

LEARNING AND CAPABILITY

Government Degree College

WHAT THIS INSTITUTION IS

A government degree college is the primary institution for undergraduate education in a district. It offers bachelor's degree programmes – Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Science (BSc), Bachelor of Commerce (BCom), and sometimes Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA) or Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) – affiliated to a state university. For young people in small towns and rural areas, this is the most affordable and often the only accessible option for a degree within commuting distance. The college operates under the state university's syllabus and examination system, and the degree is the minimum qualification for most government competitive examinations. It also serves as a platform for the National Service Scheme (NSS), the National Cadet Corps (NCC), scholarship access, and career guidance.

Most state universities are transitioning to a four-year undergraduate format with multiple entry/exit points, an Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) for portable credit, and integration of vocational and skill courses, in line with National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the UGC Curriculum and Credit Framework. Whether your college has migrated yet depends on the affiliating university's calendar.

WHY THIS MATTERS TO YOU

If you are pursuing a degree or plan to, this is likely where you will study. It is also where your scholarship applications get verified and where placement drives and competitive exam information should be available.

**GOVERNANCE**

LAW / POLICY	SCOPE
University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956	Sets minimum standards for faculty, infrastructure, and governance
National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Framework	Quality assessment system; transitioning from the legacy graded framework (A++/A+/A/B/C) to a Binary (Accredited / Not Accredited) model with optional Maturity-Based Graded Levels (MBGL); affects eligibility for central grants
Pradhan Mantri Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA, formerly Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), renamed Jun 2023)	Centrally sponsored scheme for state higher education (60:40 Centre:State for most states; 90:10 for NER, J&K, HP and Uttarakhand; 100% Central for UTs without legislature)
UGC Equity in HEIs Regulations 2012 (mandates EOCs for SC/ST/OBC/PwD); 2026 successor regulations stayed by Supreme Court	Equal Opportunity Cell mandate for caste, disability and other equity-based concerns
Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013	UGC mandates every college to have an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC)

- **Centre:** UGC and NAAC (national standards) → PM-USHA funding (pmusha.education.gov.in)
- **State:** State Higher Education Department → Directorate of Higher Education → Affiliating State University
- **Institution:** Principal
- **Institutional oversight (statutory committees):**
- **Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)** – UGC-mandated for all 2(f)/12B colleges; chaired by the Principal with a senior faculty Coordinator; prepares the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) submitted to NAAC
- **Internal Complaints Committee (ICC)** – Presiding Officer must be a senior woman faculty member; minimum four members; at least one external member from a non-governmental organisation (NGO) or legal background; meets on complaint receipt per Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013
- **Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC)** – UGC Equity in HEIs Regulations 2012 (mandates EOCs for SC/ST/OBC/PwD); 2026 successor regulations stayed by Supreme Court
- **Anti-Ragging Committee and Anti-Ragging Squad** – per UGC 2009 Regulations, constituted under the Principal; composition includes faculty, non-teaching staff, student representatives, and local civil and police administration
- **Women's Development Cell** – UGC-mandated, faculty coordinator with student representation
- **For aided / grant-in-aid colleges:** Governing Body or College Development Committee as per state university rules
- **Funding:** Primarily state-funded; PM-USHA at 60:40 for most states (90:10 for NER, J&K, HP, Uttarakhand; 100% Central for UTs without legislature); UGC grants for specific purposes



KEY POSITIONS

POSITION	RESPONSIBILITY
Principal	Head of the college; administration, academic coordination, government correspondence
Head of Department (HOD)	Manages curriculum delivery and departmental resources
Guest / Contractual Lecturers	Handle a large share of teaching; hired on temporary contracts
Scholarship Nodal Officer / Institute Nodal Officer (INO)	Faculty member handling scholarship verification on the National Scholarships Portal (NSP)
Placement Officer	Faculty member with additional charge for placement activities
IQAC Coordinator	Senior faculty (additional charge or full-time); coordinates internal quality assurance and prepares the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) for NAAC
NSS Programme Officer / NCC Associate Officer (ANO)	Faculty member with additional charge for NSS unit (community service hours, camps) or NCC unit (parade, training) where sanctioned

MANDATED SERVICES

- Deliver 3- or 4-year undergraduate degree programmes (with multiple entry/exit points per NEP 2020 and the affiliating university's adoption of the UGC Curriculum and Credit Framework) and conduct internal assessments
- Process scholarship applications through NSP for Scheduled Caste (SC) / Scheduled Tribe (ST) / Other Backward Classes (OBC) / minority / Economically Weaker Section (EWS) students
- Run NSS units (120 hours community service per year) and NCC units where sanctioned
- Constitute and display the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) under the 2013 Act
- Maintain a career guidance or placement cell for campus visits and job fair information
- Maintain a library with textbooks, reference books, and a reading room
- Provide sports facilities and conduct inter-college events

LINKED SCHEMES

- **Post-matric Scholarships (NSP)** – financial support for SC/ST/OBC/minority/EWS students
- **Central Sector Scholarship** – Rs 12,000-20,000/year at graduation level for students above 80th percentile in Class 12 with family income below Rs 4.5 lakh
- **PM-USHA** – infrastructure grants and equity initiatives; components relevant to a degree college: Grants to Strengthen Colleges (GSC) up to Rs 5 crore, New Model Degree Colleges (NMDC) up to Rs 15 crore, Gender Inclusion and Equity Initiatives (GIEI) up to Rs 10 crore per district across 50 districts
- **NSS** – funding for community service units and camps
- **NAAC Accreditation** – quality grading affecting reputation and grant eligibility

HOW TO LOCATE

Portal: aishe.gov.in (All India Survey on Higher Education) – search by state and district for enrolment, faculty, and courses; also naac.gov.in for accreditation status; state portals: UP (uphed.gov.in), Rajasthan (hte.rajasthan.gov.in)

Also: Check the affiliating university website for all affiliated colleges with courses and intake



KEY FACILITIES

A functioning government degree college should have: sufficient classrooms for all sections, functional science labs with equipment, a library with a reading room and digital access, a girls' common room with washroom access, separate functional toilet blocks, a computer centre with internet, sports facilities, and a dedicated space for the placement cell.

WHAT A FUNCTIONING GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE LOOKS LIKE

- Permanent faculty posts are substantially filled, with teaching happening across all departments
- The library is open and staffed, with recent book acquisitions
- The ICC composition is publicly displayed on notice boards
- The placement cell has data from the last graduating batch on campus recruitment drives held
- NSS/NCC activities have been conducted in the current academic year
- Scholarship applications for the current cycle have been processed through NSP

GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

During service delivery. The first point of contact is the Principal, and for matter-specific issues the Head of Department, Scholarship INO, Placement Officer, or ICC Presiding Officer. The Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC) handles caste, disability and other equity-based complaints under UGC Equity in HEIs Regulations 2012; 2026 successor regulations are stayed by the Supreme Court. The Dean of Student Welfare is the escalation within the college.

After service. Escalation is to the affiliating State University (academic matters), the State Directorate of Higher Education (administrative), and the UGC for regulatory matters. The State Commission for Women handles gender-related complaints.

External. Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS, pgportal.gov.in) accepts UGC and Ministry of Education complaints. UGC runs a dedicated grievance portal at ugc.gov.in. The NAAC has a feedback channel at naac.gov.in. For ragging, the National Anti-Ragging Helpline (1800-180-5522 / helpline@antiragging.in) has statutory jurisdiction. Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act violations not resolved internally can be escalated to the Local Complaints Committee at the district and then the National Commission for Women (NCW).
