

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION**

Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal

Joint Secretary

D.O.NO.F.1-1/2007 (XI Plan)

March 1, 2007

Dear Sir,

In continuation to my letter No.F.1-4/2006 (XI Plan) dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 requesting for information pertaining to performance of the Universities during X Plan, a proforma seeking information about development plans of the Universities and its requirements during XI Plan is enclosed.

A policy paper giving thrust and priorities of UGC during XI Plan is also enclosed with covering letter from Chairman, UGC.

You are requested to send the proforma, duly filled in to the UGC within 3 weeks of issue of this letter. The information should be sent in two parts – “General Development Grants” and “Grants required under the merged schemes.”

During XI Plan, a number of UGC schemes have been merged with the development grants. The list of these schemes is given in the enclosed proforma. While sending the proposal to the UGC for general development grant for XI Plan, you are also requested to give an additional proposal indicating your requirements for implementing the schemes which have been merged with the development grant. Allocation for these schemes would be done, for the Universities eligible to get UGC grant under that scheme, at the beginning of the XI Plan based on the recommendations of the Visiting Committee. Given the fact that the allocation for these schemes would be decided in the beginning of the plan, generally, no proposal would be considered during the XI plan period for funding under these schemes.

On receipt of the information in the prescribed proforma, Visiting Committees would visit the university to review its performance during the X Plan and to assess the requirements for the XI Plan. It may please be noted that it will not be possible for the UGC to send the Visiting Committee, unless the information about X Plan review (for those who have not sent it yet) and the XI Plan requirements of the University is received within the stipulated time frame.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

**Encls: As above**

**(Pankaj Mittal)**



**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION**  
**PROFORMA FOR ELICITING XI PLAN REQUIREMENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY**

**A. Profile of the University**

1. (a) Name and complete address of the University including Pin Code:  
(b) Campuses with address  
(c) Web-site address
2. Name of the Vice-Chancellor, Phone Number(s)(Office/Residence), Mobile, Fax Number and E-mail address.
3. Name of the Registrar, Phone Number(s) (Office/Residence), Mobile, Fax Number and E-Mail address.
4. Year of Establishment
5. Please furnish the following administrative information (as on 31.03.2007)
  - (a) Whether situated in urban / rural / backward / small town / tribal/ hilly/border area: (Yes/No) (Please indicate the total population of the town.)
  - (b) Whether accredited by NAAC or similar body (Yes/No), if so the ranking:
  - (c) Whether eligible for reaccreditations, if yes, whether reaccredited by NAAC,
  - (d) if so the ranking.
  - (e) Actual teaching days in last five years:-
  - (f) Is university following norms of 40 hours of workload per week, if yes, the percentage of teachers having workload of 40 hours per week.
  - (g) Is the university following UGC code of Professional Ethics? (Y/N)
  - (h) Is the university maintaining Annual Performance Appraisal of teachers (Y/N)
  - (i) Is the university getting maintenance grant from Central / State Government  
(Please indicate the source).

(j) Teaching : Non-teaching ratio

(k) Teacher : Student ratio

6. Please furnish the following academic information: (as on 31.3.2007)

(a) No. of Departments (Please give details as in **Annexure-I (A&B)**)

(b) No. of affiliated Colleges.

a) UG \_\_\_\_\_

b) PG \_\_\_\_\_

(c) No. of constituent Colleges

a) UG \_\_\_\_\_

b) PG \_\_\_\_\_

(d) Existing Faculty strength in University Departments (*Please give details as in **Annexure-II (A&B)***).

(e) Students enrolled in University Departments

Level	Intake capacity	Actual Enrolment
UG		
PG		
M.Phil		
Ph.D		
Certificate Diploma		
Self Finance Courses		

(f) Students enrolled in affiliated and Constituent Colleges.

Level	Intake capacity	Actual Enrolment
UG		
PG		
M.Phil		
Ph.D		
Certificate Diploma		
Self Finance Courses		

## **B. Development of University**

1. Please indicate the development plans of the University for XI Plan (2007-2012) for providing relevant and quality education while ensuring access and equity. (Please give details as in **Annexure-III**).

2. The existing and new teaching programmes and activities to be initiated during XI Plan:-

S.No.	Existing Courses Offered					New Courses Proposed			
	Name of the Course	Department	Level (UG/P G/ Res.)	Intake Capacity	Actual Enrolment	Name of the Course	Department	Level (UG/P G/ Res.)	Proposed Intake
<b>TOTAL</b>									

3. To fulfill the above objectives, what is the requirement of the university in terms of Infrastructure, Staff, Equipment, Books and Journals, Library etc.

i. **Infrastructure: Building:**

S.No.	Name of the Building	Area (Sq.Ft./Sq.M)	Estimated Cost/UGC Share (Rs. in lakhs)
a)	New Buildings proposed		
b)	Renovation of Buildings		
c)	Extension of existing building		

ii. **Campus Development:**

S.No.	Activity Proposed	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)

iii. **Staff:**

(a) **Teaching Posts (Please include the teaching staff required for newly proposed departments/courses).**

