


F.No. 16-56/2009-DL
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

New Delhi, the 4th May, 2009

Subject : Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (ICT) - regarding

A copy of the minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (ICT), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, held on 20th April, 2009 at 3.30 p.m. in Conference Room No. 112-C Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Higher Education, is sent herewith for information and necessary action.


(Harvinder Singh)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel.No.23382604

All members of the Project Approval Board of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (ICT) [As per list enclosed]

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

Copy, with a copy of Minutes, also to:-

1. Shri Amitabh Bhattacharya
Principal Adviser (Education)
Planning Commission
New Delhi
2. Shri Furqan Qamar
Adviser (Education)\
Planning Commission
New Delhi



3. Shri R. Chandrashekhar,
Special Secretary,
Department of Information Technology,
Electronics Niketan, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi
4. Shri N. Ravi Shanker,
Joint Secretary,
Department of Information Technology,
Electronics Niketan, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi.
5. Shri Subodh Kumar,
Additional Secretary,
Department of Telecommunications,
Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi
6. Shri S. Mohan,
Director (Finance),
Ministry of Human Resource Development,
New Delhi
7. Ms. Shakila Shamsu,
Joint Adviser (Edn),
Planning Commission,
New Delhi
8. Shri A.K. Singh,
DDG (TPF),
Department of Telecommunications,
Sanchar Bhawan,
New Delhi.
9. Dr. S.K. Saxena,
Director/T,
Department of Telecommunications,
Sanchar Bhawan,
New Delhi.
10. Shri A.R. Sinha,
Director (Bgt),
Department of Telecommunications,
Sanchar Bhawan,
New Delhi
11. Prof. Ajay Chakraborty,
Dean (CE),
Indian Institute of Technology,
Kharagpur.
12. Dr. Prem K. Kalra,
Professor,
Indian Institute of Technology,
Kanpur

13. Shri Ranjan Bose,
Professor, Deptt. of EE,
Indian Institute of Technology,
Delhi

14. Prof. K. Mangala Sunder,
Professor, Chemistry and
NPTEL Coordinator,
Indian Institute of Technology,
Madras,
Chennai.
- 15.. Shri Kannan Moudgalaya,
Head, CDEEP,
IIT, Bombay.
16. Shri Ratnajit Bhattacharjee,
Associate Professor,
Department of ECE,
IIT, Guwahati,
Assam

17. Shri Kushal Sen,
NPTEL Video Coordinator,
IIT, Delhi
18. Dr. C.S. Kumar,
Associate Professor,
Medical Engineering Department,
IIT, Kharagpur
- 19.. Dr. Kavi Arya,
Associate Professor,
CSE Department,
IIT, Bombay, Mumbai
20. Shri Krishnashree Achuthan,
ECE Department,
Amrita University
21. Prof. Joseph John,
EE Department,
IIT, Kanpur
22. Ms Jayanti Sivaswamy,
IIIT, Hyderabad,
Centre for IT in Education
In Visual Information Technology,
Hyderabad
23. Dr. Bikash Mohanty,
Professor,
Department of Chemical Engineering,
IIT, Roorkee

24. Dr. P. Venkat Rongon,
Vice Chancellor,
Amrita University, Coimbatore
-
25. Shri Kamal Bijlani,
Head, E-learning Initiative,
Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham,
-
26. Shri C.M. Markan,
Reader,
Dept. of Physics & Com. Science,
Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra.
27. Dr. Soami P. Satsangee,
Reader, USIC,
Dept. of Physics & Com. Science,
Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra.
28. Shri Raghu Raman,
Amrita University
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**Project Approval Board of National Mission on Education
through Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**

List of Members

1. Secretary,
Department of Higher Education,
Chairperson
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. (Fax No. : 23096575)
4. Secretary,
Department of Telecommunications
Sanchar Bhawan,
New Delhi. (Fax No.23711514)
5. Secretary,
Department of Information Technology
Ministry of Communication and Information Technology,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi. Fax No.24363134)
6. Secretary,
Department of Space,
Lok Nayak Bhawan,
New Delhi. (Fax No. 080-2345328)
7. Dr. A. Mukhopadhyay
Adviser/Scientist 'G', SERC Division,
M/o Science & Technology, D/o Science & Technology,
Technology Bhawan,
New Delhi - 110 016. (Fax No.26602193)
8. Director,
Indian Institute of Technology,
Powai
Mumbai-400076 (Fax No. 91-22-2572354)

9. Director,
Indian Institute of Technology,
Roorkee-247667
Uttarakhand) (Fax No.91-1332-273560)

10. Director,
Indian Institute of Technology,
North Guwahati (Fax No.361-2690762)
Guwahati-781039(Assam) (Fax No.361-2692321)
11. Director,
Indian Institute of Technology,
P O Kharagpur-721302 (Fax No.3222-282000)
12. Director,
Indian Institute of Technology,
PO IIT,
Chennai -600036 (Fax No.44-22578003)

