technology	28.02.2020	DPR Submitted after the delay of 3.5 Month
4	Punjab	Panjabi University	21.08.2019	DPR submitted before 16 th PAB (09.09.2019) but not traceable in the Section/ TSG. State has informed vide letter dated 17.09.2019 that Proposal

S. No.	State /UT	University	Status of DPR Submission (Last Date of Submission of R&I proposal was 19.11.2019)	Remarks
				submitted earlier vide email dated 21.08.2019 is final.
5	Karnataka	University of Mysore	31.01.2020	DPR Submitted after the delay of 2.5 Month
6	Telangana	Kakatiya University	02.05.2019	DPR submitted before 16 th PAB (09.09.2019)
7	West Bengal	University of Calcutta		DPR not Submitted
8	West Bengal	University of Kalyani	27.02.2020	DPR Submitted after the delay of almost 3.5 Month

Furthermore, the DPRs prepared by the above mentioned eight Universities are at least 3–5 years old. Recently, a review meeting with the Vice Chancellors of the above eight Universities was taken by Joint Secretary (ICC & RUSA) on 7th August, 2025, wherein, the Universities informed about their willingness to undertake expenditure under the subcomponent of Research & Innovation also and thus sought the relaxation of the PAB conditions such as for prior approval of the DPRs by the PAB, ratio or hard: soft component, etc. so that necessary activities may be initiated by the Universities, after undertaking requisite approvals at the State level.

Therefore, the above issue is put up for consideration of PAB for taking appropriate decision.

Decision of the PAB:

Based on the requests received from the States/ UTs and the approved Universities, the PAB approved the relaxation of the conditions and approved funding support of Rs. 35 Cr. for the 8 universities under the ‘Research & Innovation’ sub-component of the “Research, Innovation, and Quality Improvement” component of RUSA 2.0. This approval is subject to the specific conditions outlined below. Any deviation from either of the two conditions will result in the project being deemed cancelled.

- i. The final DPRs must be submitted to the Ministry latest by 10th September, 2025, after obtaining approval of the competent authority in the State/ UT.
- ii. The project must be completed by 31st March 2026 and the State/ UT shall not be entitled to claim any funds from the Central Government beyond this date.
- iii. Also, in case Universities are willing to revise the DPRs, the revisions along with final DPRs must be submitted to the Ministry latest by 10th September, 2025, after obtaining approval of the competent authority in the State/ UT.

Item No. 6: Deliberation on various observations made by audit

Audit has made certain observations and raised issues with respect to RUSA in its report. Some of the issues need to be placed before PAB for deliberation and further decision. Also, PAB laid certain conditions for releasing funds with respect to various components during PAB meetings held under RUSA 1.0 and 2.0. Therefore, it is proposed that relaxation in specific conditions may be given to ease the compliance for the institutions and expedite the project completion under RUSA 1.0 and 2.0.

The details of the observations made by the audit with corresponding PAB conditions laid in previous PAB meetings is placed at Annexure 4.

The Relaxation for specific conditions laid in previous PAB meetings under RUSA 1.0 and 2.0. and other issues raised by audit are placed for the consideration and deliberation of the PAB.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB directed the Ministry to re-examine the observations raised by the Audit and place the specific relaxations before the next PAB. The States/ UTs were requested to furnish replies to the pending Audit observations to the Ministry on priority.

Item No. 7: Approval of Preparatory Grants (Institutional Restructuring and Reforms) under RUSA 2.0

RUSA 2.0 guidelines mention about provision of funds under Preparatory Grants (Institutional Restructuring and Reforms) component to the tune of Rs. 3 crores for 30 States and Union Territories to enable them to create/ strengthen necessary institutional framework for efficient and effective sectoral reforms. This was further approved in the 12th PAB meeting of RUSA on the condition that the release of grants under this component to States/ UTs may be done based on full and complete utilization of the

earlier preparatory grants released under RUSA 1.0. This was also included in the committed liability of PM-USHA.

In this regard, based on the progress updated in the Monthly Progress Report (MPR) by the States/ UTs, the current status of Preparatory Grants (Institutional Restructuring and Reforms) component approved under RUSA 1.0 and requirement of funds under the same component of RUSA 2.0 was sought from 30 States/ UTs. Out of the 30 States/ UTs, funds were earlier approved for 5 States/ UTs under the said component and request for approval of grants have been received from 19 States/ UTs (given at Annexure 5). The responses are still awaited from 6 States/ UTs.

