OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Minutes of the 30th Meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT)

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith a copy of minutes of the 30th Meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) held on 28th October, 2015 at 02:00 P.M. under the chairmanship of Secretary (HE) for information & necessary action.

(K. D. Verma)
Under Secretary (TEL)
TEL No. 011-23073582

To,

1. Secretary, Department of Higher Education
2. Representative of Department of Expenditure
3. Representative of NITI Aayog
4. Representative of Department of Telecommunication
5. Representative of Department of Space
6. Representative of Department of Science & Technology
7. Representative of Department of Bio-Technology
8. Representative of the Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation
9. Representative of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
10. Two representatives of Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY)
11. Director, Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneshwar
12. Director, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi
13. Director, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Design & Manufacturing (IIIT) Kancheepuram
14. Director, Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management (IIIT) Gwalior
15. Director, National Institute of Technology (NIT) Jaipur
16. Director, National Institute of Technology (NIT) Agartala
17. One Representative from National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM)
18. One Representative from Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) / Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) / Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)
19. One Representative from Manufacturers' Association for Information Technology (MAIT)
20. Three experts in the area of e-education nominated by the Chairperson:-
   (i) Shri. Gautam Shroff, Vice President & Chief Scientist, TCS Innovation Labs Delhi
   (ii) Prof. Pankaj Jalote, Director, IIIT Delhi
   (iii) Shri. F. C. Kohli, Chairman, CoE, Pune and Founder, TCS
21. Addl. Secretary (TE), Department of HE, Ministry of Human Resource Development
22. JS & FA, Department of HE, Ministry of Human Resource Development
Copy to:

1. Sr. PPS to Secretary (HE)
2. Sr. PPS to AS (TE)
3. PS to JS & FA, M/o HRD
4. PS to Director (TE)
5. PS to DS (ICT)

Copy for information & necessary action to:

1. Project Manager, NMEICT Project.

2. Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Project Coordinator, SAKSHAT Portal, IGNOU – for uploading it on Sakshat Portal
Minutes of the meeting of the PAB dated 28th October 2015

The 30th Meeting of "Project Approval Board" (PAB) of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) was held on 28th October, 2015 at 14:00 hrs, at Conference Room, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of HRD. The list of Members and Invitees, who participated in the meeting is at Annexure-I.

Additional Secretary (TE) and Mission Director (NMEICT) & Member Secretary, PAB welcomed the newly constituted Members of the PAB and informed them about the Agenda in brief. Thereafter, with the permission of the Chair, the Agenda Items were discussed and the following decisions were taken:

Agenda Item No. 1

Confirmation of Minutes of the 29th Meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 20th May, 2015.

Member Secretary, PAB, informed the Members that the "Action Taken Report" on the Minutes of the 29th Meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 20th May, 2015 shall be placed during next PAB meeting.

Agenda Item No. 2

Seeking Approval of Minutes of the Meeting Domain Expert Committee (DEC) on Connectivity, Networking, Communication & Bulk Storage Servers (CNC&S) held on 26th September, 2015.

The PAB approved the "Minutes of the Meeting Domain Expert Committee (DEC) on Connectivity, Networking, Communication & Bulk Storage Servers (CNC&S) held on 26th September, 2015.

Agenda Item No. 2(b)

A presentation by Dr. Neena Pahuja, DG ERNET, Campus Connect & Wi-Fi received from CUs & vetted by the ERNET. Dr. Neena Pahuja, DG & Mr. Meherban Singh, Sr. Director both from ERNET, made a presentation on 'Campus Connect & Wi-Fi' proposals received from CUs & vetted by the ERNET. The Members raised certain questions, to which Dr. Neena Pahuja, replied.
Agenda Item No. 2(c)

Establishment of Hotspot / Wi-Fi Campus Connect at Central Universities.

The Members were briefed based on the recommendations of Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister and the Panel of Secretaries; comprising of Secretary, MHRD; Secretary, Department of Information Technology (DeitY); Secretary, Department of Tele-Communication (DOT) represented by Joint Secretary (DOT) and Director General, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) the MHRD has decided that in the first instance, all Central Universities (CU) shall be established with Hotspot/Wi-Fi connected at their respective campuses. The PAB in principal approved the proposal of establishing Hotspot Wi-Fi in the first instance at CUs.

