

## Some clarifications about the Institutes of Eminence

### 1. How can an institution which is currently not running be selected for the position of an Institution of Eminence (IoE)?

Ans. The clause 6.1 of the UGC (Institutions of Eminence Deemed to be Universities) Regulation 2017, provides for a completely new proposal to establish an institution to be considered under this project. Accordingly, a separate category of applications have been invited from the sponsoring organisations for setting up new or Greenfield projects.

The purpose of this provision is to allow responsible private investment to come into building global class educational infrastructure, thereby benefiting the nation as a whole.

Totally (11) such applications have been received and has been assessed by the EEC.

EEC has informed that they have taken the following parameters into account for judging the applications received for setting up Greenfield institutions:-

- a) Availability of land for construction of the institution.
- b) Putting in place a core team with very high qualification and wide experience.
- c) Making available funding for setting up the institution.
- d) A strategic vision plan with clear annual milestones and action plan.

The Committee has come to a conclusion that out of the (11) applications, only **Jio Institute** has satisfied all the (4) parameters stated above, and hence was recommended for issuing a Letter of intent for setting up an Institute of Eminence.

However, (2) institutions, which applied under the Greenfield category but could not be selected, were recommended by the EEC for being given flexibility in the regulatory framework, similar to the Category 1 autonomy in view of their work in niche area:-

- (a) Indian Institute of Human Settlement, Banguluru
- (b) Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar

This will be considered separately.

## 2. What will be further action in case of Greenfield institution?

Ans.

- Based on the recommendation of EEC, as forwarded by UGC, the Ministry will issue a Letter of Intent (LoI) to the institution selected.
- The sponsoring organisation of the institution will have to set up the institution and indicate its readiness for commencing academic operations within (3) years of the issue of LoI.
- After the readiness of the institution has been examined and certified by the EEC, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoA) with clear roadmap for development of the institution will be signed by the institution and
- Thereafter, a notification would be issued declaring the institution as IoE.

## 3. Whether the scheme provides funding for private institutions?

Ans. Private institutions would not get any funding under this scheme. However, they will get autonomy to pursue academic excellence. The benefits that are given to the institutions declared as IoE is enclosed.

## 4. What were the main recommendations of the EEC?

Ans. The following were the main recommendations:-

- i) There should be a **Central Research Grant Fund** which allows researchers from any institution to compete for research grants and the competitive process shall be transparent and with the highest standards of governance.
- ii) The **autonomy** provided to the institutions should be accompanied corresponding **accountability** which should be reflected adequately in the MoU.
- iii) There should be a **strong and transparent system of peer evaluation and accreditation** for all higher educational institutions in the country.
- iv) All Universities may be given guidance on the **graded autonomy** regulations so as to get greater participation.
- v) The governance structures in the Universities shall be made lean and effective, starting from public institutions funded by the Government of India.
- vi) The private sector should be encouraged to participate in furthering of higher education subject to the institutions having financial sustainability (long term fund commitment by sponsoring organisation), independent governance, revenue diversification and research excellence. The