The 19 States/ UTs have broadly requested funds to undertake activities including Monitoring and Evaluation of the project, Procurement of office equipment and stationaries, Capacity building activities, Maintenance of State Project Directorate, SHEC, Project Monitoring Unit, strengthening of MIS, purchase of computers, printers, air conditioner, etc.

In this regard, the States/ UTs may be advised to undertake expenditure only on non-constructions/ renovation-based activities. The States/ UTs may be advised to undertake various soft activities towards achievement of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 goals, including organizing International/ National Conferences, procurement of ICT/ laboratory equipment, digitization of classrooms, in various well performing HEIs within the State/ UT, etc.

In view of the above, approval of grants to the eligible States/ UTs under the Preparatory Grants (Institutional Restructuring and Reforms) component of RUSA 2.0 is placed before the PAB for consideration.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB ratified the approval of Preparatory Grants given to 5 States of Goa, Kerala, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Uttarakhand based on utilization of earlier grants released to RUSA 1.0 Preparatory Grants while releasing funds to these States/ UTs under SNA Model of PFMS.

The Preparatory Grants under RUSA 2.0 for a total amount of Rs. 3 Crore was approved to 10 States/ UTs (Annexure 2) based on complete utilization of funds approved under RUSA 1.0 Preparatory Grants.

Furthermore, the PAB relaxed the condition of earlier utilization of RUSA 1.0 Preparatory Grants and decided to approve Preparatory Grants under RUSA 2.0 to 9 more States/ UTs having utilization of 75% of RUSA 1.0 Preparatory Grants (Annexure 2).

The activities under this project must be completed by 31st March 2026 and the States/ UTs shall not be entitled to claim any funds from the Central Government beyond this date.

For being able to utilize the funds before 31st March, 2026, in addition to the activities outlined in the Guidelines, the States/ UTs were encouraged to undertake various soft activities towards achievement of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 goals, including organizing International/ National Conferences, procurement of ICT/ laboratory equipment, digitization of classrooms, in various HEIs within the State/ UT, etc. while not limiting to these activities any previous maintenance/ physical works already started under this component can be continued but there should be no spillover of the work beyond 31st March, 2026 under any circumstances.

Item No. 8: DPR Status for projects approved under PM-USHA

Under the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd PAB meetings of PM-USHA, a total of 615 projects were approved. The PAB had directed the States/UTs to submit the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for these approved projects on the portal.

Of the 615 approved projects, 560 DPRs have been approved and uploaded on the portal, while 55 DPRs are still pending submission.

As per the point no. xix under Expectations from States/UTs of “Chapter XIII: MoU with State Governments” of PM-USHA guidelines, “As a condition, if the commencement of a project does not happen within 6 months of approval by PAB, the States/UTs shall surrender the funding and other institutions within or outside the States/UTs shall be preferred under the same component for funding.”

The current component-wise status of pending DPRs (as on date 11.08.2025) is as follows:

S. No.	Component Name	No. of Units Approved	No. of DPRs Uploaded	No. of DPRs Pending
1	Multi-Disciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERU)	35	29	6
2	Grants to Strengthen Universities (GSU)	73	64	9
3	Grants to Strengthen Colleges (GSC)	401	387	14

S. No.	Component Name	No. of Units Approved	No. of DPRs Uploaded	No. of DPRs Pending
4	New Model Degree Colleges (NMDC)	8	8	0
5	Gender Inclusion and Equity Initiatives (GIEI)	98	72	26
<i>Total</i>		615	560	55

List of Pending DPRs of PM-USHA are placed at Annexure 6.

The status of DPRs submitted by the States/UTs and the above-mentioned condition for submission of DPR mentioned as per the scheme guidelines is placed before the PAB for kind consideration and relaxation.

Decision of the PAB:

Based on the status of the DPRs submitted on the PM-USHA portal, the States/ UTs that have not uploaded their approved DPRs on the portal were directed by the PAB to approve and upload the approved DPRs on PM-USHA Portal latest by 10th September 2025. The failure of States/ UTs to upload within the given timeline may lead to the projects being considered for cancellation.

Item No. 9: Approval of PAB for revisions undertaken by States/ UTs in PM-USHA approved projects

During the earlier PAB meetings of PM-USHA, it was observed that some of the proposals submitted by the States/UTs were skewed more towards infrastructure creation and renovation. Therefore, the States were allowed to revise and align their proposals with the scheme objectives, without breaching the financial approval given by the PAB.

The revised proposals, along with the approved DPRs, have been submitted by the States on the Portal and the same is placed before the PAB for approval and ratification.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB ratified the revised proposals and approved DPRs submitted by the States/ UTs on the PM-USHA portal for the projects approved in earlier PAB meetings of PM-USHA.

