File No.NMEICT(MS)/Apex/2-PAB/16 Government of India Ministry of Human Resource Development Department of Higher Education

30th September, 2010

To

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

Sub: Minutes of the Second Meeting of the National Apex Committee and 16th Meeting of Project Approval Board of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology held on 1st September, 2010 at 10.30 a.m.

Sir/Madam,

Enclosed please find Minutes of the Second Meeting of the National Apex Committee and 16th Meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology held on 1st September, 2010 at 10.30 a.m. at Committee Room-B, Vigyan Bhavan Annexe, New Dethi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

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

Copy to:

- 1. PS to HRM
- 2. PS to MOS (HRD)
- 3. PSO to Secretary (HE)
- 4. PS to AS
- 5. AS&FA
- 6. JS(DL)
- 7. US(DL)

National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT)

List of National Apex Committee Members

SI. No	Name, Designation and Address
1	Sh. Kapil Sibal
	Minister for Human Resource Development
	Chairman,
	Department of Secondary and Higher Education
	Dr. Rajinder Prasad Road, Shastri Bhawan,
	New Dethi-110001
2	Mrs Vibha Puri Das
	Secretary
	Department of Secondary and Higher Education
	Dr. Rajinder Prasad Road, Shastri Bhawan,
	New Delhi-110001
3	Smt. Sushma Nath
	Secretary Ministry of Finance
	Ministry of Finance.
	Department of Expenditure,
	128 C, North Block
4	New Delhi- 110001
4	Shri Rentala Chandrasekhar,
	Secretary, Department of Information Technology,
	Ministry of Communication and Information Technology,
	CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
	New Delhi
5	Shri P.J. Thomas
	Secretary,
	Department of Telecommunications,
	20, Ashoka Road, Sanchar Bhawan,
	New Delhi-110001
6	Ms. Anshu Vaish
_	The Secretary,
	Department of School Education and Literacy,
	Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajinder Prasad Road, Shastri Bhawan,
	New Delhi-110001
7	Ms. Sudha Pillai
	Secretary,
	Planning Commission, Yojana Bhawan,
	Sansad Marg,
	New Delhi-110001

8	Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat
	Chairman
	University Grants Commission
	9, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
	Delhi 110002
9	Prof. Dr. S. S. Mantha,
	Chairman,
	All India Council For Technical Education
	7th Floor, Chanderlok Building
	Janpath, New Delhi-110 001
10	Prof. Mohammad Akhtar Siddiqui
}	Chairman
	National Council for Teacher Education,
}	Hans Bhawan, Wing II,
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11	New Delhi - 110 002. Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai
11	Vice Chancellor
	Indira Gandhi National Open University, Maidan Garhi,
1	New Delhi –110068
	New Della - 110000
	*
{	Chairman
t	Distance Education Council (DEC)
1	(Ex-Officio)
	Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU
12	Prof. V.N.Rajashekhar Pillai
	Vice-Chancellor,
	Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU),
	Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110 067.
13	Vineet Joshi, IAS
\	Chairman, Secretary & Chief Vigilance Officer
	Central Board of Secondary Education,
1	PS-1-2, Institutional Area, I.P.Extn. Patparganj, Delhi-110 092.
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14	Director,
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15	Prof. Surendra Prasad
.5	Director,
	Indian Institute of Technology,
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	Mumbai – 400076
L	Maharastra
17	Prof. S _c C.Saxena
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L	Uttarakhand - 247667
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	Director,
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1	Guwahati 781039
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}	Indian Institute of Technology,
	Kanpur-208016
	UP
20	Prof. Damodar Acharya
1	Director,
	Indian Institute of Technology,
	IIT Kharagpur
	P.O. Kharagpur -721302
21	Prof. M.S.Ananth
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23	Director
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24	Prof. S. G. Deshmukh
24	Prof. S. G Deshmukh, (Director)
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	Pigdambar Rau
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	Madhya Pradesh-453331
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62	Director,
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65	Prof. Anil K. Bhowmick Director, Indian Institute of Technology Patna Navin Government Polytechnic Campus Patliputra Colony Patna 800 013