Name of the Department	Professor		Reader		Lecturer		Others (Please Specify)		Grand Total		Total funds reqd. for additional post
	Existing	Addl. Req.	Existing	Addl. Req.	Existing	Addl. Req.	Existing	Addl. Req.	Existing	Addl. Req.	
(a) Existing											
(b) Proposed											
<b>Total</b>											

(b) **Technical Posts**

Name of the Post along with grade (A,B,C,D)	Existing	Additional Requirement	Total funds reqd. for additional post.
Group A			
Group B*			
Group C*			
Group D*			
<b>TOTAL</b>			

(c) **Non-Teaching Posts\***

Name of the Post along with grade (A,B,C,D)	Existing	Additional Requirement	Total funds reqd. for additional post.
Group A			
Group B			
Group C			
Group D			
<b>TOTAL</b>			

\* only in case of Central / deemed universities, funded on 100% basis by UGC.

**Total funds required for additional staff:**

- (a) Teaching posts: \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) Technical posts: \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) Non-teaching posts: \_\_\_\_\_
- Total \_\_\_\_\_

iv **Central Library**

No. of Books		No. of Journals				Total additional funds required	
		e-subscription		Print Subscription		Books	Journals
Existing	Addl. Required	Existing*	Addl. * Required	Existing*	Addl. * Req.		

\* Please indicate the names of the existing and new journals proposed to be subscribed.

v **Equipment**

Name of Department	Name of Major Equipments proposed to be acquired during XI Plan (costing above Rs.1 lakh)	Cost (Rs. in lakhs)
<b>Total</b>		

vi **New Research Activities Planned: (any path breaking, innovative schemes, university proposes to launch which does not fall under any scheme of UGC)**

Activity	Proposed Benefit	Funding Required

vii. **New Extension Activities and Outreach Programmes Planned:**

Activity	Proposed Benefit	Funding Required

vii. **ICT Requirements of the University:**

Activity	Proposed Benefit	Funding Required

viii. **Consolidated requirements of University, for development activities: (Please indicate in two priorities)**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Priority-I			Priority-II		
S.No.	Item	UGC Funds Required during XI Plan	S.No.	Item	UGC Funds Required during XI Plan
1.	Building		1.	Building	
2.	Campus Development		2.	Campus Development	
3.	Staff		3.	Staff	
4.	Books & Journals		4.	Books & Journals	
5.	Equipment		5.	Equipment	
6.	Research Activities		6.	Research Activities	
7.	Extension Activities		7.	Extension Activities	
8.	ICT Requirements		8.	ICT Requirements	
9.	Others		9.	Others	
	Total			Total	

**C. Schemes merged with development grants during XI Plan:**

The UGC, during XI Plan proposes to merge the following schemes with General Development Grant. The allocation for these schemes would be made at the beginning of XI Plan based on the recommendations of the Visiting Committee. No application during the Plan period would be considered for funding under these schemes. The University may indicate separately the funds required under each of these schemes.

1. Unassigned Grant.
2. Day Care Centre.
3. Adventure sports along with new schemes for development of sports infrastructure and equipments.
4. Special Development Grant for Universities in Backward/Small Town/Remote/Rural/Border Areas.
5. Special Development Grant for Young Universities and Rejuvenation Grant for Old.
6. Instruments Maintenance Activity.
7. Women's Hostels
8. Basic facilities for Women.
9. Faculty Improvement Programme. (Teacher Fellowship for doing M.Phil/ Ph.D.).
10. Fellowships for doing M.Phil/PhD in Central Universities.
11. SC/ST Cell.
12. Remedial Coaching for SC/ST & Minorities.
13. Coaching for NET for SC/ST & Minorities.
14. Coaching Class for entry in service for SC/ST & Minorities.
15. Facilities for differently abled person.
16. Universities having higher percentage of SC/ST/OBC/ Minority/ Women students.

### **FINANCES**

Funds required for operating the above schemes during XI Plan.(2007-2012).

**(Rs. in lakh)**

Name of the Scheme	Funds Required					Possible Outcome	No. of Beneficiaries
	Build-Ing	Equip-ment	staff	Books& Journals	others		

**D. Consolidated Requirements of the University for XI Plan.**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount required*</b>	
		<b>Phase-I</b>	<b>Phase-II</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Development Grant</b>		
<b>2.</b>	<b>Grant Required for Schemes merged with Development Grants</b>		
	<b>Total</b>		

\* Please indicate the amount required in two priorities to enable UGC to decide the priorities based on availability of funds.