Item No. 10: Status of Updation of Monthly Progress Report (MPR) for RUSA and PM-USHA on the PM-USHA Portal

The Monthly Progress Report (MPR) modules for RUSA and PM-USHA have been developed and integrated into the PM-USHA portal. All States/UTs are required to update the progress of their approved projects on a monthly basis, by the 15th of each month.

Various capacity-building and training sessions have been conducted for the States/UTs from time to time. However, it has been observed that several States/UTs either are not regularly submitting their MPRs or are uploading inaccurate and unverified data. Such practices compromise the integrity of the information available on the portal and hinder effective monitoring.

Accurate and timely submission of MPRs is essential, as the data is frequently utilized for responding to Parliament questions, preparing status notes, providing inputs for audit para, and other official purposes etc. The reliability of these inputs is contingent upon the quality and consistency of data furnished by the States/UTs.

As per the information furnished by the States/UTs on the PM-USHA portal, out of a total of 615 approved projects, information for only 315 projects (by the concerned HEIs) have been submitted through MPRs under PM-USHA from October 2024 to date (as on 11.08.2025).

States/UTs may be advised to ensure regular and accurate submission of the MPRs for RUSA and PM-USHA (by the concerned HEIs), in order to facilitate reliable monitoring of the projects.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB impressed upon the States/ UTs to regularly update the Monthly Progress Report for both RUSA/ PM-USHA on a monthly basis without fail.

The representative from NITI Aayog suggested that in the next phase of the scheme, timely and accurate submission of Monthly Progress Reports (MPRs) should be made a mandatory requirement for further fund release. This would enable real-time project tracking and facilitate improved coordination between the Centre and the States/ UTs.

Item No.11: Review of projects approved under the components of PM-USHA

Total Approvals under the PM-USHA: Under the PM-USHA scheme, a total amount of Rs. 8,098.53 Cr. has been approved for 615 projects. Total expenditure incurred on PM-USHA projects (as of 11.08.2025) is Rs. 231.45 Cr.

State-wise details of Total Approvals under the PM-USHA

S. No.	States/UTs	Total Amount Approved (Rs. in Cr.)	Total Number of Units	Total Expenditure Amount (Rs. in Cr.) (as on 11.08.2025)
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	18.61	3	NIL
2	Andhra Pradesh	378.74	33	3.03
3	Arunachal Pradesh	55.55	7	1.23
4	Assam	287.80	24	10.15
5	Bihar	387.03	25	NIL
6	Chandigarh	25.25	4	0.16
7	Chhattisgarh	272.58	21	NIL
8	Goa	106.04	2	1.09
9	Gujarat	429.25	32	31.83
10	Haryana	183.08	20	NIL
11	Himachal Pradesh	181.56	10	18.07
12	Jammu and Kashmir	156.49	18	7.32
13	Jharkhand	307.83	27	11.19
14	Karnataka	438.32	31	0.14
15	Kerala	409.04	18	2.57
16	Ladakh	31.30	3	0.44
17	Madhya Pradesh	570.65	38	5.48
18	Maharashtra	814.24	61	33.73
19	Manipur	85.82	10	NIL
20	Meghalaya	55.55	7	2
21	Mizoram	50.50	7	7.79
22	Nagaland	106.05	10	6.59
23	Odisha	676.70	38	0.34
24	Puducherry	25.25	4	0.40
25	Punjab	136.34	18	6.02
26	Rajasthan	333.30	34	24.10

S. No.	States/UTs	Total Amount Approved (Rs. in Cr.)	Total Number of Units	Total Expenditure Amount (Rs. in Cr.) (as on 11.08.2025)
27	Sikkim	70.70	7	NIL
28	Telangana	272.70	22	13.46
29	Tripura	65.65	7	0.18
30	Uttar Pradesh	1,005.01	66	15.79
31	Uttarakhand	161.60	8	28.33
Total		8,098.53	615	231.45

Projects approved under various components of PM-USHA

Item No. 11A: Multi-Disciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERU) Component

A total of 35 universities has been approved under the MERU component across 17 States/UTs, with a total approved amount of Rs. 3499.78 Cr. Out of the 29 Universities where DPRs have been approved, 29 Universities have completed the tendering process, 29 have issued work orders, and expenditure has commenced in 24 Universities. The total expenditure (as on 11.08.2025) under the component is Rs. 43.77 Cr.

University-wise details of MERU component are placed at Annexure 7A.

