

**National Mission on Education through
Information Communication Technology (NME-ICT),
Ministry of Human Resource Development**

Minutes of DTH OMG Meeting

The first meeting of DTH Operational & Monitoring Group (OMG), constituted by the MHRD (vide office order No. F. No. 01-01/2014-TEL dated 1st January 2015) was held at 11:00 Hrs. on 4th February 2015 at Room No.112-C wing, Shastri Bhavan New Delhi. The agenda and the members present are given in Annexure I and II respectfully.

1. Prof. S.V. Raghavan, Chairman, DTH OMG, Welcome the members present. Prof. Raghavan thanked the outgoing members of the DTH Committee for having put their excellent contribution towards the progress of MHRD DTH programme. It was noticed the quorum of members for the meeting was not sufficient; hence the meeting was adjourned for some time and then reconvened.

2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the earlier DTH Committee meeting:

Since no comments were received from members of the erstwhile DTH Committee, the minutes of the tenth DTH meeting, held on January 9, 2014, were taken as confirmed.

3. Mr. Pradeep Kaul, Convener, DTH OMG made a brief presentation about the DTH Programme for the benefit of new members and reported the developments during past one year. This was followed by some discussions and queries that were clarified.

4. The members were briefed on the role and function of the DTH OMG; that the group is empowered to look into all aspects of content planning, its execution, production and live delivery from 213 Teaching Ends and to meet the broadcast requirements of respective Groups. It was briefed that the DTH OMG members are from "Lead Institutes" and are in turn representing respective 'Core Group TEs' and are required to ensure that the assigned Teaching Institutes under each group deliver content as per channel requirements, allocation of subjects and its planning. The Lead Institute(s) shall further interact with the DTH OMG and their respective Core Group members on day-to-day operations, academics, management, funding and monitoring matters.

5. The Selection & Running of Course content for 50 DTH Channels, which amount to delivery of about 1825 courses by 200 institutions per annum. The group shall make a plan of action and look into Pedagogy, Management of content delivery,

Trainings and Skill development, Vocational Education, Teachers Training and align to the online formats required for enhancing the utility of the DTH programme.

6. The Lead Institutes, in consultation with their Core Group members are required to have selection of Subjects that shall be delivered on DTH and shall engage Subject Co-ordinators for this. The Subject Co-ordinators shall in turn, compile a national syllabus on the subject; prepare a list of best Subject Matter Experts (SME), from across the country. The Subject Co-ordinators and SMEs shall further be requested to undertake an orientation at a workshop (at a place to be notified at a latter date) to appraise them with the pedagogy, methodology etc., required to be followed in the preparation of material for delivery on DTH.

7. The items listed under agenda no. 5, were taken up for discussion. It was informed that DTH Committee has deliberated on there issues during in its 9th meeting held on July 17, 2013 and these agenda were further discussed during Standing Committee (SC), in its meeting held on 8th September 2014. The Standing Committee deliberated these issues and suggested the matter may be put before the DTH OMG. As quite some time has elapsed, since the proposals were made, it was decided to seek revised proposals (with revised budget estimates).

Chairman, enquired as to how many PIs would like to revise the proposals. Convener, DTH OMG confirmed that all except CEC have confirmed that earlier proposals with no change may be considered by the DTH OMG and he further points out that Standing Committee, NMEICT has already seen and discussed these proposal earlier. Only CEC wanted to revise, therefore the combined view was to forward all proposals to the PAB' in its forthcoming meeting and give opportunity to CEC to resubmit the proposal at the earliest.

Project Title under Agenda 5		Participating Institution	Budget Recommended
a	Development of Pedagogy & Scheduling strategy	SNDT Women's University	Rs. 153.34 Lakhs
b	Design & development of Logo's	IIT Bombay	Rs. 25.00 Lakhs
c	Conduct trainings and workshops at CEC and EMMRCs	CEC	Rs.1000.00 Lakhs
d	Design and implement Advertisement, promo & Awareness programme,	INFLIBNET	Rs. 505.00 Lakhs
e	Design templates and technical features regarding e-content development language dubbing and translation etc.	INFLIBNET	Rs. 35.00 Lakhs
f	Seeding and Strengthening DTH related Activities, Management, Office, Manpower etc.	IIT Madras & IIT Delhi	Rs. 75.00 Lakhs

(i)	To study and design a number of 'Set Top Boxes', suitable for reception of MHRD DTH programme	Conduct of meetings only	Conduct of meetings only
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8 Agenda item No. 6 "Review of Technical design parameters for setting up of Teaching Ends (TEs) & the Tender process by IIT Madras" was discussed. It was noticed that MHRD vide office order no F. No. 01-01/2014-TEL dated 02/01/2015 has now issued order regarding "setting up of Teaching Ends at leading institute in the country for generation of content for 50 DTH educational channels" to Director IIT, Madras, stating that IIT Madras may go ahead with the tender for setting up DTH Teaching Ends after revising / updating specifications as necessary. The committee noted this and placed a request on record to IIT Madras to complete the process early. However, the revised/updated specifications may be placed before the DTH OMG for approval.

