

File No.NMEICT(MS)/PAB/17
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

15th December, 2010

To

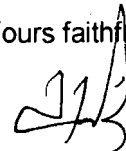
All Members of Project Approval Board of
National Mission on Education through Information
and Communication Technology
(As per list enclosed)

**Sub: Minutes of the 17th Meeting of Project Approval Board of National Mission on
Education through Information and Communication Technology held on 26th
November, 2010**

Sir/Madam,

Enclosed please find Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of
National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT)
held on 26th November, 2010 at 4.00 p.m. in Conference Room (First Floor), Central Secretariat
Library (CSL) Building, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Secretary,
Department of Higher Education for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Harvinder Singh)
Director (TEL) &
Nodal Officer (NMEICT)
Tel: 011-23382604

Copy to:

1. PSO to Secretary (HE)
2. PS to AS&FA
3. AS(TEL)
4. US(TEL)

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

List of Members

S.No.	Name, Designation and Address
1.	Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi <p align="right">Chairperson</p>
2.	Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
3.	Secretary, Planning Commission, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
4.	Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
5.	Secretary, Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110001
6.	Secretary, Department of Space, Lok Nayak Bhawan New Delhi-110001
7.	Dr. A.Mukhopadhyay Adviser/Scientist 'G', SERC Division, M/o Science & Technology, D/o Science & Technology, Technology Bhawan, New Delhi-110016
8.	Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Powai, Mumbai - 400076
9.	Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee-247667 Uttarakhand
10.	Director, Indian Institute of Technology, North Guwahati Guwahati-781039 Assam

S.No.	Name, Designation and Address
11.	Director, Indian Institute of Technology, P.O. Kharagpur -721302
12.	Director, Indian Institute of Technology, P.O. IIT Chennai Chennai -600036
13.	Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur-208016 UP
14.	Director, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore-560012 Karnataka
15.	Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Hauz Khas New Delhi-110016
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
18.	Prof. H.P.Kincha Vice-Chancellor, Visvesvarya Technological University, Belgaum- 590018
19.	Mr. R.P.Agrawal Former Secretary C 1/17, Bapa Nagar New Delhi
20.	Prof. U.B.Desai IIT Hyderabad Ordnance Factory Estate, Yeddumailaram- 502205 Hyderabad Andhra Pradesh
21.	Prof. M.K.Surappa IIT Ropar Nangal Road, Rupnagar (Ropar) Punjab 140001
22.	Prof. Sudhir K. Jain IIT Gandhinagar Room: 112A Western Laboratory Extension Chandkheda, Gandhinagar -382424 Gujarat

S.No.	Name, Designation and Address
23.	Prof. Prem Kumar Kalra Director, IIT, Rajasthan C/o Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur IIIrd Floor, Halicopter Building, Kanpur-208016
24.	Prof. Madhusudan Chakraborty Director, IIT Bhubaneswar Office of the Director Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar Samantapuri (Rearside of Hotel Swosti Plaza) Nandan Kanan Road Bhubaneswar-751 013
25.	Prof. Anil.K.Bhowmik Indian Institute of Technology Patna Navin Government Polytechnic Campus Patliputra Colony Patna 800 013
26.	Shri Pramod Bhasin Chairman, National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), International Youth Centre Teen Murti Marg Chanakyapuri New Delhi 110 021
27.	Dr. Ajay Khare Director School of Planning & Architecture, Transit Campus: Sports Complex, MANIT, Bhopal-462051
28.	Prof. S.G.Deshmukh Director IIIT Gwalior Morena Link Road, Gwalior 474 010
29.	Dr. M.D.Tiwari Director IIIT Allahabad Deoghat, Jhalwa Allahabad

MINUTES OF 17th MEETING OF PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSION ON EDUCATION THROUGH INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY HELD ON 26th NOVEMBER, 2010 AT 4.00 P.M. AT CONFERENCE ROOM (FIRST FLOOR), CENTRAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY (CSL) BUILDING, SHASTRI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI.