Item No. 11B: Grants to Strengthen Universities (GSU) Component

A total of 73 universities has been approved under the GSU component across 23 States/UTs, with a total approved amount of Rs. 1438.61 Cr. Out of the 64 Universities where DPRs have been approved, 49 Universities have completed the tendering process, 47 have issued work orders, and expenditure has commenced in 28 Universities. The total expenditure (as on 11.08.2025) under the component is Rs. 34.31 Cr.

University-wise details of GSU component are placed at Annexure 7B.

Item No. 11C: Grants to Strengthen Colleges (GSC) Component

A total of 401 colleges has been approved under the GSC component across 31 States/UTs, with a total approved amount of Rs.1987.61 Cr. Out of the 387 Colleges where DPRs have been approved, 335 Colleges have completed the tendering process, 316 have issued work orders, and expenditure has commenced in 175 Colleges. The total expenditure (as on 11.08.2025) under the component is Rs. 123.71 Cr.

State-wise details of GSC component are placed at Annexure 7C.

Item No. 11D: New Model Degree Colleges (NMDC) Component

A total of 08 colleges has been approved under the NMDC component across 03 States/UTs, with a total approved amount of Rs. 119.98 Cr. Out of the 08 colleges where DPRs have been approved, none of the colleges have completed the tendering process, none have issued work orders, and expenditure has commenced in none of the colleges. The total expenditure (as on 11.08.2025) under the component is NIL.

College-wise details of NMDC component are placed at Annexure 7D.

Item No. 11E: Gender Inclusion and Equity Initiatives (GIEI) Component

A total of 98 districts has been approved under the GIEI component across 29 States/UTs, with a total approved amount of Rs.972.37 Cr. Out of the 72 Districts where DPRs have been approved, 38 Districts have completed the tendering process, 29 have issued work orders, and expenditure has commenced in 19 Districts. The total expenditure (as on 11.08.2025) under the component is Rs. 29.66 Cr.

District-wise details of GIEI component are placed at Annexure 7E.

States/UTs may be advised to expedite the implementation of approved projects under various components of the PM-USHA and ensure timely uploading of DPRs for the pending projects at the earliest, without any further delay.

Decision of the PAB in respect of Item Nos. 11, 11A, 11B, 11C, 11D, 11E:

The PAB asked the States/ UTs to identify and remove the bottlenecks in processes (such as tendering, work allocation, etc.), processing bills on time and to identify ways for improving the pace of expenditure by improvising the existing systems, if required.

The PAB requested the States of Manipur and Nagaland to onboard on SNA-SPARSH model of PFMS latest by 10th September, 2025.

Recommendations of NITI Aayog:

- i. States must enhance their preparedness to absorb the funds approved under the scheme, to ensure that State Universities and Colleges fully benefit from the support provided.**
- ii. Under the GIEI component, gender inclusion and equity are essential priorities for the higher education sector. As these are District level projects, the States/ UTs were advised to prioritize their timely implementation.**

Item No. 12: Request from States/UTs pertaining to Projects approved under PM-USHA

Item No. 12.1. Modification in DPR of Satavahana University, Karimnagar, Telangana

Satavahana University, Karimnagar, Telangana was approved under the GSU component in the 1st PAB meeting of PM-USHA, held on 17th January 2024. A revised proposal along with the DPR for the said project has been submitted on the portal. Of the total Rs.17.25 Cr. proposed under Infrastructure Construction, Rs.7.28 Cr. is allocated for the construction of a Girls' Hostel at the University College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Karimnagar, within the same premises.

However, the State has informed that the University has requested permission to modify the existing administrative sanction for the “construction of a Girls' Hostel at the University College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Karimnagar” with “the construction of an Academic Building” at the same location. This change is proposed within the same premises, under the same terms and conditions, and without any change in the overall cost.

This request has arisen due to the recent introduction of the M.Pharmacy programme at the institution, which is expected to significantly increase student enrollment and faculty strength. Consequently, there is an urgent need for additional academic infrastructure, including classrooms and related facilities. Further, the requirement for a Girls' Hostel will be addressed through a separate administrative sanction of Rs.10 Cr. received from the Tribal Welfare Department, Government of Telangana, for the construction of a Tribal Girls' Hostel.

In view of the above, the request of the State for permission to modify the administrative sanction and hence the DPR is placed before the PAB for consideration.

Decision of the PAB:

The proposed modification was approved by the PAB.