9. The item "To deliberate on setting up our own Earth Station versus follow the process to hire a Teleport" an Agenda No. 7 was then taken up for discussion. The members discussed the following: "Should the MHRD proceed with the hiring of teleport or should it plan to have one of its own". It was felt that since we have some time to before the launch of 50 DTH channels, we could plan and launch our own earth station for up linking to the satellite, as this option is cost effective when compared to hiring a teleport service as was perceived by the DTH committee in the past. It was therefore decided a project report on this recommending the way to go ahead, may be compiled in two weeks time by the Convener DTH OMG in consultation with Mr. H. Rayappa Deputy Director, Satcom Application, ISRO Head Quarter's, Bangalore. The report may then be submitted to the Chairman DTH OMG to take a final decision on this issue.

10. The members further deliberated on the issues related to a project "to hire a Teleport to uplink 50 MHRD DTH Channels" assigned to M/s TCIL and seeking reply to their query. It was felt that since we are now planning to have our own earth station, therefore decision on reply to TCIL query was deferred. It was felt in case the DTH OMG decides to have its own earth station, the project assigned to M/s TCIL regarding finalizing a teleport for hiring purpose may then be closed down by the MHRD and the remaining payment, due if any, may be settled with M/s TCIL appropriately by the TEL Bureau.

11. Deliberations under Agenda 9 were held on the Budget (Recurring and Non-Recurring) on the DTH Programme. It was observed that the PAB in its 25th Meeting held on 6th Nov. 2012, has approved a budget of Rs.572.73 Crores for DTH Programme that includes Non-Recurring budget (on Equipment etc.) of Rs.197.77 Crores and Recurring Budget on account of content development etc., as Rs.374.96 Crores.

Since we are now in a better position to project more realistic budget on the DTH programme, a revised budget proposal was submitted. The members approved the revised budget submitted with a total Recurring and non-Recurring budget of Rs. 514.84 Crores that involved Non-Recurring budget of Rs. 173.18 Crores for establishing 213 Teaching Ends etc., and Recurring budget of Rs. 231.84 Crores per annum and budget on content development etc., of Rs. 109.82 Crores per an annum. It was recommended the budget proposal on this may now be submitted to the PAB for its approval.

12. Under DTH Activity Chart, it was pointed out that a Letter from Secretary, HE to Heads of Institutes (where the TE's are to be established) is required to be sent along with a copy of standard MOU, for their consideration and informing them that the MOU shall be signed at Delhi, in a formal function (date & place to be decided).

13. The Chairman stated that the DTH Programme and members associated with it should now onwards try to follow the time line as defined in the "DTH Activity - Time Line" (circulated to the members). If the time assigned to an activity faces challenges the same may be brought to the attention of Chairman, as soon as possible.

14. Further, under Agenda 9, 'Deliberate remaining DTH Activities' regarding Migration to G-SAT-15 was taken for discussion. Mr. H. Rayappa Deputy Director, DOS representing Mr. K Sethuraman, DOS (Member DTH OMG) mentioned that GSAT-15 Satellite is scheduled by ISRO to be launched from Arian Launch Vehicle in the month of September 2015. He further added that it is going to be Co-located with a satellite being used by Doordarshan, thereby giving a natural advantage for MHRD DTH Project as the 50 channels can be viewed by approximately 20 million plus Doordarshan viewers & others from day one of MHRD DTH launch. It became apparent after discussion that the additional viewing can be done without adding to space or ground segment by Doordarshan, MHRD or by the viewers.

After deliberation it was suggested MHRD may therefore kindly approach DOS to swap the two transponders allotted to MHRD (at GSAT-8 satellite at 55° E), to a location close to satellite presently being used by the Doordarshan (i.e., INSAT 4B Satellite, Location at 93.5° E). By positioning MHRD transponder in INSAT 4B or position close to 93.5° E, it shall enable the DTH viewers of Doordarshan (and some other DTH Providers in that location) to view the MHRD 50 channels, besides viewing their channels.

