

File No.NMEICT (MS)/PAB/18
Government of India
Ministry of HRD
Department of Higher Education

14th
17th February, 2011

To

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

Sub: Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the Empowered Committee of Experts (Project Approval Board) of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) held on 24th January, 2011.

Sir/Madam,

Enclosed please find Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the Empowered Committee of Experts [Project Approval Board (PAB)] of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) held on 24th January, 2011 at 3.00 p.m. in Conference Room No.112-C Wing, 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: 011-23384276

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 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-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 K. Kalra Director, IIT Rajasthan Camp off: MBM engineering college. Residency Road, Jodhpur 342011
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-751013
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

Copy also to, along with Minutes:

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Chairman
University Grants Commission
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2. Dr. B.K. Murthy
Director & HOD (NKN)
Ministry of Communication & Information Technology
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3. Shri R. Saji Kumar
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MINUTES OF 18TH MEETING OF PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSION ON EDUCATION THROUGH INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY HELD ON 24TH JANUARY, 2011 AT 3.00 P.M. IN CONFERENCE ROOM NO.112-C, SHASTRI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

The 18th Meeting of the Empowered Committee of Experts (Project Approval Board) (PAB) of National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology was held on 24th January, 2011 at 3.00 p.m. in Conference Room No.112-C Wing, 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 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 17th PAB Meeting. No comments were received. Thereafter, the Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 26th November, 2010 were confirmed.

Item No.2

The Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 26th November, 2010 was noted by the PAB.

However, it was felt that there is an urgent need to popularize the Mission. AS (TEL) apprised PAB that IIM Ahmedabad has not yet refunded the money sanctioned to it. Since IIM Ahmedabad is not getting any grant from Ministry of HRD, the institute may be once again advised to refund the money with interest. This was accepted by PAB.

Item No.3

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

Deferred for the next meeting.

Item No.4.

Development of Analysis and Indexing tools for harnessing educational videos, PI, Gaurav Harit IIT, Rajasthan (Control Number **GRE01091011292**)

This item was placed before the Project Approval Board in its 17th Meeting held on 26th November, 2010. The **PAB** had decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposal, especially the financial aspects involved.

The projects was re-evaluated by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 4th December, 2010. This agenda item was, therefore, again placed before the **PAB** with the recommendations of Standing Committee. **PAB** considered this item and approved Rs.32.45 lakhs for this project.

Shri R.P.Agrawal, Member, **PAB** also suggested that in the recommendations of the Standing Committee it should be expressly mentioned as to what exact benefit would be derived out of the project so recommended to **PAB**.

Item No.5

Development of Low Cost Mobile Robots- Robotics for Education: **Swagat** Kumar, IIT Rajasthan **Control** Number **SIN19061010920**

This item was placed before the Project Approval Board in its 17th Meeting held on 26th November, 2010. The **PAB** had decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposal, especially the financial aspects involved.

The projects was re-evaluated by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 4th December, 2010. This agenda item was, therefore, again placed before the **PAB** with the recommendations of Standing Committee. **PAB** considered this item and approved Rs.155.80 lakhs for this project.

Item No.6

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

This item was placed before the Project Approval Board in its 17th Meeting held on 26th November, 2010. The **PAB** had decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposal, especially the financial aspects involved.

The projects was re-evaluated by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 4th December, 2010. This agenda item was, therefore, again placed before the PAB with the recommendations of Standing Committee. PAB considered this item and approved Rs.5.40 crores (30% of Rs.12 crores and 30% of Rs.6.50 crores) for this project.

Item No.7

E-Kalpa Creating Digital Environment for Design in India, Ravi Poovaiah, IIT, Bombay

This item was placed before the Project Approval Board in its 17th Meeting held on 26th November, 2010. The PAB had decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposal, especially the financial aspects involved.

The projects was re-evaluated by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 4th December, 2010. This agenda item was, therefore, again placed before the PAB with the recommendations of Standing Committee. PAB considered this item and approved Rs. 650 lakhs for the first year and Rs.198 lakh (approximately one third of Rs. 595 lakhs) for the second year for this project.