Item No. 12.2. Request for cancellation of the PM-USHA projects in Gujarat

(i) Smt. J.A. Patel Mahila College, Morbi (C-823) was approved under PAB 3 of PM-USHA for the component Grants to Strengthen Colleges for a total amount of Rs. 5 Crore. However, the institute decided to withdraw from the scheme. Therefore, the state has requested for cancellation of the project.

(ii) Birla Vishwakarma Mahavidhyalaya, (C-347) was approved under PAB 3 of PM-USHA for the component Grants to Strengthen Colleges for a total amount of Rs. 5 Crore in place of the previously approved Government MCA College, Maninagar. Government

MCA College, Maninagar was approved in PAB 2 of PM-USHA but was later requested for cancellation by the state as it was found to be a technical college hence being ineligible under the scheme.

However, Birla Vishwakarma Mahavidhyalaya, (C-347) has also been found to be a technical college. Therefore, the state has requested for cancellation of this college as well.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB approved the cancellation of the afore-mentioned projects.

Item No. 12.3. Request from SNTD Women's University's, Maharashtra for permission to change the building layout at Palgarh Campus and the plan and location of construction at Pune campus.

Smt. Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Women's University, Mumbai was approved under MERU component in 1st PAB meeting of PM-USHA held in 17th January, 2024. The University has also submitted the revised proposal and DPR on the PM-USHA portal.

However, the State has informed that the University has requested approval for the following changes, that will not require any revision in the proposed cost.

- 1. To enable better space utilization, instead of two separate buildings as proposed in the revised proposal for the Palghar campus, a single building accommodating both educational and hostel facilities is proposed for construction.*
- 2. Due to structural stability issues, in place of the planned extension of existing buildings as proposed in the revised proposal, a new building at a new site within the Pune campus is proposed for construction.*

The above request of the State is placed before the PAB for consideration.

Decision of the PAB:

The request for the proposed change by the State of Maharashtra was approved by the PAB.

Item No.13: Review of Expenditure Incurred under RUSA/ PM-USHA

The overall pace of expenditure under the scheme in the last 3 financial years is detailed below:

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Budget Estimates (BE)</i>	<i>Revised Estimates (RE)</i>	<i>Release to States under SNA-SPARSH and SNA models (as on 11.08.2025)</i>
2023-24	1500.00	500.00	181.06
2024-25	1814.94	895.00	350.83
2025-26	1815.00	-	126.29

For FY 2025–26, the States/UTs had been requested to furnish quarter-wise expenditure plans. An annual expenditure plan of Rs. 4,181.49 Cr. has been proposed by the States/UTs, of which an estimated expenditure of Rs. 977.62 Cr. and Rs. 997.44 Cr. has been communicated to be incurred in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2.

The annual expenditure plan proposed by the States/ UTs for FY 2025-26 is significantly higher than the approved budget estimate of the scheme for the current FY amounting to Rs. 1815 Cr. and is predominantly based on the existing committed liability of Rs. 6703.90 Cr. as on 11.08.2025.

Against the Budget Estimates amounting to Rs. 1815 Cr. for current FY, an expenditure amounting to Rs. 128.79 Cr. only has been incurred, so far (as on 11.08.2025), indicating the substantial gap between the proposed expenditure for Quarter 1 and 2 and the actual expenditure incurred.

States/ UTs may be advised to expedite the expenditure. Further, keeping in view the above agenda items, the States/ UTs may be advised to share a realistic revised expenditure plan for the Quarter 2, Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 of current FY.

Decision of the PAB:

After reviewing the expenditure incurred by the States/ UTs in the current financial year, the States/ UTs were requested to expedite the expenditure under the scheme. Given that projects sanctioned under RUSA 1.0 and 2.0 will not be carried forward in the next phase of the scheme, States/ UTs were encouraged to make optimal use of the available funds and accelerate both project implementation and expenditure.

Item No.14: Any other item with the permission of the Chair

(a) Request from the State of Himachal Pradesh for change in DPR and change in approval of Govt. College Bhallai (C-58704) approved under Grants to strengthen Colleges (GSC) component of PM-USHA with another college located in same district and in same Constituency: As informed by the State, the situation of land of Govt. College

Bhallai approved under the said component is not good, therefore, the State wants to propose another College in place of the said college.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB approved the request of the State subject to the condition that the proposed College should be situated in same district and in same constituency and the proposal for the College should have been submitted earlier by the State at the initial stage of the scheme.

