

Higher Education



The new Government has placed High priority on the improvement in the Education Sector. The Higher Education department envisages to restore the lost glory of Bengal in the arena of Higher Education by promoting “Centre of Excellencell”

Achievement

- University Education: 194 new teaching posts have already been created.
- College Education : 139 non govt. colleges have been released Rs.20.92 crores for infrastructure development.

Sl. No.	Description	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Engineering & Technology Education				
1.	No. of Engineering & Technology Colleges	83	90	91
2.	Approved seats in Engineering & Technology	23,854	28,751	31,563
Management Education (MBA)				
1.	No. of Management Institution	45	50	57
2.	Approved seats in Management Institution(MBA)	2790	3900	4560
Master of Computer Application (MCA)				
1.	No. of MCA Institution	39	41	42
2.	Approved seats in MCA Institution	1930	2240	2300

Further, 1 Engineering & Technology Education Institute, 7 Management Education Institute and 1 Masters in Computer Application College was established during 2011-12

West Bengal Merit-cum-Means Scholarship Scheme

	2009 -10	2010 -11	2011 -12
Total No. of recipients	20 181	23 933	24 238
Amount (Rs. In Crore)	18.44	22. 80	25 .38

Major Policy decisions/reforms

- The State Government in the Higher Education Department had set up an Expert Committee on 9th June, 2011 comprising ten members to review matters relating to Higher Education, especially in the field of functioning in the Universities, Colleges, West Bengal College Service Commission, West Bengal State Council of Higher Education and other Institutions of Higher Education and to submit its recommendations to this Department. The term of the Committee was extended from time to time. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government, which is under examination.

Amendment of 13 University Acts through Ordinance and through Amendment Act :-

The West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2011 has been promulgated and notified in the official gazette on 2nd November, 2011 to bring transparency in the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Teachers of the State-aided Universities, to prevent unwanted political interference in the various Authorities of the Universities, to introduce provision for removal of the Vice-Chancellors and Pro-Vice-Chancellors through due process and for sufficient reasons and above all to increase the excellence in the arena of Higher Education. The West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Act, 2011 of 13 (Thirteen) Universities have been amended by the said Ordinance, 2011. Subsequently, the said amendment has been enacted

on 25th January, 2012, and has been effective from 2nd of November, 2011.

Consequently, process has been started to reconstitute the University Senate, Court, Syndicate, Executive Council, University Council and other statutory bodies. On the basis of the amended Act, search committees for appointment of new Vice Chancellors of University of Calcutta and Jadavpur University have already been formed and in case of other Universities, process of formation of search committees is going on.

- **Mentor Group for Presidency University:-**

The Government has appointed a Mentor Group for the Presidency University to suggest ways of restoring academic excellence in Presidency University under the Chairpersonship of Prof. Sugata Bose. The said Mentor Group has produced two interim reports. The Government has taken, in principle, decision regarding creation of 5 (Five) posts of distinguished professorships in the University and also sanctioned incentive in the form of Faculty Research and Professional Development Fund.

- Higher Education Department has taken the task for preparation of Education Map with the assistance of School Education Department to verify the location of existing higher secondary schools, colleges/universities/technical institutions etc. and collect inputs for establishment of New Educational Institutions in future.
- Government order for payment of salary for teaching and non-teaching staff in Govt. aided colleges on the first working day of the month has been issued in December 2011. About 8394 teachers, 184 librarians, 250 graduate laboratory instructors and 7077 non-teaching staff are beneficiaries of this order.
- Proposal for payment of Ad-hoc pension within one month of retirement of teaching and non-teaching staff of Govt. aided colleges has been initiated and is under active consideration of the Government.
- Al-Ameen Memorial College, Baruipur, a Minority College, in the district of South 24 Parganas has been brought under Pay-Packet Scheme in 2011-2012.