15. As per agenda 10, "Draft 'DTH Report' for submission to PAB by the OMG, was discussed. It was informed that the report is a compilation of decisions on technical, specifications, network design, processes and activity that are undertaken by the DTH Committee so far on the execution of DTH programme. The chairman informed that he has recently received the report, since the report is voluminous; some more time is required for him to clear the report. The members authorised the chairman to clear the report as soon as possible for presentation to the PAB for approval.

16. The members on Agenda 11, were briefed that the TEL Bureau has referred to the DTH OMG to reply to a letter (with a reference No. 601/2/1/2014-TS, dated 14th August 2014), received from Under Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat and also forwarding Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of Secretaries (CoS), held on 8th August 2014, at Cabinet Secretariat, on the subject 'More effective use of Space technology based tools in Central Ministries and State Governments'. The Cabinet Secretariat has further requested MHRD that an action taken report may be sent at the earliest and the MHRD to appoint a Nodal Officer and also put in place an administrative mechanism to deal with the matter on priority. The MHRD has in turn requested the DTH OMG to respond the letter.

17 The members deliberated and recommend Mr. Pradeep Kaul, Sr. Consultant and Convener DTH OMG be appointed/designated by the MHRD as 'Nodal Officer, Space Applications' in addition to his duties, who shall be a contact point to deal with issues on application of space in the Department of HE, MHRD. The Members further felt the MHRD should reply on this to the Cabinet Secretariat, stating an administrative mechanism to deal with issues on application of space in Department of HE, MHRD is already in place, since December 2010 and DTH Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.V. Raghavan. The MHRD has an ambitious satellite based application programme and shall soon be launching 50 DTH educational Channels on 24X7 basis using INSAT Satellites.

Since, the quorum was inadequate no agenda other than what was listed was taken up for discussion.

The members thanked the Chair for conduct of productive and meaningful deliberations and for revitalising the DTH programme.

Pradeep Kaul,
Convener, DTH OMG

National Mission on Education through
Information Communication Technology (NME-ICT),
Ministry of Humane Recourse & Development

Agenda

First DTH Operational & Monitoring Group (OMG) meeting
Scheduled at 11:00 Hrs on 4th February 2015
at Room No.112-C wing, Shastri Bhavan New Delhi.

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A. Preamble

- 1) Welcome address by Prof. S.V. Raghavan, Chairman, OMG.
- 2) Confirmation of Minutes of the tenth DTH meeting held on January 9, 2014.

B. Progress so far:

- 3) Introduction on DTH Programme & Developments during past one year by Convener, OMG.
- 4) Brief on Live content generation for 50 DTH Channels, Selection & Running of Courses (1825 courses and 200 institutions), Pedagogy, Management of content delivery, Trainings, Skill development, Vocational Education, Teachers Training, aligning to online formats required for enhancing utility of DTH - by Chairman.

C. Discussion Items

- 5) Discussion on earlier initiatives to advance them by providing funding through Project mode:
 - a. Development of Pedagogy & Scheduling strategy.
 - b. Design & development of Logo's.
 - c. Conduct trainings & workshops at CEC & EMMRC's
 - d. Design and implement Advertisement, promo & Awareness programme
 - e. Design Template & Technical features regarding e-Content development, Language Dubbing & Translation etc.
 - f. Seeding and Strengthening DTH related Activities, Management, Office, Manpower etc.; including advancing the following:
 - (i) To study and design a number of 'Set Top Boxes', suitable for reception of MHRD DTH programme.

- 6) Review of Technical design parameters for setting up of Teaching Ends (TEs) & the Tender process by IIT Madras.
- 7) Deliberate on setting up our own Earth Station versus follow the process to hire a Teleport.
- 8) Discuss progress on project assigned to TCIL, reply to their query and approval on next installment on Teleport Tender.

D. Other related items

- 9) Deliberate remaining DTH Activities, their time-line and Tentative Budget (Recurring and Non-Recurring) on DTH Programme for the remaining XIIth FY Plan.
- 10) Discuss draft 'DTH Report' for submission to PAB by the OMG, regarding decisions, Technical specifications, network design, processes and activity undertaken on execution of DTH programme since DTH Committee constitution by the Apex Committee, NMEICT.

E. General

- 11) With reference to a Cabinet Secretary letter on "more effective use of space technology based tools in Central Ministries and State Governments" reply to their query.
- 12) Any other item(s) with the permission of the Chair.
- 13) Vote of thanks.

ATTENDANCE OF THE MEETING OF “DTH OPERATION & MONITORING GROUP (OMG)” FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF DTH PROGRAMME OF NMEICT.

