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Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

National Mission on Education through Information & Communication
Technology (NMEICT), New Delhi

(Mission Secretariat)

New Delhi, the 12th November, 2009

Sub: Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the Empowered Committee of Experts (Project Approval Board) of the National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology (NMEICT) held on 3rd and 11th September, 2009

A copy of the Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the Empowered Committee of Experts (Project Approval Board) of the National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology (NMEICT) held on 3rd September, 2009 at 3.30 p.m. in Conference Room No.112-C Wing, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi & 11th September, 2009 at 9.30 a.m. at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Higher Education was sent through e-mail to all the Members of Project Approval Board (PAB) on 28th October, 2009 and placed in the 10th meeting of PAB held on 29th October, 2009.

The Minutes of the Ninth Meeting were confirmed by PAB in its Tenth Meeting held on 29th October, 2009 with certain amendments. A copy of the revised Minutes of 9th Meeting of the PAB is sent herewith for information and necessary action.



(Harvinder Singh)
Deputy Secretary (PAE) &
Nodal Officer (NMEICT)
Tele: 011-23382604

Encl: As above.

All Members of Empowered Committee of Experts (Project Approval Board) of NMEICT
(As per list enclosed)

Copy, along with a copy of Minutes, to: Sr.PPS to Secretary (HE) & Chairperson, PAB
and JS(DL)/Member Secretary, PAB – for information.

Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the Empowered Committee of Experts (Project Approval Board) of the National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology (ICT) held on 3rd September, 2009 at 3.30 p.m. in Conference Room No.112-C Wing, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi & 11th September, 2009 at 9.30 a.m. at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Higher Education.

The Ninth Meeting of the Empowered Committee of Experts (Project Approval Board) (PAB) of National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology was held on 3rd September, 2009 at Shastri Bhawan & 11th September, 2009 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Higher Education.

The list of Committee Members who participated in the meeting is at Annexure-I.

Shri R.P. Agrawal, Secretary, Department of Higher Education welcomed all the Members. Thereafter, agenda items were discussed and the following decisions were taken:

Item No. 1:

Chairperson requested all the committee Members to give their comments, if any, on the Minutes of the 8th PAB Meeting. Since no comments were received, the Minutes of the 8th PAB Meeting held on 28th July, 2009 were then confirmed.

Item No. 2:

Mr. N.K. Sinha, JS (DL) & Member Secretary, informed the PAB about the connectivity issue and steps taken for setting up of NMEICT under the National Mission on Education through ICT. The PAB ratified the decision of the chairperson of giving a go-ahead to BSNL and also approved the revised rates of BSNL as contained in their letter No.BSNL/CO/DDG(BB)/72-03/09-Broadband dated 10.8.2009.

Item No.3:

Mr. N.K. Sinha, JS (DL) & Member Secretary highlighted the projects that were presented to the Standing Committee members during its meeting held on 18th and 19th July 2009. The details and appraisal of all the above projects were also provided by the convener of the standing committee i.e. Prof Mangal Sunder, from IIT Madras. The recommendations of the Standing Committee for approval of 11 projects along with presentations were reviewed by the PAB. Based on the recommendations of the Standing Committee, the following proposals were approved by PAB as pilot project.

1. Creating Digital learning environment for design in India – "E-Kalpa". Joint programme in Design by IIT Bombay, NID Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar and Bangalore and IIT Guwahati. Prof. Ravi Poovaiah, Prof. Soumyajit Ghoshal, Prof. D. Baral and Prof. Ravi Mokashi.

Decision: Project is sanctioned for the Pilot at Rs.1.5 crores as recommended by the Standing Committee.

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2. Design of quality assessment tool for evaluation of quality of e-content, Sarat Chandra Babu, C-DAC, Hyderabad

Decision: Project is sanctioned for the Pilot for Rs.36 lakhs as recommended by the Standing Committee.

3. Content distribution on mobile channels by Dr. S. Raju, Dr. S. Merci Shalinie, Dr. S. J. Thiruvengadam, Dr. S. Rajaram and Dr. Md. Mansoor Roomi Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai with overall advice and guidance by Professor S. V. Raghavan, IIT Madras

Decision: Development of low cost access devices is one of the basic components of the Mission programme. It was decided that the above project may be conducted by the Department of Information Technology, Govt. of India for an amount of Rs.40 lakhs for the pilot project.

4. E-content generation and delivery – Management of student-centric Learning by NIT Warangal

Decision: Project is sanctioned for the pilot for Rs. 21 Lakhs for three courses.

5. E-Content application for real-life learning- applications in soft computing and virtual laboratory by Dr. Anupam Shukla, Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management Gwalior.

Decision: Project is sanctioned for the pilot phase for Rs. 14 Lakhs for two courses.