Decisions:

- University: - 2 new Universities will be set up in the district of Coochbehar and another one in any Backward Region district of the State.
- Setting up of New General Degree Government Colleges :

- Government has decided to set up a total of eight (8) General Degree Government Colleges and one (1) Women's Wing in an existing Govt. College.
- Setting up of 3 (three) new Govt. Colleges at Rajarhat, New Town; Gaighata, North 24 Paraganas and Bhabta, Murshidabad are under process. Required land is in possession.
- 5 Acres of land for setting up new Government College at Shalboni, Paschim Medinipur.
- Foundation stone of a new Government College at Lalgahar in the district Paschim Medinipur has been laid down.
- 7.37 Acres of land has been identified for setting up Government College at Nayagram, Paschim Medinipur
- Land for Girls' Wing in Jhargram Raj College is in possession with cost of Rs. 7.43 Cr.
- Government has also decided to set up two (2) new Government Colleges at Pedong and Gorubathan in Darjeeling District. Identification of land is under process.
- Model Degree College: - 5 number of Model Degree Colleges will be set up upgrading the Colleges established on or after 01.01.2008.
- New Government level Engineering College: 04 No. of Engineering Colleges will be set up in the districts of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Purulia and Murshidabad.
- Appointment of regular Principals in place of Teacher-in-Charge is under way. Interview of candidates (applicants) has started from 12.04.2012.
- Special policies for Part-time Teachers and Contractual Whole-time Teachers are under process.
- The Government has decided to set up a "Placement Training Centre for IAS and WBCS Examinations" at Bidhannagar College. Process of project formulation has already begun.
- The matter of inclusion of new subjects within the purview of State Level Eligibility Test (SLET) has been taken up with the University Grants Commission and these new subjects are expected to be covered in next year's SLET.
- The Govt. has decided for introduction of the online counseling system for admission into under-graduate courses of Engineering and Technology Institutes post common Entrance Test (JEM – 2012) being held under the aegis of West Bengal Joint Entrance Examinations Board (WBJEEB) with effect from 2012-13 academic year.

- This Department has embraced e-Governance in a major way and introduced online submission and receipt of applications for West Bengal Merit cum Means Scholarship with effect from 2012 – 2013 academic year. On the other hand, this Department has decided to introduce Electronic File Tracking System among its various Directorates and Branches phase-wise.
- The Govt. has also decided to enhance the scope of provision of full free studentship and half free studentship from 10% + 5% to 10% + 10% respectively from the 2012-13 under West Bengal Free-ship Scheme, 2011 especially for engineering & technology students of UG courses in Government Engineering & Technology Colleges, State aided Universities like Jadavpur University & Bengal Engineering & Science University, Shibpur besides in those self-financing E&T institutes who had admitted students in Management Quota.
- Implementation of Tuition Fee Weaver Scheme (TFW) for economically backward class of students admitted to all approved technical institutions based on the guidelines of AICTE has been made from 2011-12.
- The Central-State jointly funded Technical Education Quality Improvement Project (TEQIP) Phase – II has started within the last year and the State Project Facilitation Unit (SPFU) has been restructured to make it effective and process oriented. Funds for participating institutes are being released on regular basis with proper monitoring through reports & returns.
- “A Tribute to Rabindranath Tagore” and “Select Documents on Calcutta”, the recent publication of the State Archives, released in April & May, 2011 respectively, have earned special recognition and sold out in significant numbers.
- Annual Accounts of the 14 State Aided Universities shall be made up to date by 2012-13 Financial Year.

GOVT AIDED COLLEGES ESTABLISHED DURING 2011-2012

- Domkal College, Domkal, Murshidabad
- Nathaniel Murmu College, Dakshin Dinajpur
- Ghokshadanga Birendra Memorial Mahavidyalaya, Coochbehar

Decisions for setting up of new educational institutions during 2012-13:

University	New General Degree College	Upgradation to Model college	New Government level Engineering College
❖ Coochbehar ❖ South 24 Parganas	❖ Bhabta, Murshidabad ❖ Rajarhat, North 24-Parganas ❖ Gaighata, North 24-Parganas ❖ Salboni, Paschim Mednipur ❖ Lalgah, Paschim Mednipur ❖ Nayagram, Paschim Mednipur ❖ Girls' Wing at Jhargram Raj College, Paschim Mednipur ❖ Pedong, Dargeeling ❖ Gorubathan, Darjeeling	o Gaurav Guin Memorial College , Paschim Medinipur o Baneswar Sarathibala Mahavidyalaya , Coochbehar o Naxalbari College , Darjeeling o Rajganj College , Jalpaiguri o Deshapran Mahavidyalaya , Purba Medinipur	o Darjeeling o Jalpaiguri o Purulia o Murshidabad