Dear Vice Chancellor/Director,

The Association of Indian Universities (AIU) organizes Zonal Meets of Vice Chancellors every year wherein issues relating to higher education with specific reference to University system of the concerned Zone are discussed threadbare. Recommendations of the Zonal Vice Chancellors’ Meets are considered in the Annual Meeting of the Association.

At the Zonal Vice Chancellors’ Meet more than 150 Vice Chancellors/Directors of member Universities/Institutions apart from some educationists, representatives of UGC, MHRD and apex bodies are expected to participate. The Zonal Meet starts with inaugural function on the first day morning followed by academic sessions and ends on 2nd day with valedictory function. The detailed programme will be finalized by the Association in consultation with the host University.

Governing Council of Association of Indian Universities in its 364th Meeting held on July 20, 2021 at AIU House, New Delhi, recommended the theme for AIU National Seminar/ 96th Annual General Body Meeting as “Realizing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Higher Education Institutions”. The GC also recommended the following sub-themes for five Zonal VCs Meets in keeping with the theme of the National Seminar:

(i) North Zone: Realizing SDGs - 5,10,11,12 (Gender Equality, Reduces Inequalities, Sustainable Cities and Economic Influences) through Higher Education Institutions

(ii) West Zone: Realizing SDGs 8,9, 16,17 (Employability, Industrialization, Strong Institutions, Inclusivity and Partnerships) through Higher Education Institutions

(iii) Central Zone: Realizing SDGs 1,2,3,6 (Poverty, Health, Hunger and Sanitation) through Higher Education Institutions

(iv) East Zone: Realizing SDGs - 7, 13,14,15 (Energy, Climate, Life below Water and Life on Land) through Higher Education Institutions

(v) South Zone: Realizing SDG4 (Quality Education) through Higher Education Institutions.
The proposals are invited from the Universities for hosting the Zonal Vice Chancellors’ Meet on the five sub-themes mentioned above in a **blended mode**. The host University is expected to provide boarding, lodging and local transport facility to members joining physically and arrange an online platform for the members joining virtually. The Association will provide advisory and knowledge support for organization of the Meet. The details of arrangements and other logistics requirements for organizing the event are enclosed for your reference.

On behalf of the Association, I invite your expression of interest for hosting the Zonal Vice Chancellors’ Meet (2021-22) in your zone on the **theme “Realizing SDGs - 7, 13,14,15 (Energy, Climate, Life below Water and Life on Land) through Higher Education Institutions”** during **January 10-11, 2022** at your esteemed University. I shall appreciate receiving your interest at an early date but not later than **September 03, 2021** to enable us to finalize the venue for the five Zonal Vice Chancellors’ Meet.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Pañkaj Mittal)

Encl: As above.

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**All Vice Chancellors/Directors of Universities/Institutions in East Zone**