(b) Request from the State of Uttar Pradesh for change in approved amount of Jannayak Chandrashekhar University, Ballia and Siddharth University, Kapilvastu Siddharth Nagar approved under Grants to strengthen Universities (GSU) component of PM-USHA: As informed by the State, since at the initial stage, DPR could not be prepared by the said Universities for the entire permissible amount i.e. Rs. 20 Cr., the State had submitted proposal of lesser amount which was approved by the PAB in the 2nd PAB meeting of PM-USHA i.e. Rs. 13.34 Cr. for Jannayak Chandrashekhar University, Ballia and Rs. 6.53 Cr. for Siddharth University, Kapilvastu Siddharth Nagar. Since, the Universities are located in unserved areas, the State requested to consider the request for change in approved amount. It was further informed by the State that the DPRs of both the Universities have been prepared and can be uploaded on the portal within 15 days of the approval.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB approved the request of the State subject to the condition that the final revised DPR would be uploaded on the portal by 10th September, 2025.

(c) Request from the State of Odisha for modification in the number of projects being considered in the districts approved under the Gender Inclusion and Equity Initiative (GIEI) component of PM-USHA: The State of Odisha requested for permission to change the DPR of the projects approved under GIEI component wherein the States wanted to include more projects in the same district approved under the component.

Decision of the PAB:

The request of the State was approved subject to the condition that the changes should be restricted to the same district approved under the said component and that the revised DPR should be uploaded on the portal by 10th September, 2025.

(d) Request from the State of Odisha for cancellation of Cluster Colleges (Lead College: Khalikote College), Ganjam, approved under Creation of Universities by Conversion of Colleges in a Cluster component under RUSA 1.0. The State Government converted the lead college of the Cluster Colleges into a Unitary University, therefore fund release to the project was stopped.

Decision of the PAB:

The request was received from the State vide letter dated 20.08.2025. The PAB directed the Ministry to examine the request of the State and the same to be communicated accordingly.

(e) Request from the State of Bihar for revisions in the approved amount of Patna district approved under the Gender Inclusion and Equity Initiative (GIEI) component of PM-USHA: As informed by the State, since at the initial stage, proposal for the entire permissible amount could not be submitted, the proposed amount of Rs. 8.20 Cr. was approved by the PAB in the 3rd PAB meeting of PM-USHA. The State wants to revise the approved amount of the project.

Decision of the PAB:

The PAB approved the request of the State subject to the condition that the revised DPR would be uploaded on the portal by 10th September, 2025.

List of Participants

PAB Members

S. No.	Name	Organization
1	Sh. Vineet Joshi	Secretary (HE), Ministry of Education and Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) - Chairperson
2	Prof. (Dr.) T.G. Sitharam	Chairperson, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
3	Sh. Sunil Kumar Barnwal	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education
4	Prof. Manish R. Joshi	Secretary, University Grants Commission (UGC)
5	Professor Nageshwar Rao	Ex-Vice Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi (Nominated Expert Member) – attended via VC mode
6	Sh. Sanjog Kapoor	Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor, Ministry of Education
7	Dr. Shashank Shah	Senior Specialist, NITI Aayog
8	Sh. Armstrong Pame	Joint Secretary (ICC & RUSA), Ministry of Education – Member-Secretary

Other Officials

S. No.	Name	Organization
1	Sh. Mukesh Kumar	Director (IFD), Ministry of Education
2	Lt. Cdr. Vinod Singh Yadav	Dy. Secretary, University Grants Commission (UGC)
3	Ms. Avni Gupta Pethia	Joint Director (RUSA), Ministry of Education
4	Ms. Sandhya Rani R.S.	Joint Director (IT), NIC
5	Shri. Kunal Kashyav	Dy. Director, NIC
6	Ms. Priyanka Charan	Dy. Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Education
7	Sh. Harish Singh	AAO, Ministry of Education
8	Sh. Ghanshyam	Under Secretary (U.Policy)
9	Sh. Amit Singh	Section Officer (U.Policy)
10	Sh. Vinay Yadav	Assistant Section Officer, U.Policy Section
11	Ms. Anannya Pattanayak	Sr. Consultant, TSG PM-USHA
12	Dr. Rajani Upadhyay	Sr. Consultant, TSG PM-USHA
13	Dr. Deepti Panwar	Consultant, TSG PM-USHA
14	Ms. Pinky Saklani	Consultant, TSG PM-USHA

S. No.	Name	Organization
15	Ms. Kavita Saxena	Consultant, TSG PM-USHA
16	Ms. Chhavi Rana	Consultant, TSG PM-USHA
17	Ms. Drishti Gupta	Consultant, TSG PM-USHA
18	Ms. Mahak Singh	Consultant, TSG PM-USHA
19	Sh. Pratyush Kumar	IT Executive, TSG PM-USHA

