CRISP
Deliberate. Design. Deliver.
Centre for Research in Schemes and Policies

Monthly Updates- September 2026

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

- **Training Phase:** The project has transitioned into the training phase, with Faculty Training Programmes (FTPs) being rolled out across states. FTPs have been successfully conducted in Karnataka, Odisha, and Rajasthan.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** CRISP signed MoUs with IHM Bhopal for content development and curriculum updates in Tourism & Hospitality Operations, and with 21CC Education for the development and dissemination of content for the B.Com. Logistics Operations and B.Com. E-Commerce AEDPs.
- **Apprenticeship Mapping:** Student apprenticeship mapping is to be expedited from October 2025 in collaboration with the Boards of Apprenticeship Training (BOATs) and Sector Skill Councils (SSCs).
- **NISHE MIS Portal:** The NISHE MIS portal is being structured to facilitate the systematic dissemination of academic content and learning resources to students and faculty.

Key Learnings & Way Forward

- **Strengthening the Training Ecosystem:** Develop an independent pool of Master Trainers to reduce reliance on individual Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) and ensure continuity in faculty training.
- **Building Sector-Specific Partnerships:** Establish sector-wise ecosystems for curriculum design, content development, and industry engagement through placement cells, expanding collaboration beyond SSCs.
- **Consolidation and Quality Improvement:** Prioritise stabilisation of existing interventions, consolidation of processes, and improvement in training and implementation quality before pursuing further expansion.



Admissions in AY 2026-27

S.No.	State	No of HEIs	No of AEDPs	No of Admissions
1	Andhra Pradesh	67	108	430
2	Bihar	7	12	218
3	Himachal Pradesh	28	33	861
4	Karnataka	130	144	3,266
5	Madhya Pradesh	94	166	4,050
6	Maharashtra	22	62	1707
7	Odisha	69	279	6,019
8	Rajasthan	58	125	724
9	Telangana	105	209	7,263
10	Uttar Pradesh	82	110	2,621
	Total	**662**	**1248**	**27,159**