DG ERNET informed that based on the proposals by the VCs of CUs, the ERNET vetted the proposals by deploying their technical experts to almost all CUs. They stated that based on the recommendations of DEC the total cost for setting up Hotspot/Wi-Fi Campus Connect at 32 CUs has been arrived at as Rs. 281.73 Crores. Apart from these, they have also recommended projects for 4 more CUs amounting to Rs. 32.24 Crores, and also proposed that for CUs of Haryana & Jharkhand, rough projection @ Rs. 8.72 Crores per university has been made. Further adding @Rs.1/- Crore for Server etc., as recommended by the DEC (Rs. 38.00 Crores for 38 CUs), the project cost for setting up Hotspot/Wi-Fi 'Campus Connect' at 38 CUs has been projected at Rs. 369.41 Crores.

The PAB, while considering the proposal of ERNET noted that the full details for the Wi-Fi campus connect project as under were not furnished to the Members, and as such, no decision can therefore be taken on the proposal. PAB decided to call for the following details:

a) **Mapping:** Plotting of the proposed project on the campus map:
   (i) The proposed server location,
   (ii) The pathway of the cabling proposed, (the total length of the cable)
   (iii) The buildings, which are to be provided with Wi-Fi (clearly showing the number of WAPs in each building).

b) **Adequacy:** The total number of students and staff; and the total number of WAPs proposed, the average number of connections per WAP.

c) **Alternatives:** Whether any alternative mode of providing the
Wi-Fi would work out cheaper and easier (like repeater towers).

**d) Permanency:** Whether the facility being created is in permanent campus or temporary campus. Projects prepared on temporary campuses shall be rejected unless there is a possibility of the CU continuing in the temporary campus for at least 5 years.

**e) Economy:** Whether it is for a new set up or replacement of the old set-up. In case of replacement, it must be examined when the old facility was established and if there is adequate justification for the replacement.

The proposal shall be brought before the PAB again after doing a further due diligence.

**Agenda No.2 (d)**

'Modalities for execution of the Wi-Fi Project'.

The PAB approved that the ERNET be asked to prepare RFP in consultation with NMEICT, which can be used for tendering and further ERNET may be asked to submit list of four or more vendors on their panel, who could be asked to take up the job of executing the programme of Campus Wi-Fi in CUs. Remaining issues under this agenda shall be discussed during the next PAB meeting.

**Agenda Item No.3 (a)**

**Appointment of Consultants for Development of SWAYAM Platform.**

In order to develop the IT platform for the SWAYAM project, in consultation with NICSI, a 'Consultant' to draft RFP for selection of 'System Integrator' (who in turn could develop the SWAYAM platform) has been engaged after following the process laid down under the GFR and the process laid down by DEITY. DeitY/NICSI after following due-diligence has accordingly awarded the work to M/s Price Waterhouse Coopers Pvt. Ltd (PwC). M/s PWC have quoted a total Cost of Rs. 24,50,000/- for the execution of the project, with service taxes extra.

NICSI has raised a Performa Invoice of Rs. 29,88,510/- (including service tax & NICSI for Operating Margin) for making payment, as per rules, to M/s PWC for execution of above project.

The PAB approved the engagement of a Consulting firm for drafting RFP to select a System Integrator and the Consultant shall monitor
development of SWAYAM platform, to be completed in 4 months at a cost of Rs. 29,88,510/-.

Agenda No. 3 (b)

To engage a 'System Integrator' for development of SWAYAM Platform.

It has been proposed that the IT platform for the hosting the MOOCs courses under SWAYAM may be developed under the NME-ICT project meeting the cost from the Head "Development of suitable pedagogical methods in eContent". This will help in immediately entrusting the work to the System Integrator to be identified through competitive bidding process.

The PAB approved the above proposal 'in principle' to meet the cost of IT Platform, SWAYAM from NME-ICT funds.

The Members thanked the Chairman, PAB for having conducted a fruitful deliberation.
### ATTNENDACE OF 30th PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD (PAB) MEETING

**Date & Time**: 28th October, 2015 at 14:00 hrs  
**Venue**: Conference Room No. 112, C-Wing, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

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Meeting: 30th PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD (PAB) UNDER NATIONAL MISSION ON EDUCATION THROUGH INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY.

Date/Time: 28th October, 2015 at 14.00 hrs
Venue: Conference Room No.112-C Wing (First Floor), MHRD, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

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