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List of Members

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	Ministry of Human Resource Development,
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	New Delhi
3.	Secretary,
	Planning Commission,
	Yojana Bhawan,
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4.	Secretary,
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	Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
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5.	Secretary, Department of Information Technology,
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6.	Secretary,
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20.	Chairman,
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Copy also to:

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	Scientific Secretary to Principal Scientific Adviser to Govt. of India
	Vigyan Bhawan
	New Delhi
2.	Dr. B. K. Gairola
	Director General
	National Informatics Centre, Department of Information Technology
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3.	Shri. N. Ravishankar
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6.	Dr. B. K. Murthy
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MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE NATIONAL APEX COMMITTEE AND 16TH MEETING OF PROJECT APPROVAL BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSION ON EDUCATION THROUGH INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY HELD ON 1ST SEPTEMBER, 2010 AT 10.30 AM IN COMMITTEE ROOM-B, VIGYAN BHAWAN ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The second meeting of the National Apex Committee and 16th meeting of Project Approval Board of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology was held on 1st September, 2010 at 10.30 AM in Committee Room-B, Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development.

- 2. List of participants is at Annexure.
- 3. Joint Secretary (Distance Learning), MHRD welcomed Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development and Hon'ble Minister of State (HRD). Chairman then requested Joint Secretary (Distance Learning), Department of Higher Education to explain the Agenda items one by one. Accordingly, Joint Secretary (Distance Learning) explained the same and Agenda items were taken up and decisions, as given below, were taken:
 - i. <u>Item No.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the Apex Committee held on 11th September, 2009.</u>

The Minutes of the first Meeting of Apex Committee held on 11th September, 2009 were confirmed.

ii. <u>Item No.2 Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the Apex Committee held on 11th September, 2009.</u>

The Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the first Meeting of Apex Committee held on 11th September, 2009 was noted.

iii. <u>Item No.3 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 24th May, 2010.</u>

The Minutes of the 15th Meeting of Project Approval Board held on 24th May, 2010 were confirmed.

iv. <u>Item No.4 Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 24th May, 2010.</u>

The Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the Project Approval Board held on 24th May, 2010 was noted.

v. Item No.5 Connectivity to colleges and universities.

Shri N.K. Sinha, Joint Secretary (Distance Learning) summarized this Agenda item and said that when NMEICT was sanctioned, it had three major components, namely, Connectivity, Content Generation and Access Device. For NMEICT network BSNL-MTNL combine was entrusted the job of connecting Universities and Colleges (on copper wire). For National Knowledge Network (NKN), 3 public sector undertakings, namely, BSNL, RailTel and Power Grid are the agencies to execute the work. NMEICT was

approved in January, 2009 whereas NKN was approved in March, 2010, NKN has a timeframe of 2 years. MHRD had gone ahead and so far Rs. 472,00 crores has been released to BSNL for providing connectivity to both Universities and Colleges. The Universities are to be connected to NKN PoPs. BSNL has covered much ground in this regard and the work is going on. NKN was approved for providing connectivity to 400+ universities. In the meantime, a new dimension has come into being and the number of universities, which is around 504 as of now, is growing further and it is expected after two years, this number could be around 800. For connecting 800 universities, neither NMEICT nor NKN has the money. As of now, money for connecting 419 Universities is available with both the networks. Secretary, DOT also expressed the view that 419 Universities be connected as early as possible, preferably, by 30.9.2010 or after taking one more month. Thereafter, Joint Secretary (Distance Learning), MHRD added that since NKN has a timeframe of two years, MHRD will need this lead time to prepare Professors and students to start using the network/resources that are created and MHRD cannot wait for two years. Chairman, then, sought the views of representatives of Department of Information Technology. Chairman categorically said that there should not be any duplication of work.