**ANNEXURE-I (A)**

**DEPARTMENT-WISE DETAILS**

Name of the Department	Enrolment as on 31.03.2002																				
	UG						PG						M.Phil./Ph.D.						Total	Dip. / Cert.	
	Gen .	S C	S T	OB C	Mino - rity	Tota l	Gen .	S C	S T	OB C	Mino - rity	Tota l	Gen .	S C	S T	OB C	Mino - rity	Tota l			
<b>Total</b>																					

Please indicate total number of physically handicapped students in the university \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNEXURE-I (B)**

**DEPARTMENT-WISE DETAILS**

Name of the Department	Enrolment as on 31.03.2007																				
	UG						PG						M.Phil./Ph.D.						Total	Dip. / Cert.	
	Gen .	S C	S T	OB C	Mino - rity	Tota l	Gen .	S C	S T	OB C	Mino - rity	Tota l	Gen .	S C	S T	OB C	Mino - rity	Tota l			
<b>Total</b>																					

Please indicate total number of physically handicapped students in the university \_\_\_\_\_









**DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE UNIVERSITY**

Development Proposals of the University during XI Plan (2007-2012) may please be indicated under the following heads:-

- |                               |     |   |
|-------------------------------|-----|---|
| (i) Access -                  | (i) | How does the University propose to enhance access by atleast 5% by end of XI Plan?  |
| (ii) Equity                   | -   | (ii) What are the plans initiated to enhance capacity building by 54% to accommodate OBC students? In Central Universities/ Institutes.<br><br>(iii) What are the plans of the University to enhance enrolment of SC/ST/OBC/Minority/ Women Students?   |
| (iii)Relevance                | -   | (i) What steps are proposed to be taken by the University to promote relevant education to ensure that the pass outs are readily employable?<br><br>(ii) What is the frequency of syllabus revision and how far the model curriculum of UGC has been implemented? No. of subjects in which the curriculum has been updated. |
| (iv)Quality & Excellence-     | (i) | How does the University propose to enhance the quality of education imparted in the University?<br><br>(ii) Steps proposed to be taken to introduce e-governance in the University?<br><br>(iii) Steps proposed to be taken by University to develop an informative website.  |
| (v) University Administration | -   | (i) Steps proposed to be taken by the University to train the administrators to ensure effective administration.<br><br>(ii) Steps taken to ensure atleast 180 actual teaching days (excluding examination days) in a year and 40hrs of workload per week for teachers.   |
| (vi)Development of- Teachers  | (i) | What steps the University proposes to take for professional development of teachers,  |

including attending the refresher/orientation courses, travel grant for attending seminars/conference etc.

- (ii) Is University implementing the Code of Profession ethics.
- (iii) Are performance appraisal of teachers done regularly.

(vii) Facilities for -  
Students

The scholarship/fellowship schemes introduced for PG / M.Phil / Ph.D. students and the percentage of students covered under each may be given alongwith proposal for enhancing the coverage of scholarship/fellowship programme.

(viii) Any other Plans of the University.



**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION**  
**BAHADURSHAH ZAFAR MARG,**  
**NEW DELHI-110 002**

Sukhadeo Thorat  
Chairman

D.O.No.F.1-2/2007 (XI Plan)

March 1, 2007

Dear

Let me begin by expressing my good wishes for the coming academic year. The new academic session should begin with a new focus on higher education under XI Plan, which would begin from 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2007 and extend up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012.

After I joined as Chairman on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2006, a number of initiatives have been taken particularly in the expansion of fellowships for research students in Central Universities, for sciences in State universities, socially disadvantaged students, for construction of Women hostel and also some reform in the NET examination.

However these were some piecemeal efforts. Under the XI Plan, UGC proposes to introduce some new initiatives in higher education. These will include introduction of new schemes for improving access, quality, inclusiveness, including the reservation for OBC and other initiatives for teachers and students. Besides there will be changes in the grant giving mechanism which will make it more efficient and transparent. The UGC is going to introduce e-governance and some other organisational reforms which will presumably improve the efficiency in its working.

The detailed note outlining the main thrust areas and initiatives proposed under the XI Plan is presented below. I urge upon you to prepare the XI Plan proposal of your respective institution keeping in mind the thrust of the XI Plan. The teams for XI Plan will also visit your university soon.

I also use this opportunity to emphasise, particularly upon the Central universities, to take steps for implementation of 27% reservation and corresponding increased seats for other students as well. The UGC will support the efforts of universities on priority basis as this is an important issue on which we have to pay particular attention.

I wish you a good beginning for the coming academic session. I look forward to your cooperation.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Sukhadeo Thorat)

All the Vice Chancellors of  
Universities receiving grants  
From the UGC.

## **Thrusts and Priorities during XI Plan Period**

### **Introduction**

Higher education in our country has come a long way since independence. The Government policy and efforts for promotion of higher education have been guided by the New Education Policy, 1986 and Programme of Action, 1992 and other policy initiatives in the 1990's. The higher education policy and program of action has been guided mainly by five goals which include, Greater Access, Equal Access, Quality and Excellence, Relevance and Values based education.

--Greater access requires enhancement in the education institutions to cater to the growing demand for higher education;

- Inclusive higher education requires equitable access to higher education by all groups in order to ensure barrier free access to the poor ,girls and socially disadvantaged groups;
- quality requires imparting education leading to enhancement of human capabilities and potential to the fullest extent and achieve excellence by enabling the students to be more creative and innovative ;
- Relevance of higher education requires promotion of such education which serves as human resource for economic, social and cultural development of the country;
- Value-based education requires inculcation of basis moral values among the youth ,

The expansion of higher education since independence has been achieved through the efforts of individual states and Central government assistance. A definite and more systematic effort had begun with the setting up of the University Grants Commission in 1953 ,-with a mandate to coordinate , regulate and maintain the standards of higher education.

