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Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

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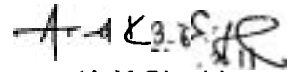
All Members of Project Approval Board of
National Mission on Education through Information
and Communication Technology
(As per list enclosed)

Sub: Mi nutes of the 20th Meeting of Project Approval Board of National
Mission on Education through Information and Communication
Technology held on 2nd May, 2011

Sir/Madam,

Enclosed please find Minutes of the 20th Meeting of the Project
Approval Board (PAB) of National Mission on Education through Information
and communication Technology (NMEICT) held on 2nd May, 2011 at 3.00
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,



(A.K.Singh)
Director (ICT)
Tel: 011-2334276

Copy to:

1. PSO to Secretary (HE)
2. PS to AS&FA
3. PS to 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 Chairperson
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 Science, Hauz Khas New Delhi-I 10016
16.	Prof. V.N.Rajashekhar Pillai Vice-Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Maidan Garhi, New Delhi
17.	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.	<p>Prof.Prem K. Kalra Director, IIT Rajasthan Camp off: MBM engineering college. Residency Road, Jodhpur 342011</p>
24.	<p>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</p>
25.	<p>Prof. Anil.K.Bhowmik Indian Institute of Technology Patna Navin Government Polytechnic Campus Patliputra Colony Patna 800 013</p>
	<p>Shri Pramod Bhasin Chairman, National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), International Youth Centre Teen Murti Marg Chanakyapuri New Delhi 110 021</p>
27.	<p>Dr. Ajay Khare Director School of Planning & Architecture, Transit Campus: Sports Complex, MANIT, Bhopal-462051</p>
28.	<p>Prof. S.G.Deshmukh Director IIIT Gwalior Morena Link Road. Gwalior 474 010</p>
29.	<p>Dr. M.D.Tiwari Director IIIT Allahabad Deoghat, Jhalwa Allahabad</p>

MINUTES OF 20th MEETING OF PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSION ON EDUCATION THROUGH INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY HELD ON 2nd May, 2011 AT 3.00 P.M. IN CONFERENCE ROOM (FIRST FLOOR), CENTRAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY (CSL) BUILDING, SHASTRI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

The 20th Meeting of the Empowered Committee of Experts (Project Approval Board) (PAB) of National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology was held on 2nd May, 2011 at 3.00 p.m. in Conference Room, Central Secretariat Library (CSL), Building, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Higher Education.

The list of participants is at **Annexure**.

Mrs. Vibha Puri Das, Secretary, Department of Higher Education welcomed all the participants. Thereafter, agenda for the meeting was adopted, excepting Agenda Item No.3 on Strengthening Standing Committee of NMEICT (circulated during the meeting) which was withdrawn. Thereafter, the agenda items were discussed and the following decisions were taken:

Item No.1:

Chairperson requested all the members to give their comments on the Minutes of the 19th PAB Meeting. No comments were received. Thereafter, the Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 15th March, 2011 were confirmed.

Item No.2

The Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 15th March, 2011 was noted by the PAB.

Item No.3

Strengthening of the Standing Committee of NMEICT

This item was briefly discussed without any agenda (since this was withdrawn). The PAB deliberated upon the existing procedure being followed by Standing Committee, including the current size of Standing Committee, for scrutinizing the proposals received under the Mission. It

was decided that all the approved procedure would be compiled together and would be circulated to all members of PAB for further discussion in the next PAB meeting.

Item No.4

Low Cost Access-cum-Computing Device – Future Roadmap and Strategy

Dr.Prem K.Kalra, Director, IIT Rajasthan and his colleagues made a presentation on the progress so far made in this regard, highlighting various aspects of LCAD and its timelines for procurements and field trials.

In the said presentation, the representative of IIT Rajasthan, inter-alia, informed about procurement and field testing of these devices for which order has been placed and the devices are to be delivered in the near future. He further informed that the aim is to bring the cost of SoC (System on Chip) down while increasing its functionality.

Item No.5

Directions of PAB in cases where Principal Investigators (PIs) are no longer in the institutions concerned

PAB deliberated on the issue and decided that such cases may first be referred to Standing Committee and its views/comments/recommendations may be placed before PAB for decision. PAB also directed that SC may also explore the possibilities of adjudicating whether Co-PI can carry forward the project in the event of PI leaving the institute. PAB further directed that any person should not be more than 70 years of age to become PI.

Item No.6

Extension of pilot project, namely, Benchmarking of Information and Communication Technology modules in Physics and Chemistry - IIT, Kanpur

Dr.Raj Thareja from IIT, Kanpur presented his case before the PAB and explained the progress so far made and the bottlenecks encountered. He assured completion of the project by 31st March, 2012. PAB decided to extend the project upto 31st March, 2012.