List of Participants from States/ UTs

S. No.	State/ UT Name	Name and Designation of the Participants attending the PAB Meeting
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1. Dr. Shrabani Mallick, State Nodal Officer 2. Shri Tejinder Singh, Assistant Professor
2	Andhra Pradesh	1. Dr. Narayana Bharath Gupta, IAS - Director of Collegiate Education and State Project Director, RUSA 2. Dr. Ch. Tulasi, Deputy Director, RUSA
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1. Dr. Milorai Modi - Director, Hr. & Technical Education-cum-SPD (RUSA/PM-USHA) 2. Mr. Minto Ete, DD(E)-cum-State Nodal Officer (RUSA/ PM-USHA) 3. Mr. Dakge Riba, Technical Assistant (RUSA/PM-USHA)
4	Assam	1. Sri Narayan Konwar IAS, Secretary to the Govt. of Assam Higher Education Department and Mission Director RUSA/ PM-USHA Assam
5	Bihar	1. Shri Ajay Yadav, Secretary cum State Project Director 2. Dr. Archana, Project Director 3. Mr Jitendra Nayak, Consultant, KPMG
6	Chandigarh	1. Ms. Radhika Singh, HCS, Additional Director Higher Education 2. Prof. Punam Agarwal, State Nodal Officer 3. Sh. Ajay Kumar Suri, Superintendent, RUSA 4. Sh. Munish Kumar, Information Assistant, RUSA
7	Chhattisgarh	1. Dr Santosh Dewangan, IAS, State Project Director/ Commissioner Higher Education 2. Dr Anjali Oudhia, Joint Director (A) RUSA
8	DNH & DD	1. Dr. Bhagwanjee Jha, SNO (RUSA)
9	Delhi	1. Dr Anjali Shekhawat, Director, Higher Education 2. Mr R P Meena, Dy Director, Higher Education 3. Mr Kamal Gautam, Asstt Director, Higher Education

S. No.	State/ Name	UT	Name and Designation of the Participants attending the PAB Meeting
10	Goa		1. Shri. Bhushan K. Savoikar, Nodal Officer, PM-USHA
			2. Dr. Ramesh V. Gaonkar, Senior Project Consultant
11	Gujarat		1. Dr. Yogesh Yadav, State Nodal Officer, RUSA & PM-USHA
12	Haryana (Joined online)		1. Shri S Narayanan, IFS, State Project Director
13	Himachal Pradesh		1. Dr. Amarjeet Kumar Sharma, SPD-cum-Director, Higher Education
			2. Dr. Rajeev Khanduja, Director cum Principal
14	Jammu & Kashmir		1. Dr. Firdous Ahmad Giri, Mission Director RUSA/ PM-USHA
15	Jharkhand		1. Sri Sudhir Bara, IAS, State Project Director
			2. Dr. Vibha Pandey, Deputy Director-cum- State Nodal Officer
			3. Ms. Baruna Dutta, Deputy Project Leader-cum-Consultant, TSG
16	Karnataka		Dr. K G Chandrashekhara, Executive director, Karnataka State Higher Education Council
17	Kerala		Dr. Sharmila Mary Joseph, IAS, Principal Secretary Department of Higher Education & SPD, RUSA
18	Ladakh		1. Smt Bhanu Prabha, IAS, Administrative Secretary Higher Education Department, UT Ladakh
			2. Shri Tashi Ldawa, DNO (Associate Professor)
19	Madhya Pradesh		1. Mr. Prabal Sepaha, Project Director/Commissioner, Higher Education
			2. Dr. Sunil Singh Additional Project Director, RUSA/PM-USHA
			3. Mr. Chandramani Khobragade, Finance Controller, State Project Directorate
20	Maharashtra		1. Dr. Rajendra B. Bharud, I.A.S., State Project Director, Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan, Higher & Technical Education Department
			2. Smt. Sandhya Kumar, Sr. Consultant, Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan, Higher & Technical Education Dept.
21	Manipur		1. Shri Rajkumar Dinesh Singh, Principal Secretary (Higher & Technical Education/SPD, PM-USHA
			2. Shri L. Radhakanta Singh, Director (University & Hr. Education)/ ASPD, PM-USHA
			3. Shri Bhungba Maibam Khuman, Additional Director (University & Hr. Education)/OSD, PMUSHA