6. Mathematical Sciences without walls by Dr. Ramanujam, Mathematical Sciences Institute, Chennai

Decision: Project is sanctioned for the Pilot for Rs.18.3 lakhs.

The details regarding total cost of the proposal along with a detailed appraisal and the final outcome of each project was provided by Prof. Mangal Sunder, IIT, Madras. It was emphasized by the representatives of Department of Telecom and IIT, Delhi that these details may be provided along with Agenda in future.

However, the following projects were returned for further modifications and clarifications:

1. Creating Accessible study material for print impaired students by Nirmita Narasimhan, Centre for Internet and Society, Bangalore.

The proposal was discussed in detail. However, it was decided that the agency may be asked to provide the intellectual inputs being put by them in the project.

2. Overcoming the Classroom Mile, E-Content in Social Sciences, Higher Education Cell, Centre for the study of Culture and Society in collaboration with INFLIBNET, Hyderabad, Centre for Internet and Society and Bangalore, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata, English and Foreign languages University, Hyderabad.

The above proposal was from an Institution which is not particularly supported by faculty who can create educational contents on their own, a tie up with a Social Science Department of IGNOU is preferred. Funding can be provided to IGNOU for the project after IGNOU and CSCS agree on the model of operations.

3. Creation of Virtual laboratories for VLSI and Embedded Systems jointly with CDEEP, IIT Bombay by Professor Kannan Krishnamoorthy, Nagaland University

PAB was of the view that good broadband connectivity is required for the above project. It was decided by the PAB programmes being run by IIT Delhi/IIT Kharagpur may be attended by the Nagaland University officials for the time being and hence the project was deferred.

4. NPTEL –IGNOU Education program Using NPTEL content and IGNOU's ODEL framework by Professor K. R. Srivathsan, IGNOU, New Delhi

Project was returned for re-submission.

5. NPTEL for Social Sciences and Humanities, presented on behalf of Prof. Rajasekharan Pillai by Dr. Uma Kanjilal, IGNOU, New Delhi.

Project may be put up in the extended PAB meeting to be held on 11.9.2009 along with remaining agenda items.

Due to shortage of time, Agenda item No.4 & 5 could not be taken up in the meeting and it was decided that the same may be put up in the extended PAB meeting to be held on 11th Sept, 2009. However, the following items were taken up in the meeting:

Item No. 6

The PAB approved the proposal for purchase of a Server at an estimated cost of Rs.5 to 7 lakhs.

Item No. 7

PAB approved 1 GBPS Broadband connection for the Sakshat Portal.

Item No. 8

The proposed MOU and SLAs as forwarded by BSNL were discussed in the meeting. It was desired by the PAB that there should not be any clause for arbitration but, in case of any dispute the same may be referred to a Committee of Secretary (Higher Education) and Secretary (DOT) for final decision. In case of disagreement, the matter may be referred to the Cabinet Secretary. The Chairperson of PAB was authorized to take a final decision on the proposed MOU and SLA with BSNL.

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Minutes of the Extended Meeting held on 11th September, 2009:

Item No. 4

The Member Secretary highlighted the projects that were presented to the Standing Committee members during the meeting held on 8th August 2009. The recommendations of the Standing Committee for approval of 8 projects along with Minutes of the meeting and presentations were seen. Based on the recommendations of the Standing Committee meeting held on 8th August, 2009, the following proposals were approved by PAB as Pilot projects:

1. E-Content on training and development modules for managerial and non-managerial personnel by Dr. Saumya Singh and Dr. Pramod Pathak, Indian School of Mines University, Dhanbad.

Decision: PAB noted that the training of teachers and their empowerment with contents and management training is one of the objectives of the mission. Also the content that is being proposed may be considered a vocational development for teachers outside of Dhanbad. PAB approved Rs.6.30 Lakhs.

2. Development of Vocational Educational modules and use of haptic devices: Virtual laboratories in VLSI and embedded systems during 2009-2010 by Dr. Nisha Sarwade of VJTI and Development of Vocational Educational Module and use of Haptic devices : Virtual Laboratories for VLSI and Embedded Systems, Prof. N.P. Maity, Mizoram University, Mizoram.

Decision: PAB approved Rs.1 crore to IIT Delhi as a coordinator for both the above projects based on the recommendation of Standing Committee.

3. Design and Development of Interaction e-content for the subject Digital Image Processing and Machine Vision by Prof. Rajiv Srivastava, ITBHU, Varanasi

Decision: PAB sanctioned an amount of Rs.6.50 lakhs as 50% of the proposed budget of Rs.11.20 lakhs on the basis of the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

4. E-Content generation and Sharing Laboratory by Professor Shishir K. Jha, IIT Bombay along with Professor N. S. Gopalakrishnan, CUSAT, Cochin, Professor V. Ilavarasan, IIT Delhi, Professor Lawrence Liang and Professor Sunil Abraham, Bengaluru and Professor R. M. Sonar, IIT Bombay.