The 17th Meeting of the Empowered Committee of Experts (Project Approval Board) (PAB) of National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology was held on 26th November, 2010 at 4.00 p.m. in Conference Room (First Floor), Central Secretariat Library (CSL) Building, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Higher Education.

The list of Members who participated in the meeting is at **Annexure**.

Mrs.Vibha Puri Das, 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 members to give their comments, if any, on the Minutes of the 16th PAB Meeting. No comments were made by anyone present. PAB also took note of the contents of letter dated 19th October, 2010 received from Dr.B.K.Gairola, DG, NIC, requesting for modifications in the minutes of the joint meeting of 2nd National Apex Committee and 16th PAB held on 1st September, 2010. Since the proceedings of the said meeting were video-recorded and the minutes were prepared accordingly and the Department of Higher Education has also now proposed seeking directions of the Cabinet, it was felt that the request Dr.Gairola is not to be taken into account. Thereafter, the Minutes of the 16th PAB meeting held on 1st September, 2010 were confirmed.

Item No.2

Action Taken Report on the Minutes of 16th Meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 1st September, 2010 was noted by PAB. AS(TEL) informed PAB that IIM Ahmedabad has not so far returned the money released to it under one of the projects of NMEICT. PAB then suggested that this could be considered for adjustment while releasing plan grant to IIM Ahmedabad by the bureau concerned in the Department of Higher Education.

Item No.3

Review of Decision-National Programme on Radio Enabled Learning by Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA), New Delhi

Deferred for next meeting of PAB.

Item No.4

The PAB discussed the following proposals.

1. ME24091011361

Developing ICT based pedagogical practices for management accounting, Dr.Manoj Shah

2. **JNE-23091011355**
Network of interoperable distributed institutional repositories in universities and institutions of higher education research and India, Dr.Jagdish Arora, Inflibnet, Gujarat
3. **DE-21091011349**
Development of e-contents on foundation course on analytical biochemistry and separation techniques, Dr.Charmy Kothari, Christ college, Rajkot.
4. **E-Kalpa Creating Digital Environment for Design in India, Ravi Poovaiah, IIT, Bombay**
5. **Robot Enhanced Teaching of Subjects in Engineering Colleges, Prof. Kavi Arya, IIT, Bombay**
6. **Assimilation of Open Source Software in Science and Engineering Education, Prof. Prabhu Ramachandran, IIT, Bombay**
7. **Development of Analysis and Indexing tools for harnessing educational videos, Dr. Gaurav Harit, IIT, Rajasthan**
8. **Development of Low Cost Mobile Robots, Dr. Swagat Kumar, IIT, Rajasthan**

After discussion, the PAB decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposals, especially the financial aspects involved. PAB desired that Standing Committee in its recommendations to PAB should invariably include its specific observations and recommendations with regard to reasonableness of cost estimates for both manpower and the proposed purchases of equipment etc.

Item No.5 & 14

Remote Triggered Virtual Labs

Dr.Ranjan Bose, Co-PI from IIT Delhi made a presentation on the progress made in the project and the funds required for main DPR. He informed that 23 labs have already been developed and 350 plus students have been trained for using virtual labs in the pilot project.

The full project on Simulation based Virtual Labs had already been sanctioned for Rs.80 crores against which IIT Delhi has received first installment of 30% i.e. Rs.24 crores till date. The Co-PI informed that the first installment has been spent and second installment of 40% i.e. Rs.32 crores is required to be released immediately. The PAB also approved that the next installment of 40% may be released to IIT Delhi for the full project, namely, Virtual Labs (Simulation based) sanctioned to it.

Item No.6

National Centre for e-learning,PI: Prof.A.K.Bakhshi

Prof.A.K.Bakhshi made a presentation before PAB, highlighting the various aspects of the proposal.

