



MERITE Scheme

[Source: PIB](#)

The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for implementation of the **Multidisciplinary Education and Research Improvement in Technical Education (MERITE) Scheme** to enhance the quality across 275 institutions nationwide, aligning with the [National Education Policy 2020](#).

- MERITE is a **Central Sector Scheme** with a total budget of Rs. 4200 crore for 2025-26 to 2029-30, including Rs. 2100 crore [World Bank loan](#) assistance.
 - It targets **engineering institutions and polytechnics**, including National Institutes of Technology (NITs), State Engineering Institutions, and Affiliating Technical Universities.
 - The scheme aims to benefit **about 7.5 lakh students** across all States and Union Territories.
- **Implementation:** MERITE involves collaboration with premier institutions like Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, and regulatory bodies such as [All India Council for Technical Education](#) and [National Board of Accreditation](#).
- **MERITE Focus Areas Include:** Aims to digitalize education, develop multidisciplinary programs, and boost students' learning and employability.
 - It strengthens research, improves quality assurance, and expands accreditation.
 - The scheme also focuses on **creating labor-market aligned curricula** and supporting future academic leaders, **especially women**.

CABINET APPROVES BUDGETARY SUPPORT FOR MERITE SCHEME

OUTLAY OF RS 4,200 CRORE

Aim

To improve the quality, equity and governance in technical education covering all States/UTs by implementing interventions aligned with the National Educational Policy-2020.

Major outcomes expected

- Enhancement of students' learning and employability skills.
- Strengthened research and innovation environment.
- Development of guidelines for multidisciplinary programs among technical courses.



MERITE: Multidisciplinary Education and Research Improvement in Technical Education

Source: GoI

Read more: [Future of Indian Higher Education System](https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/merite-scheme)