Item No.8

Robot Enhanced Teaching of Subjects in Engineering Colleges, Prof. Kavi Arya, IIT, Bombay

This item was placed before the Project Approval Board in its 17th Meeting held on 26th November, 2010. The PAB had decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposal, especially the financial aspects involved.

The projects was re-evaluated by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 4th December, 2010. This agenda item was, therefore, again placed before the PAB with the recommendations of Standing Committee.

PAB considered this item and approved Rs. 127.82 lakhs for the first year and Rs. 78.21 lakh (approximately one third of Rs. 234.64 lakhs) for the second year.

Item No.9

Approval of Pilot projects recommended by the Standing Committee

This item was placed before the Project Approval Board in its 17th Meeting held on 26th November, 2010. The PAB had decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposal, especially the financial aspects involved.

The projects was re-evaluated by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 4th December, 2010. This agenda item was, therefore, again placed before the PAB with the recommendations of Standing Committee. PAB considered this items and approved the following pilot projects as per details given below:

- 9.1. Developing ICT based pedagogical practices for management accounting, Dr.Manoj Shah
Control No.ME24091011361**

Rs. 7 lakh for one pilot.

- 9.2. Development of e-contents on foundation course on analytical biochemistry and separation techniques, Dr.Charmy Kothari, Christ college, Rajkot.
Control No. DE-21091011349**

Rs. 7 lakh for one pilot.

PAB also approved that grant-in-aid for the above mentioned two pilot projects (9.1 and 9.2) will be routed through Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar.

PAB also considered the following Pilot projects recommended by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 9th October, 2010:

- 9.3. e-content of zoology experiments. Z-101 (Earlier proposed name of the project Virtual laboratory for Zoology), Dr. Nikunj Bhatt, V.P& R.P.T.P Science College. Vallabh Vidyanagar. Anand, Gujarat.**

Control No.:DE-18091011346

PAB approved Rs.7 lakhs for this pilot project and also approved that grant-in-aid for this project will be routed through Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar.

9.4. Development of e-Contents for Foundation Course on Pharmaceutical Microbiology, Dr. Navin R. Sheth, Department of pharmaceutical sciences, Saurashtra University, Rajkot

Control No. DE-24091011360

PAB approved Rs.7 lakhs for this pilot project and also approved that grant-in-aid for this project will be routed through Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar.

Item No.10

Assimilation of Open Source Software in Science and Engineering Education, Prof. Prabhu Ramachandran, IIT, Bombay

This item was placed before the Project Approval Board in its 17th Meeting held on 26th November, 2010. The PAB had decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposal, especially the financial aspects involved.

The projects was re-evaluated by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 4th December, 2010. This agenda item was, therefore, again placed before the PAB with the recommendations of Standing Committee.

Prof. Kannan Moudgalya made a presentation on this project and explained the various aspects of this project.

PAB considered this item and approved Rs. 192.5 lakhs for the first year and Rs. 126 lakh (one third of Rs. 378 lakhs) for the second year.

PAB also directed that identification of commercial softwares for which open source equivalents need to be developed on priority basis will be one of the additional deliverables for this project.

Item No.11

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

This item was placed before the Project Approval Board in its 17th Meeting held on 26th November, 2010. The PAB had decided to refer the matter to Standing Committee with the direction to have re-look at the proposal, especially the financial aspects involved.

The projects was re-evaluated by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 4th December, 2010. This agenda item was, therefore, again placed before the PAB with the recommendations of Standing Committee.

PAB considered this item and approved extended pilot project at a cost of Rs.159.23 lakhs and also approved the first installment as Rs.90 lakhs. The balance would be released after assessing the performance, possibly after 3 months.

Item No.12

Strengthening of Mission Secretariat

Deferred for the next meeting.