The PAB discussed the proposal. After discussion, PAB decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposals, especially the financial aspects involved. PAB desired that Standing Committee in its recommendations to PAB should invariably include its specific observations and recommendations with regard to reasonableness of cost estimates for both manpower and the proposed purchases of equipment etc.

Item No.7

Production of Courseware e-content Development, Video Programmes & LORs Consortium for Educational Communication, New Delhi

Dr. Tilak R. Kem, Director, CEC-UGC made a presentation on this proposal, highlighting various aspects of the project.

The PAB discussed the proposal. After discussion, PAB decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposals, especially the financial aspects involved. PAB desired that Standing Committee in its recommendations to PAB should invariably include its specific observations and recommendations with regard to reasonableness of cost estimates for both manpower and the proposed purchases of equipment etc.

Item No.8

Indian Library and Information Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST), Principal Investigator: Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director, INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad

Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director and PI INFLIBNET made a presentation about the project. He informed that 900 colleges have already subscribed for e-journals. Around 4000 colleges will be covered within the next one year.

The PAB noted that Rs.20 crores in two installments have been released to the Director, IIT Delhi who is the Principal Investigator of this project. PAB after deliberations decided that the project should be rigorously reviewed by experts in the area and referred this proposal to Standing Committee for a single recommendation along with reasonableness and justification for the proposed budget of Rs.4000.02 lakhs. It was also decided that the e-books to be procured should be linked to sakshat portal.

Item No.9

Extension of pilot of Vocational modules and Haptic Devices by Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

The representative of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham made a presentation before the PAB highlighting the progress made in the extended pilot phase and the further requirement of funds.

The PAB discussed the proposal. After discussion, PAB decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposals, especially the financial aspects involved. PAB desired that Standing Committee in its recommendations to PAB should invariably include its specific observations and recommendations with regard to reasonableness of cost estimates for both manpower and the proposed purchases of equipment etc.

Item No.10

Approval for release of next installment to NPTEL

The PAB considered the request by the Director, IIT Madras and PI for NPTEL project for release of next installment of Rs.25 crores to the institute.

However, the PAB opined that NPTEL is not functioning as an aid to teachers and self-learning for teachers/students. The Phase-I material developed under NPTEL is a single quadrant product. Dr.Kannan from IIT Bombay informed that all material being generated under Phase-II and Phase-III will be 4-quadrant and efforts are being made even to make Phase-I also 4-quadrant.

The PAB decided that proper justification and more details for demand of Rs.25 crores may be obtained from the PI and the proposal for release of the 3rd Installment be processed on file.

Item No.11

Setting up of a Committee on Communication & Bulk Storage Servers at 100 premier Institutions

The PAB approved setting up a Committee on Communication & Bulk Storage Servers at 100 premier Institutions with the following composition:

1. Prof. Gautam Barua, Director, IIT, Guwahati
2. Prof. S.V. Raghavan, Scientific Secretary to PSA to GOI
3. Dr. Y.N. Singh, IIT, Kanpur
4. Prof. B.N. Jain, IIT, Delhi
5. Prof. Huzoor Sharan, IIT, Delhi
6. Prof. H.M. Gupta, IIT, Delhi
7. Ms. Shakeela T. Shamshu, Joint Adviser, Planning Commission
8. Dr. B.K. Murthy, Director (Scientist "F") and Head, National Knowledge Network, Department of Information Technology, New Delhi
9. Shri R.S. Mani, Sr. Technical Director, National Informatics Centre, CGO Complex, New Delhi
10. Mr. Luv Gupta, Principal Adviser, TRAI
11. Director (Finance), Department of Higher Education, MHRD
12. Representative of Department of Telecommunications, Govt. of India
13. Dr. P.K. Kalra, Director, IIT, Rajasthan - Convener

The PAB also approved the following Terms of Reference:

- a) To identify 100 institutions where communication and bulk storage servers could be installed;
- b) To suggest specifications of such servers;
- c) To suggest manpower needed for maintenance of such servers, along with space where such servers would need to be installed;
- d) To suggest methodology for procurement by the Institutions; and
- e) To suggest group of institutions with Principal Investigator which will anchor the project.

