

Monthly Updates- January 2026

The National Initiative for Skill-Integrated Higher Education (NISHE)

Overview

The **National Initiative for Skill-Integrated Higher Education (NISHE)** aims to enhance the employability of over 1 lakh students enrolled in non-professional degree programs across 1,500+ colleges in 10 states over the next three years. Operating at zero cost to state governments, NISHE supports the professionalization of general education by aligning with the University Grants Commission's Guidelines for Apprenticeship-Embedded Degree Programs (AEDPs). Its core objective is to integrate skill development into mainstream higher education.

Project Goal



The objective is to bridge the gap between higher education and market-relevant skills by integrating industry expertise into academic programs, thereby enhancing the employability of disadvantaged youth. The initiative aims to reach 1 lakh students across 15 states within two years, with a focus on high-demand sectors such as IT, healthcare, logistics, and agriculture.

Strategy

State-Led Implementation:

NISHE is driven by State Governments, who tailor implementation to local needs and priorities, ensuring regional relevance and ownership.

CRISP's Enabling Role:

CRISP enables effective execution by collaborating with Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) on curriculum and faculty development, and with BOATs for managing apprenticeships and evaluations.

Progress Monitoring & Student-Centric Focus:

CRISP's central and state teams use the NISHE MIS platform to track progress, enable timely interventions, and ensure the program aligns with student aspirations.

Progress this Month

- The project has transitioned into the **planning phase** for the **upcoming academic year**, with a focus on **preparatory coordination** and **state-wise action plan development**.
- Shri K. S. Srinivas, IAS (Retd.), Deputy CEO & Chief Operating Officer, CRISP, held **high-level coordination meetings** with the **Secretaries of Higher Education, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, and Industries**, Government of Karnataka, to initiate preparations for the **forthcoming apprenticeship cycle**. He also met with the **Vice-Chancellor, RV University, Bengaluru**, where a **proposed MoU** between CRISP and RV University was discussed.
- Shri R. S. Julaniya, IAS (Retd.), **National Lead-NISHE, CRISP**, visited Lucknow (09 January 2026) and met with UPHED leadership to review AEDP implementation. Discussions focused on **key bottlenecks, institutional support, and strategic priorities**, including UP Digital University, centralized placement, ODOP alignment, NAAC challenges, and sector expansion.
- **State-wise Action Plans** are currently **under preparation**, with the **Rajasthan Action Plan** proposed for presentation to the **Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education Department**, Government of Rajasthan.

Key Learnings

- Advance **planning and early engagement** with stakeholders significantly improve coordination across universities, government departments, and industry partners.
- Industry participation is more forthcoming when engaged directly; however, providing clear **guidance on regulatory requirements and portal-related processes** is critical to addressing industry concerns and enabling smoother participation.

Way Forward

- Initiate structured outreach to senior officials in the **Industries and Skill Development** Departments across states to strengthen and expand the apprenticeship ecosystem.
- Facilitate state-wise coordination meetings between **industry chambers and leadership** from the Higher Education, Skill Development, and Industries Departments to improve alignment and collaboration.
- Prepare a panel of academic experts for **potential onboarding with Sector Skill Councils** (SSCs) to support Faculty Capacity Building initiatives.
- Develop an apprenticeship **evaluation framework** for submission to, and consultation with, SSCs to inform implementation and quality assurance.

Photo Gallery



Hyderabad, Telangana, India
Road Number 2, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana 500033, India
Lat: 17.418469, Long: 78.411878
Thursday, 21/01/2025, 10:38 AM GMT+05:30
Note: Captured by GPS Map Camera