Item No.13

Salary of Senior Consultants

PAB considered this matter. AS&FA was of the view that salary of senior consultants may be regulated as per the current norms fixed by EdCIL (India) Limited. Prof. Surendra Prasad, Director, IIT, Delhi was of the view that a Professor level person is unlikely to come less than Rs.75,000/- per month as Senior Consultant. PAB, after deliberations, decided to have this matter internally discuss in MHRD in the first instance.

Item No.14

Hiring of Accommodation for Mission Secretariat

PAB was apprised of the status of this matter.

PAB, after deliberations, directed that fresh tenders may be floated in this regard. PAB also authorized the Chairperson, PAB to take a decision for hiring of accommodation for Mission Secretariat of NMEICT which could be ratified by the PAB later on.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Additional Item No.1

Developing suitable pedagogical methods for various classes, intellectual calibers and research in e-learning, IIT Kharagpur

Prof.Anup Kumar Ray from IIT, Kharagpur explained before PAB the difficulties being experienced by him in getting the work done by the various experts, especially in view of the conditions relating to payment of honorarium in respect of this project. He also requested PAB for exemption from these conditions in respect of this project in which intellectual inputs of various experts is of paramount importance. PAB, after deliberating on the issue, took note of the payments made in

this regard. AS(TEL), however, said that MHRD is trying to resolve this matter in consultation with Ministry of Finance. As indicated by IFD, MHRD has been mentioning the provision of SR 12 relating to payment of honorarium. He also suggested that MHRD could also perhaps include this issue in the Cabinet Note which MHRD is preparing.

Additional Item No.2

Standing Committee Members to take over the job of Consultant/Coordinator

PAB considered this proposal and decided that individual proposals like this one need not be placed before the PAB. The proposals of generic nature need to be put up before the PAB. PAB, therefore, directed to undertake a detailed exercise in this regard and a concrete and generic proposal keeping in view the overall objectives of NMEICT may be brought forward and placed before PAB.

Additional Item No.3

e-content Development of Marketing Management

SUBMITTED BY :- Jaydeep Badiyani

Institute: Bhavnagar University

CONTROL NUMBER :- JE-20071011105

Deferred for next meeting.

Additional Agenda Item No.4

e-Content generation for students of science in graduate programmes.

ME-24091011358

Dr.Mandira Sikdar, Navrachna University, Vadodara, Gujarat.

Deferred for next meeting.

TABLE AGENDA

Table Agenda Item No.1

Plea of CMD, EdCIL for increasing of consultancy fee

PAB considered the proposal of EdCIL (India) Limited sent vide letter No.CMD/NMEICT/2009/110 dated 11th January, 2011 for increase of service charges/consultancy fee. After deliberations, PAB noted that EdCIL had voluntarily accepted 5% service charges at the time of signing of service agreement with MHRD. In view of this there appears to be no need at this juncture for raising the service charges beyond 5%. However, PAB directed that this matter may be discussed internally in MHRD in the first instance and a dialogue with EdCIL at appropriate level may be also be undertaken so as to clearly understand the logic and justification for sending such a proposal to MHRD.

Table Agenda Item No.2

PAB considered the proposal of Chairman, UGC submitted to PAB vide DO No.F.3-1/2011(CM) dated 13th January, 2011. This proposal is subsequent to the discussions held on 18th December, 2010 regarding possible role and contribution of UGC and its Inter-University Centres (IUCs) in NMEICT. Chairman, UGC presented this proposal before PAB and expressed his willingness to undertake a bigger role for UGC in e-content generation under NMEICT. The UGC proposes to take up the task of content creation, up-dation, hosting and delivery using expertise available in universities and colleges in collaboration with its IUCs.

During the presentation, Chairman, UGC indicated that UGC is currently revising and updating some contents of curriculum/syllabus of some courses. He also stated that UGC could also consider more than 32 subjects for e-content generation. After detailed deliberations on the proposal of UGC PAB gave it's "In-principle" approval to the proposal of UGC and requested Chairman, UGC to submit a concrete and specific proposal indicating activities to be undertaken, objectives, deliverables, scaling up, popularizing and extension of activities and plans, review by the peer group, user validation capital and revenue expenditure, cost benefit analysis, social impact, outcome, roadmap, time-lines and financial requirements. It was also noted that no financial costing for e-contents was given in the said proposal.