The UGC has performed this role by providing support to colleges and universities, and strengthening physical and academic infrastructure and human resources. During the last fifty years or so the UGC has developed regulatory framework and corresponding programs and the schemes to translate the policy directions into practice.

### **Situation on the Eve of XI plan**

Since independence we have progressed on a number of fronts in higher education. At the time of independence, in 1947, the size of higher education in terms of number of educational institutions, and teachers was small but since that time onwards there has been an exponential increase in higher education.

The number of universities has increased from 20 in 1947 to about 367 in 2006 indicating a thirteen-fold increase. The number of colleges increased from 500 in 1947 to 18064 in 2006, Similarly the number of teachers has increased from 15000 in 1950 to 4,88,000 in 2006.And number of students increased from about half million to 11.2 million .

As a result of this increase in educational capacity the enrolment in higher education has improved quite significantly. The enrolment ratio has increased from 0.7 % in the early 1950. 9.39% for the 2003 (based on the selected education statistics). The National Sample Survey and Population Census give some what higher enrolment rate, which is about 13 to 14% (as it also includes diploma and certificate courses and also covers private educational institutions – both recognized and non-recognized). Similarly the higher education has expanded in terms of level and faculty.

### **Approach of XI Plan: Issues identified**

Notwithstanding this progress in the access to higher education, we have a long way to cover before we reach a desirable level and quality of higher education. An analysis of contemporary situation raised some important issues that need to be addressed on the eve of XI Plan. The issues relate to the same five goals of access to higher education (reflected in enrolment ratio), equal access to socially and economically disadvantaged groups or inclusiveness, and quality and excellence, relevance and value oriented education.

The XI Plan approach Paper focusses on these five issues. The particular focus is on Inclusiveness and quality in higher education. It emphasises on equal access to quality education.

**Access** - By the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan, that is, 2006-07, the enrolment rate is expected to be 9.1 %. The XI Plan set the target of 15%, with a net increase by 5% by 2012. The expansion will have to come both from enhancement in the intake capacity of existing education institutions and also by establishing new ones. The approximate number of additional educational institutions is some thing, which will have to be worked out.

The implications of 15% target for the colleges and universities is that while preparing the proposal for XI Plan, the universities and colleges should see to it that intake capacity is increased. This will require increase in the intake of existing centres and departments as well as the increase in the new degree programs. The special efforts would be necessary to absorb the increase on account of 54% increase in seats due to reservation for OBC.

### **Inclusiveness – disparities associated with region, area of origin and social groups**

The XI Plan focusses on Inclusiveness with equal access to all. However, the inclusive approach essentially require identification of areas, regions and social and economic groups which have lower access to higher education than others or all India average.

A review of the enrolment rate revealed four types of disparities, inter- state, rural – urban, inter-social group, male –female and poor and non poor. In framing the schemes by UGC and its implementation by universities and colleges these disparities will be addressed.

**Rural –Urban disparities:** In early 2000 the enrolment ratio for rural areas was 5.6% as compared to 20.44% in the urban areas. The Eligible enrolment ratio works out to 51 % for rural as against 66% for urban which means, only half of the rural students who complete their higher secondary attend colleges.

**Inter-state Disparities:** The Gross Enrolment ratio (GER) varies quite significantly across states. There are certain states where the GER is far lower than the national average and

disparities are quite revealing at district level. The GER varies from 21% in Kerala to 6% in Bihar.

***Inter-caste Variations:*** The GER is much lower than the national average (10.10% based on National sample survey) in case of the SC (5.09), ST (6.43), OBC (7.0). These differences are further accentuated in the rural areas.

***Inter-religious Differences:*** Amongst the various religious groups, the Muslims are found to have lowest GER (5.23%) which is nearly one-half of the national average.

***Gender Disparities:*** The GER for girls is found to be only 8% as compared to 12% for boys. Importantly, the GER for females belonging to lower caste and some social groups (particularly Muslims) is further worse.

***Poor-Non Poor Disparities:*** The GER for the poor works out to be only 2.41% as against the non-poor (12.81%) and the national average (10.10%). Importantly, within the Poor, the GER for poor belonging to the SC, ST, OBC and Muslims are much lower.

***Disparities across Occupation Categories:*** The GER for the agricultural labourers and casual workers is found to be far lower than the self-employed and regular wage earners;

Thus the enrolment ratio is lower for rural areas, lower in certain states (and districts), amongst girls and some social and economic groups. Inclusiveness demands that the universities and colleges should develop schemes where by the access of the students from rural areas, in certain states, girls and certain social, economic and occupational group is improved at a faster rate so that, the gap in enrolment rate between rural-urban, between states, male-female, and inter-social and economic group is reduced.

### **Quality and Excellence:**

Improvement in quality and excellence is another issue on which the XI Plan places main focus.

### **Grant Receiving Colleges and universities -Quality gap and up gradation**

Out of 164 universities that currently receive development grants from UGC, 111 universities are accredited by the NAAC and the analysis of data reveals that only 32 % of them are rated as A grade or above.

Amongst the 4870 colleges, as many as 2,780 are accredited by the NAAC and the analysis of their scores reveals that about 10% of them are rated as A or above..