Decision: PAB approved the Pilot project for sanction of Rs.17.16 lakhs based on the recommendation of the Standing Committee. The project is also a collaborative effort and is expected to result in a sharable standard National document on Copyright Act in e-publishing.

5. Content Generation for e-learning on Open Source VLSI and Embedded System Tools by Dr. Ajit Kumar Panda, National Institute of Science and Technology, Orissa.

Decision: Pilot project was sanctioned by the PAB for Rs.7 lakhs to IIT Delhi separately with the recommendation that the PI will join the consortium of curriculum development in VLSI.

6. National Programme on Radio-Enabled Education by Dr. R. Sridhar, Common Wealth Educational Media Centre for Asia, New Delhi.

Decision: PAB approved the pilot project. However, Rs.75 lakhs was sanctioned to IGNOU which will coordinate the programme.

However, the following proposals/projects required some modifications and were returned:

1. Creation of E-content on select courses in Environmental Biotechnology and Communication by Dr. P. Govindaraju, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tamil Nadu.

Pilot project to be sanctioned after specific topics in biodiversity are proposed and the topics for pilot project are identified. The coordinator has been requested to send the modified proposal.

2. Development of Vocational Educational Module and use of Haptic devices : Virtual Laboratories for VLSI and Embedded Systems, Prof. N.P. Maity, Mizoram University, Mizoram.

There is a need to explain the basis of high cost of project asked for. Therefore, IIT, Delhi should review the project to consider making it part of Virtual Lab Project, if it so qualify.

The representative of the Planning Commission emphasized that not only technical but all other institutions/universities/polytechnics also be involved to bring in proposals for e-content generation in their respective areas so that the overall targets of the project are achieved.

Item No.5

The Member Secretary highlighted the projects that were presented to the Standing Committee members during the meeting held on 22nd August 2009. The recommendations of the Standing Committee for approval of 14 projects along with the Minutes of the meeting were discussed at length. Based on the recommendations of the

Standing Committee meeting held on 22nd August 2009, the following proposals were approved by PAB as pilot project.

1. Design and Development of Next Generation e-Content for "Software Reuse by Design Patterns and Frameworks by Dr. Dr Manjari Gupta, Banaras Hindu University, U.P

Decision: PAB approved the project for the pilot and sanctioned for Rs. 7.00 Lakhs.

2. Development of Simplified Conceptual Content for Self-teaching on Advanced Engineering Topics by Profesors V. S. Chakravarthy, G.K. Suraishkumar, Anil Prabhakar, Arunn Narsimhan and Narayanaswamy, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

Decision: PAB approved an amount of Rs.7 lakhs for a course for the pilot project as against the recommendation of Rs.8.75 lakhs by the Standing Committee.

- 3&4 Next Generation e-content for High Performance Computing by Ravi Shankar Singh and E-content for Video Processing by Dr. Sanjay K. Singh, IT BHU, Varanasi.

Decision: PAB approved pilot projects for Rs. 4.75 Lakhs. & Rs. 9.6 Lakhs respectively.

5. Production Management Systems by Dr. T. Radha Ramanan , NIT Calicut, Kerala

Decision: Pilot is sanctioned for Rs.4.00 lakhs as recommended by the SC.

6. E- Content on Numerical Methods by Sawal Kishore Singh, National Institute of Technology, Patna.

Decision: Pilot is sanctioned for Rs.5.00 lakhs.

- 7&8. E-content generation for the courses on Livestock Production and Management by R.M.V.Prasad and e-content generation for the courses on Animal Genetics and Breeding by P.JAYA LAXMI , NTR College of Veterinary Science, Andhra Pradesh.

Decision: Pilot is sanctioned for Rs.16.5 lakhs for both the projects together.

9. NPTEL for Social Sciences and Humanities, presented on behalf of Prof. Rajasekharan Pillai by Dr. Uma Kanjilal, IGNOU, New Delhi.

The proposal was recommended by Standing Committee in their meeting held on 18th & 19th July, 2009. The PAB desired that a presentation be made in the next PAB meeting.



The presentation was made by Prof. Uma Kanji Lal, IGNOU, New Delhi before the PAB.

The Standing Committee had recommended Rs.95 lakhs for 10 courses.

Decision: After discussion, the project was sanctioned by PAB for a Pilot for 17 courses for an amount of Rs.1.44 crore.

