GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. 49
ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

Delay in releasing AISHE Report

***49. SHRI RAVIKUMAR D.:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reason for the inordinate delay in releasing the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2020-21 report; and

(b) whether the Government has taken any steps to release the AISHE Report and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) and (b): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) and (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 49 ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023 ASKED BY SHRI RAVIKUMAR D., HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING DELAY IN RELEASING AISHE REPORT

(a) The All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) is the comprehensive source of Higher Education Statistics in the country. Data on various parameters, such as Enrolment, Institution information, Teacher Information, etc are uploaded by Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) registered under AISHE in the portal aishe.gov.in, in specially designed formats of data collection. The AISHE Surveys have been conducted annually since 2011. The AISHE Survey is conducted through the co-operation and support of the State Governments, Universities, etc.

The Report of the 2019-20 Survey and launch of the 2020-21 Survey was affected by the unprecedented global Covid outbreak. The Academic Session 2020-21 and Admission process in the HEIs got considerably delayed, extending upto December, 2020 and in a few cases even after that. The comprehensive data on course-wise/Programme-wise enrolments gets available in HEIs only after the admission process is fully completed. Further, the severe outbreak of 2nd wave of Covid in 2021, in which staff of various Departments, State Governments and Universities got affected, also delayed the launch of the Survey.

In AISHE 2020-21, the data collection mechanism was upgraded from old system of data filling in the Adobe Acrobat format, to a dynamic, user friendly and technologically upgraded Web Data Capture Format (DCF) platform by the National Informatics Centre (NIC).Till 2019-20, the Adobe software (windows 2008) was being used for data collection in AISHE which was hosted on physical server instead of cloud Server. Hence, for compliance with NIC IT infra-Policy and to upgrade the AISHE portal with new IT features, Web-DCF was introduced in AISHE for collecting the information during year 2021 and was used for first time in AISHE 2020-21 Survey. Consequently, functional testing was done followed by detailed Security Audit of the system and trainings to the State Nodal Officers/HEIs before operationalisation of new system.

Being the first DCF Survey, the earlier data structure and reports had to be modified. This had to be tested/matched with the unit level data of the Survey. In view of this, intense scrutiny was undertaken after closure of the Survey.

(b) The AISHE 2020-21 Report, has already been released in January 2023. It may be mentioned that the enrolment of the country has increased from 3.85 crore in 2019-20 to 4.14 crore in 2020-21.

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