13. Director,
Indian Institute of Technology (Fax No.512-2597790)
Kanpur-208016 (U.P) (Fax No.512-2590260)
14. Director,
Indian Institute of Science,
Bangalore-560 012
Karnataka (Fax No.080-23600936)
15. Director,
Indian Institute of Technology,
Hauz Khas,
New Delhi-110 016 (Fax No.26582659)

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MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD (PAB) OF THE NATIONAL MISSION ON EDUCATION THROUGH INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) HELD ON 20TH APRIL, 2009 AT 3.30 P.M IN CONFERENCE ROOM NO. 112-C WING, SHASTRI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI UNDER THE CHAIRPERSONSHIP OF SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The fourth meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (ICT) was held at 3.30 P.M on 20th April, 2009 in the Conference Room No. 112-C Wing Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Higher Education. The list of participants is at Annexure-I. Shri R.P. Agarwal, Secretary, Higher Education welcomed all the members and appreciated the good work being done by the members of the Committees formed by the PAB under the centrally sponsored scheme of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology and, thereafter, agenda items were discussed and the following decisions were taken:

Item No. 1 To confirm the minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 25th March, 2009 and to note the action taken thereon

Discussions were held on the minutes of the third meeting of Project Approval Board held on 25/03/2009. It was noted by the representative of Department of Telecom (DoT) that the Due Diligence for implementation of connectivity to more than 18,000 colleges and 450 Universities could be done only with the help of Ministry of HRD as DoT does not have the machinery in place. Also, individual operators and service providers in local regions throughout the country needed to be sensitized to the varying needs of local institutions. In response to this observation, the Secretary noted that a Due Diligence Committee would be set up for this purpose and proposed that DoT's representative be part of the same committee, for which, Table Agenda was being placed before the Board. Thereafter, the minutes of the third meeting were approved by the members.

Item No. 2 Ratification of the six proposals approved by Chairman, PAB pursuant to authorization by PAB in its meeting held on 25th March, 2009

In view of the short time before the end of the last financial year, the PAB had formally authorized the Chairman to approve Standing Committee's recommendations on the selection of projects on 28th March, 2009. The Chairman expressed his satisfaction with the Standing Committee's work and requested the PAB for ratification. He also requested the standing committee to provide the list of experts who were contacted for the review of the six pilot project proposals. He desired that henceforth, the minutes/recommendations of the Standing Committee should also indicate the names of those domain experts who were

consulted by the Standing Committee in respect of each of the Project proposals considered by it. The PAB ratified the sanction of six projects.

Item No. 3 To consider and approve the recommendations of the Standing Committee meeting to be held on 20th April, 2009 at 10.30 a.m.

The following four projects which had been submitted to the Mission were recommended by the Standing committee which met in the morning of 20th April, 2009 in Room No. 112-C Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi. Due to the very short time between the two meetings, the detailed minutes of the Standing Committee meetings would also be circulated to all the PAB members by e-mail. Upon receipt of the same, the Chairman agreed to consider sanctioning the recommendations of the Standing Committee:-

Sl. No.	Project	Institute	Duration	Amount
1.	Content generation for undergraduate courses in Agricultural Entomology	CSR Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Palampur, Himachal Pradesh	One year Pilot project	25.00 lakh
2	Use of open source software for teaching Mathematics	Bhaskaracharya Prathishtana, Pune	One year	33.85 lakh
3	The following two projects which were recommended by the Standing committee for sanction were suggested by the Chairman for integration with the NPTEL Programme as both NiT and other eminent university faculty could well contribute to NPTEL content generation. Hence, he suggested that they may be sanctioned only if the methodology of these programmes were quite different from those adopted by NPTEL. The two projects are:			
A	E-book on Material Science and Engineering	IIT, Kanpur	One Year	32.21 lakh
B	E-book on Sinusoidal Oscillators	NIT, Calicut	1.5 years	5.00 lakh

Table Setting up of Due and Diligence Committee
Agenda

Table agenda as at Annexure-II was approved.

Other Items:

Thereafter, general issues of importance were discussed.

1. It was suggested by the PAB members that the current proposal review mechanism followed by the Standing Committee be strengthened by including other external domain experts wherever necessary. It was decided to include the names of the following experts in the standing Committee:

- (i) Prof. Sadanand More, Pune University
- (ii) Prof. Jaishree Shinde, SNDT

The Chairman also desired that the Standing Committee should examine all the proposals submitted so far before taking up further proposals for consideration. It was also suggested by a member that the projects be so chosen in future so as to represent a wide participation from all parts of the country and also as many disciplines as possible.

