



# UNIVERSITY NEWS

*A Weekly Journal of Higher Education*

**Association of Indian Universities**

Vol. 64 • No. 02 • January 12-18, 2026

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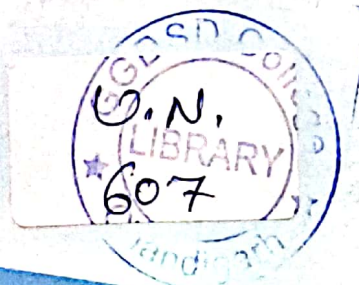
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A Weekly Journal of Higher Education  
Published by the Association of Indian  
Universities

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	Institutions	Academics/ Students (at residential address only)
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1 year	2500.00	1000.00
2 years	4400.00	1800.00

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## *Bahubali* Movement in Higher Education System : A Need for *Viksit Bharat@ 2047*

Devender Kawday\*

Recently, ISRO has launched Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3), famously nicknamed the “Bahubali” rocket due to its massive heavy-lift capabilities, achieving a historic milestone. In a similar pattern, India now needs a Bahubali Movement in Higher Education — one that is bold in vision, strong in research, fearless in innovation, and rooted in Indian values with global excellence.

One such Bahubali Movement will be the launch of *Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan* (VBSA). It will be a revolution in India's Higher Education System, rooted in Indian values and driven by global excellence. VBSA will comprise three councils:

- **VBSVP** : *Viksit Bharat Shiksha Viniyaman Parishad* (Regulatory Council)
- **VBSGP** : *Viksit Bharat Shiksha Gunvatta Parishad* (Accreditation Council)
- **VBSMP** : *Viksit Bharat Shiksha Manak Parishad* (Standards Council)

For the vision of *Viksit Bharat@ 2047*, we need to scale our economy with double-digit growth consistently. In order to achieve this, the Higher Education System has to be revamped accordingly.

The Bahubali movement is necessary to address the issues pertaining to governance and regulation, reforms and policy challenges, adequate quality in education, commercialisation, skills mismatch–employability gap, innovation and research shortfall, access and equity, etc. The launch of VBSA will be immensely helpful in addressing such issues.

As per the AISHE dashboard as on 1st January 2026 (Ministry of Education), in our Bharat, there are around 1386 Universities, 53,072 Colleges, 16,463 Stand-alone Institutions, and 159 Institutes of National Importance, catering to around 4.33 crore students. It is the second-largest Higher Education System in the world, which we can utilise efficiently to make our country a developed nation by adopting the Bahubali strategy.

For several decades, India's higher education has been governed by multiple regulatory bodies. This has many times led to overlaps, lack of stringent control, clarity, and inefficiencies. To address this issue, the Government of India has recently introduced the *Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan* (VBSA) Bill 2025 in Parliament. The Bill is a concrete step to rationalise, modernise, reorganise, and

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