Thus 68% of the Universities and 90% of the colleges are rated average or below average in terms of quality parameters used by the NAAC

The casual analysis provides strong evidence that the universities and colleges that are rated high are those that have quantitatively high level of physical facilities, academic infrastructure and human resources;

Quality of the institutions of higher education is, thus, found to be having a strong bearing on the physical and academic infrastructure.

There is, thus a very strong need to make necessary investments in academic infrastructure and human resources in order to bring all colleges and universities to the level of A grade colleges and universities. The level of infrastructure – physical, academic and human resource as available in A grade colleges and universities needs to be used as bench mark and colleges and universities with lower than the benchmark ,additional investments will have to be provided through additional development grants to catch up with A grade institutions.

While UGC will develop schemes to bridge this gap and improve the quality of college and university education,- the Colleges and universities themselves should take steps to improve the physical and academic infrastructure and human resources and to bring them on par with A grade institutions .

### **Question of non grant Colleges and Universities**

Out of 14,000 Colleges that come under purview of the UGC, only 5,589 (40%) are recognised under Section 2(f) and only 5,273 (38%) colleges are eligible to receive development assistance under section 12(B). In effect, actually only 4,870 (35%) colleges did receive development assistance from the UGC during the 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan.

This leaves a whopping 9,130 (65%) colleges without access to development grants for the simple reason that they fail to meet the minimum eligibility criteria laid down by the UGC. These minimum criteria relates to availability of minimum physical and academic infrastructure.

We need to urgently address the issue of non-grant colleges. The UGC is considering the ways through which non grant institutions should be brought under the orbit of UGC grant making process by helping them to meet minimum requirement of 2(f) and 12 (B).

It is equally necessary for the state universities (which are entrusted with the task of giving permanent affiliation) to initiate steps to suggest ways to State governments to support non grant colleges so that they meet the requirement of UGC and standard of higher education is maintained.

2) Same is the case with the Universities. Out of a total of 367 university level institutions, 317 fall under the jurisdiction of the UGC out of which 164 universities were actually provided with development grants during the 10<sup>th</sup> Five-year plan. The remaining 153 universities were left out for the same reasons as explained above for colleges. It is, therefore, equally necessary that these non grant universities are also supported by the State governments to be able to meet minimum requirement to receive the UGC grants.

### **Quality Assessment**

The maintenance of academic standards is the main responsibility of the UGC, and this demands continuous assessment. The NAAC has been involved in the assessment and accreditation of universities and colleges. At present the assessment and accreditation is

voluntary. So far the accredited colleges constituted only 20% of the total colleges (that is 14000) and about half of the colleges supported by UGC.

Similarly about 128 universities (out of 317) have been assessed for more elaborate criteria of quality of NAAC. Thus more than half of the universities are assessed and accredited.

As we can see the NAAC has been able to cover about 20 % of the total colleges and more than half of the universities. The main issue is therefore how to increase the coverage of NAAC assessment so as to cover most of the remaining colleges and universities. The NAAC is in the process of making significant changes in its policy. It has proposed to make the assessment mandatory. It has also proposed the improved method of gradation. The proposal of NAAC for mandatory assessment and accreditation is under consideration of UGC.

Also NAAC is emphasizing more on the Internal Systems of Quality Assurance. It is imperative that higher education institutions are motivated to establish their own internal mechanisms for sustenance, assurance and enhancement of the quality of education imparted by them. It is of significance that such internal quality-culture would be invaluable in the maintenance of quality within the institution. The effectiveness of external quality assessment would then be determined by the effectiveness of such internal quality assurance systems and processes.

### **Relevance of Education:**

The UGC's approach on relevant education is governed by few considerations. The imparting of higher education involves promotion of education which serves as human resource for economic, social and cultural development of the country. To achieve that end the curriculum should be such that it gives (a) basic foundation in the various subjects and disciplines to the students (b) also promotes skills (c) facilitates employability and (d) right values that meet the human resource requirement for economic, social and cultural ends of the society,

To realise these goals, UGC helps the universities and colleges to develop curriculum with latest knowledge in the subject, promote vocational and carrier oriented courses, and courses that promote human rights values. In 2003 the UGC had prepared model curriculum. UGC supported the vocational and career-oriented programmes. These courses are add-on courses with the conventional higher education process. There is flexibility in combination of the discipline of the degree course and the skills being acquired under the Career Oriented Programmes.

Beside the UGC have developed schemes like Epoch making thinkers, Innovative programs to expose the students to our great Indian thinkers and also to new and innovative ideas.

In the case of Career development courses there seems to be a need for prioritizing these courses according to the market signals. We do not have a systematic assessment of the manpower requirements over the years.. The need of the hour is to develop the norms for understanding the signals from the market, which would help prioritization of the courses and also the provision of suitable assistance for offering these courses.

In fact there is need to develop a medium term plan of our requirements of skills and professional knowledge so that these form the guidelines for UGC and educational institutions for development of need based courses.