Item No.7

Connectivity to multi-campus universities under NMEICT Scheme

PAB deliberated on this and decided that BSNL/MTNL may provide the connectivity to universities having multi-campus by suitably dividing the overall 1Gbps connectivity, on receipt of formal request, and subject to additional payment by the university concerned. PAB made it clear that Central Government shall not bear any additional cost in this regard. BSNL representatives indicated that the additional payment would be Rs.20 lac per additional campus for the 10 year duration.

Item No.8

Reimbursement of expenses incurred by NIT, Kurukshetra

PAB approved the proposal.

Item No.9

UGC proposal – funding of a new project

Convener, Standing Committee informed PAB that the proposal of UGC needs to be firmed up. While PAB was of the view that there is a need for an over-arching body like UGC to supervise and create e-content, especially in humanities and arts, the expertise needed is also of paramount importance. Therefore, UGC may firm up its proposal and submit the same to the Mission. Planning Commission representative reiterated the need for ensuring that the Mission covers all disciplines including arts, humanities, social sciences and others as laid down in its mandate and avoid the possibilities of over-emphasis on pure and applied sciences and engineering and technology. Hence, it is expected that UGC can play a crucial role in ensuring development of e-content in these disciplines.

Item No.10

Virtual Labs - Remote triggered experiments

Prof. Rgnjan Bose, IIT, Delhi briefly informed PAB of the status. PAB decided that the proposal may first be examined and scrutinized by the Standing Committee and its recommendations may be placed before PAB.

Item No.11

Presentation by BSNL

Shri Anil Jain from BSNL made a presentation, indicating the current status of connectivity to universities and colleges. During the said presentation, it was mentioned that as on date 336 universities have been connected/configured and 11,433 colleges have been connected by BSNL. The representative of BSNL also apprised PAB of the progress of tender evaluation (technical) for providing LAN. It was mentioned that the tender evaluation is near completion and LAN implementation is likely to start in June, 2011 and expected to be completed by December, 2011. Expected deliverables from universities for LAN implementation such as designating Nodal Officers from universities to supervise LAN implementation, survey of LAN component requirements including the nodes and requirement for LAN by the universities were also mentioned during the presentation. Besides these, some difficulties being faced by BSNL with regard to providing connectivity were also mentioned. PAB noted the information provided during the presentation and decided to discuss issues yet to be resolved with the universities by BSNL during the West Zone Meeting of VCs of universities and Directors of NITs.

PAB noted this.

Item No.12

Management Information System (MIS) of NMEICT – A presentation by Prof. Uma Kanjilal, IGNOU

Prof. Uma Kanjilal made a presentation, highlighting various aspects of MIS being developed which include tracking of projects, monitoring and other relevant database creation. PAB decided that this presentation may again be made in the next meeting of PAB.

Additional Agenda

Additional Item No.1

Approval of New Projects recommended by Standing Committee

The items were deferred for the next meeting.

Additional Item No.2

Salary of Consultants

After deliberations PAB approved a consolidated remuneration up to Rs.75,000/- p.m. for senior consultants. PAB further decided that if a pensioner is engaged as Consultant or Senior Consultant etc, his pension will be adjusted as per existing norms.

Additional Item No.3

Office Premises for Mission Secretariat of NMEICT

PAB noted the information and also requested Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU to expedite the matter. VC, IGNOU assured to make available the space for Mission Secretariat of NMEICT at the earliest.

Additional Item No.4

Project awarded to IIT, Kharagpur

PAB felt that this project for developing suitable pedagogical techniques is of unique nature and some kind of relaxation could be considered while applying the norms with regard to payment of honorarium. The 10% project cost cap on total honorarium component for all experts may not be applicable to this project. Additionally, partial payment may be allowed if significant progress has already been made and undertaking for completion is given by the concerned experts. PAB, therefore, decided that extension of the project be granted upto 31st March, 2012. PAB also decided that in no case, three months' salary will be exceeded while making payment on account of honorarium. The release of next installment may be considered on receipt of utilization certificate for the earlier grant and other required documents.

There being no other item, the meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

Attendance of the 20th Meeting of the **Project** Approval Board (PAB) of the National Mission on education through Information & Communication Technology (NMEICT) held on 2nd May, 2011 at 3.00 p.m. **under** the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of **Higher** Education, **Ministry** of Human Resources Development in Conference Room (1st Floor) Central **Secretariat Library (CSL) Building** Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

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