It was also decided that the Committee may co-opt more experts, if needed, for the benefit of Mission and TA/DA, as applicable, may be paid by the Mission.

The Committee will submit its report to Project Approval Board of NMEICT within a period of six weeks from the date of its constitution.

Item No.12**Low cost access-cum-computing device - Status Report**

A presentation on the progress made in this regard by the representative of IIT Rajasthan. PAB took note of the status. The PAB was of the opinion that excise duty exemption, if any, for procurement of low cost devices may be pursued simultaneously.

Item No.13**Providing connectivity to universities & Colleges - Status Report**

Representative of BSNL made a presentation on connectivity provided to universities and colleges. BSNL informed that 136 universities have been connected and it is awaiting consent for payment of universities/beneficiaries share from some universities. With regard to colleges, this number is 9731. AS (TEL) informed PAB that Planning Commission has made provision in this regard in the State Plans. PAB suggested that BSNL may get in touch with Planning Commission and collect relevant document(s) and pursue with State Governments for their consent for meeting 25% or 10%, as the case may be. BSNL also informed that tender process for providing LAN to universities is underway. BSNL reiterated its request for up-gradation of international bandwidth beyond 2 GB. PAB decided that upto 10 GB of international bandwidth can be provided. BSNL however, will utilize according to realistic requirement.

General Observation/Comments of PAB - With regard to making open sources user friendly the example of SCILAB and PYTHON was mentioned by Prof.Kannan of IIT Bombay. It was decided that MHRD may write to Central Educational Institutions and to AICTE for pursuing with the institutions affiliated to it for making use of SCILAB and other Open Source Softwares. It was also decided to request the institutions to explore Open Source Software Solutions before blindly adopting proprietary softwares for their academic, administrative and financial needs.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

Attendance of the 17th Meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of the National Mission on Education through Information & Communication (NMEICT) Technology held on 26th November, 2010 at 4.00 p.m. at Conference Room (First Floor), Central Secretariat Library (CSL) Building, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

S.No.	Name, Designation and Address	Phone No., Fax and Email
1	Ms. Vibha Puri Das Secretary (HE) MHRD, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi	Chairperson
2	Mr. N.K.Sinha Additional Secretary(TEL) Department of Higher Education, MHRD, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi	23387781 nksinha.edu@nic.in
3	Shri Vinayshil Gautam A.AL_Sagar Chair Professor of Management IIT (D) Hauz Khas New Delhi-110016	26591171 (o) 26862620 (f) gautamvinay@hotmail.com
4	Shri Amit Patra Dean (Alumni Affairs And International Relations IIT, Kharagpur	03222-282034 (Ph/Fax) deanaa@hijle.iitkgp.ernet.in
5	Shri R.P Agrawal Chairman BOG IIT, Delhi	9910823311 rpa1949@gmail.com
6	Shri S.K. Roy AS & FA Ministry of Human Resources Development Shastri Bhawan New Delhi	9868886588 skray@nic.in
7	Dr. Harvinder Singh Director (PAE) & Nodal officer (NME-ICT) Department of Higher Education, MHRD, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi	23382604 harvinder.edu@nic.in
8	Shri R. Sagi Kumar DGM (NWP-BB) BSNL Corporate Office New Delhi	9868280066
9	Prof. Kamal Bijlani Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham Kollam Kerala	9447571000 kamal@amrita.edu
10	Prof. Rajan Bose IIT Delhi	9818253072 rbose.iitd@gmail.com

11	Shri Pradeep Kaul Jt Director CEC Aruna Asaf Ali Marg New Delhi-110067	9868274690 kaulp@rediffmail.com
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13	Prof. Kannan Moudgalya Professor IIT Bombay	9869326979 kannan@iitb.ac.in
14	Shri V.M. Gupta Scientist 'D' NKN Division Department of Information Technology	24362115 vm.gupta@nic.in
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