### **ICT Integration:**

Now, more than ever, moving vast amounts of information quickly and efficiently across great distances is one of the most pressing needs. With the advent of optical fibre, cellular telephony, Internet, voice over internet etc, distances have essentially disappeared in the global scenario. With the Internet, faster communication medium is available to reach large number of people at a very low cost.

Through the application of information and communication technology, institutions will acquire the ability to diminish the impact of space, time and distance and spread across the country to any remote areas.

Advanced technologies like computers and information technology can be used to educate large number of students at all levels of education who are useful to themselves and to the society globally. This requires the development of advanced information and communication infrastructure development envisaged and supported by EDUSAT.

### **Strategy adopted by UGC for XI Plan**

**Access-**Given the target of 15% enrolment rate by the end of 2012 ,the expansion in the institutional capacity of the higher education will continue to be the major focus of XI plan .This will come through (a) expansion of existing intake capacity of the present colleges and universities and (b) by establishing new centres and departments .(and also new universities /institutions by Ministry).The development grants will receive priority for expansion of intake capacity and opening of new departments, or courses particularly in new and innovative areas .

Given the problem of regional imbalances in the enrolment ratio there will be focus on the regions where the enrolment ratio is relatively low and the educational institutional capacity is less.

Beside there will be a focus on development of institutional capacity in rural and remote areas and small towns where the enrolment ratio is of low order.. In XI plan, UGC proposes to put a special emphasis on supporting institutions of higher education in these areas.

**Inclusiveness**-The second aspect of the XI plan strategy will be centre around the inclusiveness and this will focus on schemes that will encourage access of students from rural area, girls, and student from poor background, particularly from wage labour occupation, SC, ST, OBC, and minorities. Special grants will be given to colleges and universities that have majority of such deprived groups. The students from such groups will be supported during the period of their studies. Thus inclusive growth of higher education will remain the corner stone of the strategy of development.

**Quality** -Improvement of quality will be another focus of the XI Plan. The strategy for quality and excellence will centre around the schemes for three elements of the institution, (a) physical infrastructure in the institution (b) facilities for teachers and (c) facilities for students.

The XI Plan will have schemes to improve physical infrastructure, quality of teacher and the students.

It will also include schemes to promote excellence. The strategy of XI plan will be to promote excellence from among the large base of high quality institutions spread over large parts and not develop mere islands of excellence. Large number of universities, colleges and postgraduate departments will receive support to develop excellence in teaching and research.

Mobility of faculty to institutions of excellence, teaching assistantship to Ph D scholars and large number of fellowships will be offered to initiate excellence in the institutions. Postdoctoral fellowship, research grants will be upgraded to support excellence. The capacity building of teachers as well as administrators will be the important strategy to orient them to take initiatives and innovations in higher education.

Academic Staff colleges will be strengthened and efforts will be made to make the Academic staff colleges a central focal points of academic improvement of faculty.

There also remains a large quality gap between colleges and universities. This is a matter of concern. The strategy during XI plan will be to mitigate the large quality gaps that exist at present between colleges and between the universities. Since the gaps are large in magnitude and had been caused by underinvestment in the past, it is assumed that the State government plans will share the resources in fulfilling the gaps . It is further assumed that investment to reduce the quality gaps will be made over a period of two five year plan periods.

### **Relevance and Value based education:**

In developing higher education besides basic education, the career oriented courses will be given special importance to make higher education relevant both in social as well as economic terms. Similarly diversification of courses and Innovative courses will be given special support.

The importance of value education is realised in contemporary times to strengthen the secular, democratic, non-discriminatory and scientific spirit among the youth. The strategy will be to promote education that promotes these values.

**(e) ICT integration and Governance:**

The strategy for ICT in the XI Plan will focus on promoting Information and Communication Technology in promoting quality, improving governance and creating knowledge by development of sound IT infrastructure in higher education. Besides the infrastructure availability the teachers will be supported to use it to the full potential. The efforts at improving governance at the universities and the UGC will be taken to increase the capacity of the institutions to implement the schemes and programmes.

**Programmes proposed for XI Plan:**

**Enhancing Aggregate Access:**

**Existing schemes:**

At present UGC is giving General Development Grants to the Universities and Colleges for enhancing access through construction of buildings, purchase of equipments, hostels, books and journals and staff.

**New schemes:**

It is proposed to enhance substantially the infrastructure and other facilities to the existing Central, State and Deemed to be Universities. It is proposed to identify an existing old state university/ university level institution in each of the state, (which have been neglected due to under funding in the past) and to support them to ensure their revival and rejuvenation so as to help them cater more effectively the populace that they intend to serve;

Existing state universities need enhanced investment as they have been under funded. It is proposed that enhanced general development grant will be given to all existing state universities under UGC's purview.

Under the schemes of backward districts the UGC will support universities and colleges to expand their intake capacity

**Promoting Inclusiveness and Equity:**

**Social Group Equity:**

**Present schemes:** The UGC, at present, is implementing the schemes of establishing SC/ST Cells to oversee the implementation of reservation policy, remedial coaching to enable students to cope up with their studies, coaching classes for NET to enable students from disadvantaged groups to clear NET and coaching classes for entry in service for disadvantaged sections of the Society. Also there are schemes of Fellowship. Many of the schemes have also been extended to the Minorities.

