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New Delhi, 11th November, 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please refer to the discussion in the review meeting of RUSA held by Secretary (HE) via video-conference on 7th November, 2019, in which *Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat* (EBSB) programme of the Government of India was also discussed. Under this initiative, each State/UT will engage with its paired State/UT for cultural exchange. In this regard, all the RUSA funded institutions in your State are paired with institutions from the designated partner State to facilitate two-way exchange and to undertake other desired activities.

You are requested to kindly direct the institutions and the RUSA Nodal Officer to do the needful. A template of the letter to be sent to the institutions, along with relevant information about the programme, is attached for your kind convenience.

I am sure that your personal involvement will make Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat (EBSB) initiative a grand success.

Yours sincerely,

(Sunita Siwach)

To:

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The Principal Secretaries/ Administrators of the States/UTs

Student Exchange

Every year, at least 50 students of a HEI in one State will travel and spend 5 days in paired Institutions of the paired State. The purpose would be to learn to the language, culture, living styles, festivals, social customs, food habits and such other aspects of the social and cultural affairs of the paired State. The contingent would be led by one or more teachers who will be responsible for proper organization of the visit and also for the safety of the students.

The organization of the student exchange would be done in the following manner:

- a) <u>Identification of the contingent</u>:- Students in each institution may be invited to participate in a competition, such as quiz regarding paired State. Such students who have exhibited minimum knowledge and understanding of the paired States should be selected.
- b) Conduct of the visit:- The visit will be done in accordance with the dates agreed with the paired institution. Since Indian Railways is expected to give concession for the movement of students under EBSB, it is advised to use the Railways for the movement of the students to the extent possible. The visiting students would be housed in the hostels of the paired institution. Suitable facilities should be provided by the paired institution for this purpose. The contingent will not only interact with the local students, but would also fan out to visit historical sites, villages around the institution and would learn the language of the paired State. They would also learn the dance and customs of the paired State. Each of the learning process should be properly documented through photos, videos, write-ups, etc.
- c) <u>Preparing reports:</u> Each member of the visiting contingents is expected to focus on one aspect of the State which has been visited; and prepare a small write-up along with photographs within 30 days from the date of return from the visit.
- d) <u>Dissemination:</u> The report so prepared would be printed and should be shared using social media account like Facebook and Twitter, duly tagging the social media accounts of the Ministry and EBSB. Apart from above, they will share the findings of the visit with the larger audience in the college.

The cost of the student visit should be locally managed by the institution.

ANNEXURE-II

Suggested daily activities in Student Exchange under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) Programme:

Day – 1	Interaction of visiting students contingent with counterpart contingent in EBSB Club and familiarity building.
Day – 2	Language sharing, elocution in paired State's languages, sharing of information on respective states etc.
Day – 3	Visit to nearby village(s) by visiting contingent accompanied by local students/ teachers.
Day – 4	Visit to local tourist spots, market places, interaction with local people.
Day – 5	Food festival, experience exchange and cultural programme.

- During the trip, every student would record pictures and video clips and prepare detailed write up on any one chosen theme/ cultural aspect of paired State/ UT. The same would be compiled in the institution on return and sent to the email IDs of concerned persons in MHRD. Their names and contact number would be communicated in due course
- Students would also upload select pictures and clips onto the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat twitter handle (EBSB MHRD) and Facebook page (Ebsb Mhrd).

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	Name of University / College	Maharashtra Tuljaram Chaturchand College of Arts,	Science and Commerce Baramati G.S.College of Commerce &	Economics G.S.College of Commerce &	Economics Vasantarao Naik College of Arts&	Vasantarao Naik College of Arts&	Vasantarao Naik College of Arts&	University North Maharashtra Univ. Jalgaon	North Maharashtra Univ. Jalgaon	University North Maharashtra Univ. Jalgaon	Dr. Bhanuben Mahendra Nanavati	ur	University Shivaji University, Kolhapur	Shivaji University, Kolhapur	New Arts, Commerce And Science , College Shevgaon, Tal. Shevgon Dist. Ahmednagar	mmerce And Science gaon, Tal. Shevgon Dist.	nmerce And Science iaon, Tal. Shevgon Dist.	New Arts, Commerce And Science A
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