S. No.	State/ UT Name	Name and Designation of the Participants attending the PAB Meeting
		4. Shri L. Lokendro Singh, Consultant, PMUSHA
22	Meghalaya	1. Smt. H.D.B Sangma M.C.S., Director of Higher & Technical Education & Dy. State Project Director, RUSA/ PM-USHA 2. Shri Ronner F. Sawkmie, MIS Consultant (RUSA & PM-USHA) 3. Shri Arkirang Swer, Financial Consultant (RUSA & PM-USHA)
23	Mizoram	1. Dr. Zanzoliana, Addl SPD, PM-USHA, Higher & Technical Education Dept, Mizoram 2. Prof. Benjamin Lalrinsanga, Jt. Director, QAC, Higher & Tech. Edu. Dept.
24	Nagaland	1. Smt Sarita Yadav, Secretary, Department of Higher & Technical Education 2. Shri Menuokholie Kire, State Project Director (RUSA/PM-USHA), Higher Education
25	Odisha	1. Sri Chittaranjan Patra, OAS (SS), State Project Director 2. Sri Binayak Padhy, Consultant, MIS
26	Puducherry	1. Shri. Krishna Mohan Uppu, Development Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Education) 2. Shri. Aman Sharma, State Project Director (SPD)-cum-Director 3. Dr. K. Ashok, State Nodal Officer
27	Punjab	1. Smt. Anindita Mitra, IAS, Administrative Secretary 2. Shri Harpreet Singh Sudan, IAS, State Project Director, RUSA 3. Smt Veneeta Anand, Additional Project Director, RUSA 4. Shri Sachin Bangal, Senior Assistant, RUSA 5. Smt Pinky Rani, Accountant, RUSA
28	Rajasthan	1. Dr. Om Prakash Bairwa, State Project Director & Commissioner, College Education 2. Prof. Anju Suthar, Joint Director & State Nodal Officer, PM-USHA 3. Prof. Pragya Tank, Assistant Project Director, PM-USHA
29	Sikkim	1. Shri Chet Raj Mishra, PCE cum Secretary, Engineering Cell, Education Department 2. Shri Karma Tashi Norbu Shenga, Asst. Director RUSA/PM-USHA Higher Education, Education Department 3. Smt. Sangay Choden Gurung, State Consultant
30	Tamil Nadu	1. Dr. S. Swarna, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government/ State Project Director, RUSA

S. No.	State/ UT Name	Name and Designation of the Participants attending the PAB Meeting
		2. Mrs. R. Kavitha Devi, State Project Directorate, RUSA
31	Telangana	1. Smt A. Sridevasena, IAS, State Project Director
		2. Prof Bala Bhaskar, Joint Director
		3. Dr. Soundarya Joseph, Project Officer
32	Tripura	1. Shri Raval Hamendra Kumar, IAS, Special Secretary, Education (Higher) Department
33	Uttar Pradesh	1. Shri M.P. Agrawal, Principal Secretary
		2. Shri Sanjay Kumar Diwakar, Deputy Director (Technical)
		3. Dr. Dinesh Chandra Sharma, Professor
34	Uttarakhand (Joined online)	Dr. A.S Uniyal, Joint Director, Higher Education
35	West Bengal (Joined online)	1. Shri Jaydip Mukhopadhyay, IAS, Addl. State Project Director
		2. Shri. Soura Mandal, Senior Deputy Secretary, HED

Annexure 2**States/ UTs where Preparatory Grants have been approved under RUSA 2.0**

S. No.	State	Remark (s)
1	Andhra Pradesh	Progress is more than 75%.
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Progress is 100%.
3	Assam	Progress is 100%.
4	Bihar	Progress is more than 75%.
5	Chandigarh	Progress is more than 75%.
6	Chhattisgarh	Progress is more than 75%.
7	Goa	Ratification of grants approved earlier based on utilization.
8	Gujarat	Progress is more than 75%.
9	Jammu and Kashmir	Progress is more than 75%.
10	Karnataka	Progress is 100%.
11	Kerala	Ratification of grants approved earlier based on utilization.
12	Madhya Pradesh	Progress is 100%.
13	Maharashtra	Progress is 100%.
14	Manipur	Progress is 100%.
15	Meghalaya	Ratification of grants approved earlier based on utilization.
16	Mizoram	Progress is 100%.
17	Nagaland	Progress is 100%.
18	Puducherry	Progress is more than 75%.
19	Punjab	Progress is more than 75%.
20	Sikkim	Ratification of grants approved earlier based on utilization.
21	Tamil Nadu	Progress is 100%.
22	Telangana	Progress is more than 75%.
23	Uttarakhand	Ratification of grants approved earlier based on utilization.
24	West Bengal	Progress is 100%.