2. It was also felt that the proposal may be taken up for consideration on the first come first serve basis for transparency.

3. It was also decided that the projects which are to be sanctioned after due recommendation of the PAB may be put on the website and actual release of grant to these projects should be released only after waiting for sometime so that views expressed by the public were taken into account before the final release of grant. It was also decided that IITs namely IIT-Delhi, IIT-Kanpur, IIT-Kharagpur, IIT-Chennai, IIT-Mumbai, IIT-Guwahati, IIT-Roorkee and IISc-Bangalore may hold workshops of the institutions, colleges, Universities in their catchment area with a view to disseminate the objectives and needs of the Mission and seek projects from the participating stakeholders. Decision was also taken to provide Rs. 2 lakhs to each of these institutions for holding these workshops.

4. An issue was raised by Prof. Surender Kumar, Director, IIT, Delhi with regard to further disbursement of the money received by the Principal Coordinators of the institutions from the Ministry under National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology. Director, IIT, Delhi wanted an authorization in this regard from the Ministry. Mission Director informed that all these issues might be decided through consensus amongst the partners and if consensus was not found possible, the decision may be taken by the Leader of the project. In case of difficulty, the issues may be raised with PAB for final decision.

5. It was also decided that the final utilization certificate in respect of the grant released by the Ministry shall be furnished by the Principal Coordinator i.e. Project Leader to the Ministry.

6. It was also decided that the purchase procedure as was being followed in IITs might be followed in the projects being approved under the National Mission.

7. The representative of the Planning Commission mentioned that as far as possible, each project should highlight its importance. To this, Chairman, PAB agreed and further desired that the Standing Committee may apprise the Project Coordinators/proposers that they should mention in each project about the following:-

- (i) Time frame of completion of the project
- (ii) Outcome of the project
- (iii) Overall benefit which will accrue to the Mission

8. The Standing Committee was also asked to prioritize the areas and the extent of grants to be released for every area during the current financial year keeping in view the total budgetary allocation of Rs.. 552 crores for the current financial year.

9. It was decided that all institutions be told as to what they would get under the National Mission.

10. After completion of consideration of 151 projects received so far, the Standing Committee should identify activities where sufficient number of project proposals have either not been received or not been sanctioned and then make efforts to encourage experts in those areas to submit worthwhile proposals so that all the Mission- activities get covered holistically.

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

List of Participants

1. Shri R.P. Agrawal, Secretary (HE), Ministry of Human Resource Development
2. Shri N.K. Sinha, Joint Secretary (DL), Ministry of Human Resource Development
3. Shri S.Mohan, Director(Finance), Ministry of Human Resource Development
4. Ms. Shakila Shamsu, Joint Adviser (Education), Planning Commission
5. Shri J.S. Deepak, Joint Secretary (Telecom), Department of Telecommunication
6. Shri N.Ravi Shanker, Joint Secretary, Department of Information Technology
7. Shri Sudhir Kumar Saxena, Director (Telecom), Department of Telecommunication
8. Dr. B.K. Murthy, Director, Department of Information Technology,
9. Shri S.C. Saxena, Director, IIT-Roorkee
10. Shri S.Prasad, Director, IIT-Delhi
11. Shri Ajay Chakraborty, Dean (CE), IIT-Kharagpur
12. Shri Kannan Mondgalya, Head, CDEEP, IIT-Bombay
13. Shri Shishir K. Jha, Associate Professor, Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management, IIT-Bombay
14. Shri R.K. Thareja, Deputy Director, IIT-Kanpur
15. Shri P.S. Robi, Dean (R&D), IIT-Guwahati
16. Shri R.K. Shevgaonkar, Dy. Director, IIT-Bombay
17. Dr. Y.N. Singh, ASP, EE/ACES, IIT-Kanpur
18. Shri K. Mangala Sunder, Professor (Chemistry), IIT-Madras
19. Shri Harvinder Singh, Deputy Secretary (Technical), Department of Higher Education

Table agenda

Item No 1 - Setting up of Due and Diligence Committee

It is propose to set up a Due and Diligence Committee to make recommendations with regard to selection of service providers for providing broadband/VPN connectivity to educational institutions of higher education throughout the country in connection with the Mission Document of the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology.

It is proposed that the Committee may comprise of the following:

1. Prof. Gautam Barua, Director, IIT, Guwahati
2. Prof. S.V. Raghavan, IIT, Madras
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. Shamsu, 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. Representative of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
11. AS & FA, MHRD
12. Representative of Department of Telecommunications, Govt. of India
13. Dr. P.K. Kalra, Professor, IIT, Kanpur – Convener