**New schemes:**

To promote the participation of social groups, special development grants will be provided to universities and colleges with relatively higher proportion of SC/ST/Minorities as well as poor students.

Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC) will be established in every university which will house and implement all schemes related to SC, ST, OBC, Minorities and physically challenged students.

There will be various schemes to facilitate the participation of persons with disabilities. Financial safety net for higher education will be provided to the children of most disadvantaged groups.

### **Schemes for Persons with Different Abilities:**

#### **Existing Schemes**

For persons with disabilities, UGC is implementing the scheme of \*HEPSN and \*\*TEPSE to provide barrier free access to persons with disability and to prepare teachers for providing special education.

\* Higher Education for Persons with special needs (HEPSN)

\* \* Teachers preparation in Special Education (TEPSE)

#### **New Schemes**

The XI Plan shall provide all facilities for persons with disabilities in the higher education sector. Course based repository of books, films, learning materials in Braille, audio tapes, lectures in sign language will be developed for all Courses.

### **Gender Equity**

#### **Existing Schemes**

At present, UGC is implementing a special scheme for providing women's hostel and day care centres in the universities and colleges. Apart from this, women studies centre have been established to undertake studies relating to women.

#### **New schemes**

To promote the participation of women in higher education, the hostel and other infrastructure facilities for women in colleges and universities are proposed. Day care centers, Capacity building for women managers in higher education, professional courses for women and scholarship for women would be provided during XIth plan.

### **Regional Balance:**

#### **Existing Schemes**

At present, UGC is providing focused funding to universities and colleges located in backward districts, by using the criteria of literacy rate and all the Districts where the literacy rate is below the national average is considered as backward district.

## **New Schemes**

During XI Plan programmes schemes would be launched to address the regional imbalance of institutions in higher education which will include special development assistance to colleges and universities in backward areas, rural areas, small towns and remote and border areas. The definition of backward areas will be determined by enrolment ratio and the number of colleges per lakh of population rather than the literacy rate, considering factors both on demand and supply side.

## **Quality**

### **Existing schemes**

The UGC operates schemes for quality improvement for Institutions, teachers and students

**Institutions** – At present, UGC is providing grants to the universities for enhancing quality for giving special funding under the schemes of Special Assistance Programme, \*ASIST, \*\*ASHISS. Apart from this, Instrumentation Maintenance Facilities are established in the Universities to enable them to do in house maintenance of equipments. Funds are also provided for organizing national and international seminars/conferences.

\* Assistance of Strengthening of Infrastructure in Science & Technology

\*\* Assistance of Strengthening of Infrastructure in Humanities & Social Science.

Six Inter University Centres have been established to provide high end research facilities to teachers and students. Out of these, two IUCs, namely NAAC and INFLIBNET are service sector oriented and rest are providing research facilities.

**Teachers** – The UGC is helping the teachers to upgrade their teaching and research capability by providing grants for Teacher Fellowship, Major and Minor Research Projects and for Travel Grants to attend international seminars/conferences. Apart from this, Emeritus Fellowship is given to the retired teachers for research activities. Exchange program provide opportunities to teacher to for research and other academic collaboration.

Academic staff colleges have been providing an effective mechanism for faculty development and continuous updating of knowledge and skill base of existing teachers.

**Students** – The UGC gives fellowship to all NET qualified candidates to pursue research. Apart from this, several new initiatives in the form of Rajiv Gandhi PG Scholarship, Fellowship for Single Girl Child, and special fellowship for non –fellowship MPhil/PhD students have been started in Central universities .

The UGC will try to improve the MPhil and PhD program in the country by standardization of admission policy , courses and evaluation method to enhance the quality of research program .

### **News schemes**

As has been shown earlier, there are huge gaps between high quality and low quality universities as well as colleges. Efforts would be made during XI Plan to reduce the quality gaps so that there is an over all improvement in quality of higher education and not limited to few select institutions. XIth Plan promises mitigation of quality gaps in universities and colleges and promotion of excellence in institutions of higher education.

**Mitigation of Quality Gaps in Universities:** A programme to bridge the quality gap between good and average state universities is proposed. The quality up gradation will spread over a period of ten years. It is assumed that states will also meet the financial requirements to reduce the quality gaps between universities. A catch-up grants scheme for young universities and rejuvenation of infrastructure in old universities is also proposed.

Faculty improvement programmes to support teachers for Ph.D. is proposed. Assistance will be given to setup B.Ed. and Physical education Faculty in colleges/ universities of each districts headquarters.

**Mitigation of Quality Gaps in Colleges:** A programme to bridge the quality gap between good and average colleges is proposed. The quality upgradation will spread over a period of ten years. It is assumed that states will also meet the financial requirements to reduce the quality gaps between colleges. A catch-up grants to young colleges and rejuvenation of infrastructure in old colleges is also proposed.

It is proposed that the activities of the ASCs be enhanced and that each of the ASC is provided adequate funds for creating a hostel facility. Some ASCs will be converted into Regional Institutes for Professional Development of the college and university teachers.

The UGC will promote creation of Internal Assessment Cell in the Universities and colleges.