With regard to involving INFLIBNET in this project, Dr. Jagdish Arora made the presentation before PAB. While noting this, PAB desired that such revision/updation of contents may go parallel to the creation of e-contents.

Thereafter, Shri Jagdish Arora, Director, INFLIBNET Ahmadabad made a presentation about the project – **National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)**. He also submitted revised budget as per suggestions given by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 15.1.2011. Prof. Kannan Moudgalaya, Chairman, Standing Committee, NME-ICT also presented the proposal for the N-LIST project along with revised budget estimates. He mentioned that the two major objections raised by the members of Standing Committee as well as by the PAB were resolved by the Pls. The proposal for N-LIST has now been revised to increased number of beneficiary institutions both for cross subscriptions as well as in terms of number of colleges that can access electronic resources. It was mentioned that N-LIST project will now benefit more than 4,000 colleges by the end of March 2012, 34 technical institutions and 100 universities under the cross-subscription arrangements. After getting satisfactory answer of purchase of electronic books on "one-time payment and perpetual access basis" and alternative resources under the NLIST Programme, the PAB approved purchase of electronic books on subscription basis as well as on perpetual access basis both for the previous financial year as well as for the current financial year. The total budget approved for the project is Rs.4011.50 lakhs. Since most of the amount is to be used for subscription of electronic resources and is payable in January-March, 2011, it was resolved that the entire amount may be released as soon as possible. PAB, taking note of various aspects of the proposal, approved a total amount of Rs.40.115 crore to be released to IIT, Delhi for this project. PAB also suggested that efforts may be made to cover all centrally funded institutions under N-LIST project.

Presentation

- Shri R.Saji Kumar from BSNL made a presentation on connectivity to universities and colleges under NMEICT and inter-alia apprized PAB of the current status in this regard. 185 universities and more than 10,000 colleges were reported to have been connected with 1 Gbps and 51482 VPN connections respectively.

Other Issues

PAB also made the following suggestions:

- For popularizing the Mission, constant touch with State Governments/Universities/Institutions at least by sending say one letter a month should be maintained.
- For Logo and jingles of NMEICT, some universities may be asked to conduct a competition in this regard.
- Suitable tickers about NMEICT on e-gyan channel run by IGNOU may be considered.
- For media strategy for creating awareness about NMEICT, proposals from Delhi based institutions such as Jamia Millia Islamia may be invited.
- For creating awareness about NMEICT, MHRD may consider making of posters, of suitable size, containing objectives of NMEICT and sending these posters to UGC for onward transmission to all universities/colleges.
- The lists of universities to be covered under NMEICT and NKN may be sent to all Members of PAB.
- Details of clear-cut Deliverables and time-lines of the projects approved by PAB may be enclosed as an Annexure to the sanction letter while releasing the grant-in-aid.
- A strategy for performance audit of the project sanctioned under NMEICT may be formulated and discussed in the next PAB.
- Efforts may be made to know the per student cost/per rupees mileage in a given project. This may also be added in the 10-point Appraisal Format of Standing Committee.
- Mission Secretariat may be strengthened to maintain data-base of various activities of NMEICT.
- Information may be collected as to how many institutions are actually using the resources made available under N-LIST.
- Key areas may be identified in which e-books are to be purchased and its enlisting will also be done under N-LIST.
- The manpower in the MHRD dealing with NMEICT may be augmented suitably in view of increase in workload.
- A representative from UGC may also be requested to attend the meeting of VCs and Directors, NITs to be held on 28th Jan, 2011.
- Mechanism for getting feedback from universities on connectivity matters under NMEICT may be put in place urgently.

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

Attendance of the 18th Meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of the National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology (NMEICT) held on 24th January, 2011 at 3.00 p.m. under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resources Development in Conference Room No.112-C Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

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