Date & Time: 4th February 2015 at 11:00 hrs.




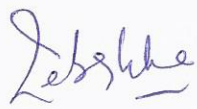



Venue: Conference Room No. 112, C-Wing, MHRD, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

Sl. No.	Name, Designation & Address	Contact Nos.	E. Mail Id
1.	Prof. S.V. Raghavan, Chairman DTH OMG		
2	Prof. Rajbir Singh, Director, CEC	011 2689 7418	
3	Prof. M.P. Poonia, Director NITTTR, Chandigarh	9815575260	Mppoonia11@gmail.com
4	Shri H. Rayappa, Dy. Director, Satcom Appd. ISRO HQ	9845273891	rayappa@isro.gov.in
5.	Representative for VC IGNOU: Shri Iftekhar Ahmed, Director, EMPC, IGNOU, New Delhi-110068	011-29533079 9911109399	director-empc@ignou.ac.in
6.	Shri Pradeep Kaul, Convener DTH OMG	011-23389093	kaulp428@gmail.com
7	Dr. Zeba Khan, EMPC, IGNOU, New Delhi- 110068	011-29573294 9810193361	zebakhan@ignou.ac.in
8	Nageshwar Nath, ME, CEC	9810811644	
9	Shri Vinod Magu EMPC, IGNOU, New Delhi-110068	011-29536137 9810803456	vmagi@ignou.ac.in
10.	Dr. V.V.S. Murthy, Senior Consultant, NMEICT	011-23389093	vvsm@nmeict.ac.in
11.	Dr. C.S. Arora, Senior Consultant, NMEICT	011-23389093	cs.arora@nmeict.ac.in
12.	Devender Kumar, US (TEL) NMEICT	011-23073582 9811844397	

ATTENDANCE OF THE MEETING OF "DTH OPERATION & MONITORING GROUP (OMG)"
FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF DTH PROGRAMME OF NMEICT

Date & Time : 04th February, 2015 at 11:00 hrs



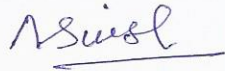


Venue : Conference Room No. 112, C-Wing, MHRD, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Name, Designation & Address	Phone No. Fax & Email	Signature
1.	Prof. S.V. Raghavan	Ph : Mob. No: Email : Fax :	
2.	Iftakhar Ahmed EMPC, IGNOU N-Delhi-68	Ph : 29533079 Mob. No: 9911109399 Email : director-empc@ignou.ac.in Fax : 29533079	
3.	VINOD MAGO EMPC, IGNOU N-Delhi-68	Ph : 29536137 Mob. No: 9810803456 Email : Vmago@ignou.ac.in Fax :	
4.	Dr. ZEBBA KHAN EMPC, IGNOU N-Delhi-68	Ph : 29573294 Mob. No: 9810193361 Email : zebakhan@ignou.ac.in Fax :	
5.	Prof. M. P. POONIA DIRECTOR NITTR, CHANDIGARH	Ph : Mob. No: 9815575260 Email : mppoonia11@gmail.com Fax :	
6.	Dr. V.V.S. MURTY Senior Consultant NMEICT	Ph : 011-23389093 Mob. No: Email : vvsu@nmeict.ac.in Fax :	
7.	Dr C. S. ARORA Senior Consultant (NMEICT)	Ph : 23389093 Mob. No: Email : cs.arora@nmeict.ac.in Fax :	

ATTENDANCE OF THE MEETING OF "DTH OPERATION & MONITORING GROUP (OMG)"
FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF DTH PROGRAMME OF NMEICT

Date & Time : 04th February, 2015 at 11:00 hrs

Venue : Conference Room No. 112, C-Wing, MHRD, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Name, Designation & Address	Phone No. Fax & Email	Signature
8.	Devender Kumar (USCTEL)	Ph : 23073582 Mob. No: 9811844397 Email : Fax :	
9.	Nageshwar Nath ME, OEL	Ph : Mob. No: 9810811644 Email : Fax :	
10.	Prof. Rajbir Singh Dir. CEC	Ph : Mob. No: Email : Fax :	
11.	H. Rayappa Dy. Dir. Satcom Appd. ISRO HQ.	Ph : Mob. No: 9845273891 Email : rayappa@isro.gov.in Fax :	
12.	Prateep Kaul	Ph : Mob. No: Email : Fax :	
13.		Ph : Mob. No: Email : Fax :	
14.		Ph : Mob. No: Email : Fax :	
15.		Ph : Mob. No: Email : Fax :	