### **Inter University Centres:**

Inter-University Centre has developed special facilities for teachers and student which are generally not available in universities and colleges.They have served useful purpose .

1. The resource allocation for the existing Inter University Centres (IUC) need to be strengthened in order to strengthen their research, training and development capabilities.
2. In addition to the existing IUCs, new IUCs in literature and language, and Social sciences need to be set up to provide advanced facilities for research to faculty and students ..

### **Promotion of Excellence:**

#### **Existing Schemes**

During X Plan, two major schemes implemented by the UGC to promote excellence were Universities with Potential for Excellence and Colleges with Potential for Excellence where enhanced funding was given to identify Universities and Colleges who have shown potential for excellence to further their achievements in the fields of teaching and research.

Besides at department level, UGC has developed the support system under SAP to enhance excellence.

### **New Schemes**

Apart from continuing the old schemes, some of the new schemes will include programmes for implementation of recommendations of task force in basic scientific research, exchange of junior faculty to institutions of eminence, research awards to teachers, teaching assistantship for doctoral students who are not fellowship holders. Young scientists will be promoted to work for excellence under the faculty recharge scheme.

### **Relevance and Value Based Education:**

#### **Existing Schemes**

The UGC, during X Plan, implemented the scheme of Career Orientation of Courses wherein skill based courses were introduced at undergraduate level in addition to the regular course content. The students were given certificate/ diploma/advanced diploma on completion of these courses. Beside UGC has program of Epoch Making thinkers and Innovative Programme.

#### **New Schemes**

During XI Plan, the following policy initiatives and programme of actions are proposed:

1. To promote innovations by individual faculty in introduction of new courses new autonomous colleges will get enhanced funding in addition to the existing autonomous colleges. Autonomous colleges will add relevance along with the excellence to higher education.
2. Career orientation to education will be launched under which courses designed to meet the need of job market. The UGC is also taking initiatives to develop the institution of Community Colleges .
3. Innovative courses will be launched to promote relevance and value based education.
4. Career and Counselling cell will be established in each university.
5. Area studies programmes will continue in the universities for undertaking studies relating to social, economical, political and cultural affairs of a given area and for developing inter-disciplinary research and teaching.
6. Rajiv Gandhi Chairs will be offered to the departments to promote relevance and value based education.
7. Programmes relating to value education and human rights will receive new priority.

- 8 A scheme of Centre for studies in social exclusion and inclusive policy has been already initiated and it will be further expanded in the XI Plan.
- 9 Special efforts would be made to establish an IUC in Indian Comparative Language and literature.

### **ICT Integration in Higher Education:**

#### **Existing Schemes**

The UGC, at present, is providing funds to Universities and colleges for establishing Computer Centres. Apart from this, an ambitious project of UGC Infonet was launched to provide Internet Connectivity to all the Universities and Colleges. A digital repository consisting of about 4000 journals was also created to give free access to these journals to universities.

#### **New Schemes**

XI plan will have ambitious schemes and programmes for taking full advantage of information technology in higher education. Efforts will be made to capitalise the benefits yielded during the X Five Year Plan and harvest newer possibilities of revitalising and empowering universities and colleges through network, e-resources, online learning, archiving of contents. The following programmes will be launched.

1. Digital Repository at the university and college level will be developed. The vast e – resources will enhance quality of teaching and learning experience through integration of information technology pathways
2. A vast network of colleges and universities need to be developed through internet connectivity. Colleges and universities will be able to built network through internet connectivity during XI Plan.
3. The benefits of Xth plan in terms of information pathways, e-journals consortium will be continued through ICT for universities and colleges.
4. Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC) will be supported to coordinate the activities of Education Multi Media Research Centres and Audio-Video Centres to develop video programmes and disseminate the programmes through media centres.
5. Course wise e- content development will be taken up.
6. Digitalisation of Doctoral thesis will be continued.

### **Governance and Administration of Higher Education System**

#### **Existing Scheme**

The UGC, during X Plan, was implementing a scheme to provide incentive grants to the universities for mobilising resources. Apart from this, the progress of the universities was monitored using a well laid down progress monitoring system.

#### **New Schemes**

Governance of large network of colleges and universities in India is a challenging task. The institutions should improve the internal efficiency and develop a system of information sharing to coordinate the various activities relating to teaching and research. The following programme will be launched during XIth Plan to improve governance of higher education system.

1. Implementation of e-governance system in universities and colleges
2. E-governance of UGC and Regional offices and inter-connectivity with universities and colleges for all official works
3. Training for Academic Administrators.
4. Incentives to the Universities and colleges for resource mobilization.
5. Development of National Graduate Students repository.
6. Funding the State Councils for Higher Education SCHE.

**New initiatives in grant giving mechanisms- Merging of Identified Schemes with the Block grant:**

During the XI plan, a number of UGC Schemes have been merged with the general development grant. While sending the proposals to UGC for General Development Grant for the XI Plan, the Universities are requested to give an additional proposal indicating their requirements for implementing the schemes which have been merged with the development grants in the beginning itself . Allocation for these schemes would be done, for the universities eligible to get UGC funding under that scheme, at the beginning of the XI Plan based on the recommendations of the Visiting Committee.