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All AIIMS may have one governing council

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In order to simplify governance procedures and bring uniformity in the rules, the government is now planning for a common governing council for all AIIMS in the country.

The move comes after a high-powered committee headed by M K Bhan, former secretary in the Department of Biotechnology was constituted to look at the governance structure of all new AIIMS, recommended evolving an umbrella organisation for framing common policies in terms of HR, recruitment, equipment procurement guidelines and administration in all institutes.

Six AIIMS in Bhubaneshwar, Bhopal, Jodhpur, Raipur, Patna and Rishikesh are functional, apart from AIIMS, New Delhi. Besides, the government recently announced setting up of 14 more AIIMS.

According to the statement given by senior health ministry official, "As per norms, at least one or two institute body and two governing body meetings are to be held at each AIIMS, which means, the health minister being the president at every AIIMS will have to attend around 63 meetings in a year which is practically not possible. Setting up a single common governing council will keep the minister away from day-to-day affairs”