However, the following projects required to be reviewed as per the suggestions given by the members of the PAB:

1. Students Self-Exploration through e-Learning Management System and On-Line Database by Prof P Suresh Kumar, Bannari Amman Institute of Technology, Erode.

PAB accepted the recommendations of Standing Committee that project be revised.

2. TECHNOLOGY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF VALUE ADDED PRODUCTS FROM PATCHOULI by Dr. DR. SUNIL KUMAR, CAU, Arunachal Pradesh.

The PI is requested to submit a revised proposal on content creation in his area of research as recommended by the Standing Committee.

3. e-Learning and Web Enabled Laboratories by Prof. Sudhir Agashe, College of Engineering, Pune.

PAB desired that a detailed DPR be submitted containing development of e-learning and other interactive content for practical lab courses so as to decide on the project.

4. Learning by Doing (LBD) based Course Content Development by Dr. Kannan Srinathan and Ms. Sandhya Kode, International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad.

The proposal may be revised and resubmitted as recommended by the Standing Committee.

5. Awareness Building & Publicity Strategy Formulation by Professor Rajanish Dass and Dr. Pradeep Varma, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

The proposal was discussed in the PAB meeting and it was suggested that a small presentation may be made on the project in the next PAB meeting.

6. Development and Deployment of an Efficient Method for Spreading Digital Literacy to Empower Teachers of the Next Generation by Samiran Chattopadhyay, Matangini Chattopadhyay and Tandra Mitra, Jadavpur University.

PAB advised that the project be redone and re-submitted.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**Project Approval Board of National Mission on Education through Information and
Communication Technology (ICT)**

List of Members

S.No.	Name, Designation and Address	Fax Nos.
1.	Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001 Chairperson	
2.	Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001	
3.	Secretary, Planning Commission, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi-110001	23096575
4.	Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110001	23711514
5.	Secretary, Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110001	24363134
6.	Secretary, Department of Space, Lok Nayak Bhawan New Delhi	080-2345328
7.	Adviser/Scientist 'G', SERC Division, M/o Science & Technology, D/o Science & Technology, Technology Bhawan, New Delhi-110016	26602193
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9.	Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee-247667 (Uttarakhand)	1332-273560
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11.	Director, Indian Institute of Technology, P.O. Kharagpur -721302	3222-282000
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14.	Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Bangalore-560012 (Karnataka)	80-23600936
15.	Director, Indian Institute of Science, Hauz Khas New Delhi-110016	11-26582659
16.	Prof. V.N.Rajashekhar Pillai Vice-Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Maidan Garhi, New Delhi	
17.	Prof. Pramod Tandon Vice-Chancellor, North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong (Meghalaya)	
18.	Prof. H.P.Kincha Vice-Chancellor, Visvesvarya Technological University, Belgaum	

Copy also to, along with Minutes:

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19.	Prof. Karmeshu Professor, SCSS,JNU New Delhi-110067
20.	Prof. A K Tripathi Professor in Computer Engineering IT BHU, Varanasi-221005
21.	Mr. Ghanshyam Das, Project Manager, NMEICT Mob: 9810475192
22.	Dr. D.K.Paliwal DEA (DL) MHRD Shastri Bhawan New Delhi
23.	Mr. Mithun Datta System Administrator E-Gyankosh IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi

He is requested to upload the Minutes sent herewith on the SAKSHAT Portal immediately.

Annexure-I

Attendance of Ninth Meeting of the Empowered Committee of Experts (Project Approval Board) of the National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology (ICT) held on 3rd September, 2009 at 3.30 p.m. in Conference Room No.112-C Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi & 11th September, 2009 at 9.30 a.m. at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Attendance of 3rd September, 2009

S.No.	Name, Designation and Address
1	Mr. R.P.Agrawal Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
2	Mr. N.K.Sinha Joint Secretary(DL) Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
3	Mr. Harvinder Singh DS(PAE) & Nodal officer (NME-ICT) Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
4	Mr. Raj Kumar Under Secretary Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
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8	Mr. N.Ravi Shankar Joint Secretary , DIT
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17	Prof. Surendra Kumar DEAN (F&P) Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee Uttarakhand Ph. 01322-285270, Mob: 9897077460 Email: skumar.iitroorkee@gmail.com
18	Prof. K. Mangala Sunder Department of Chemistry, IIT Madras
19	Prof. S. Prasad, Director, IIT Delhi
20	Mr. Ghanshyam Dass, Project Manager, NMEICT Mob:9810475192

Attendance of 11th September, 2009

S.No.	Name, Designation and Address
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2.	Mr. N.K.Sinha Joint Secretary(DL) Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
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9.	Prof. S. Prasad, Director, IIT Delhi
10.	Prof. P K Kalra IIT Rajasthan
11.	Dr. Uma Kanjilal Director, IGNOU, New Delhi

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