In response, Joint Secretary, Department of Information Technology (DIT) said that National Knowledge Network is approved by Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure (CCI) for connecting 419 Universities and further connectivity thereof. DIT is required to furnish utilization certificate for the same. He also said that the proposal that is being made under this Agenda item is that as soon as reimbursement is made by NKN, connectivity will be provided to the colleges. He further said that the term 'reimbursement' appears to be out of place. He requested that DIT should be given list of 419 Universities by MHRD. At this point, Joint Secretary (DL), MHRD and Chairman said MHRD will keep giving the list of Universities beyond 419 Universities for which work is already entrusted to BSNL. technical aspects, Dr. B.K. Gairola, DG, NIC, DIT said that conceptually the two networks i.e. NMEICT and NKN are totally different. Design of NMEICT was broadband based system and the idea was to provide broadband connectivity to every individual PC. Later on, there has been change over to gigabit connectivity. Briefly mentioning about NKN network, he said that it is a low latency, high bandwidth network and is connected to a set of global networks. It is also connecting all knowledge institutions. NIC is using only fibre from telephone companies. It is important to have end-to-end service quality assurance which cannot be achieved as DIT has been saying. Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure (CCI) has approved NKN to support universities and money so saved could be used for redesigning the college network.

He also referred to the meeting taken by Secretary, Expenditure on overlap/duplication of work between NMEICT and NKN and only after that CCI approved establishment of NKN.

Chairman then asked DIT/NKN whether they can take control of providing connectivity to Universities and Colleges, both on optical fibre, using the money already given by MHRD to BSNL. DG, NIC responded to say that college connectivity is not mandated to NKN network. It was then decided that DIT may move Cabinet to include college connectivity on optical fibre in NKN network, including providing LAN to Universities and Colleges. The connectivity to Universities should be completed by December, 2010.

Shri Anil Jain, Sr. GM, BSNL sought direction as to whether they could continue providing copper wire connectivity to colleges. It was clarified that BSNL will continue to do so. However, BSNL will seek guidance from NKN with regard to technical aspects. For technical issues/specifications, the Technical Advisory Committee of NKN which is headed by Dr. S.V. Raghavan, Scientific Secretary to Principal Scientific Adviser to Govt. of India, will be broad based to include BSNL and other stakeholders concerned.

Shri Anil Jain, Sr. GM, BSNL also apprised the National Apex Committee of NMEICT of the progress achieved so far under the NMEICT network in respect of Universities and Colleges. Chairman categorically stated that whatever investment under NMEICT has been made in this regard will be protected and whatever has been done cannot be undone. Dr. B.K. Gairola, DG, NIC also endorsed this. DIT will also take care of Service Level Agreement (SLA) in respect of connectivity to universities.

Chairman, National Apex Committee of NMEICT and Joint Secretary (Distance Learning), MHRD also said that if more money is needed from MHRD, that will be released in this regard.

Chairman, National Apex Committee also suggested to explore the possibility of empowering the young school going children with innovative use of ICT also. Joint Secretary (DL) mentioned that Department of School Education & Literacy has a separate ICT scheme for the school sector.

vi. Item No.6 Connectivity to Government Polytechnics.

After detailed discussions, National Apex Committee of NMEICT decided that all Polytechnics be provided copper wire connectivity at par with colleges. In so far as Optical Fibre Cable connectivity to colleges is concerned, DIT will take over after getting approval of the Cabinet.

vii. Item No.7 Approval for Setting up a Committee on DTH

Suggestions were sought from Department of Space and other members present so that a comprehensive Committee could be formed. Representative of Department of Space shared the views of MHRD and said that he would send in some names for inclusion in the Committee on DTH. After detailed discussions, National Apex Committee of NMEICT decided that Prof. S.V. Raghavan, Scientific Secretary to Principal Scientific Advisor, Govt. of India will coordinate this matter, suggest methodology of work and Terms of Reference of the proposed Committee, keeping in view the objectives of NMEICT scheme. It was also decided that private players in this field may also be co-opted to assist the system. This Committee will take care of infrastructure and content aspects both. Apart from this, it was also decided that a Specialist in Indian Languages may also be included in the said Committee. Prof. Raghavan will submit his response to MHRD at the earliest.

viii. Item No.8 Awareness Building and Publicity Strategy Formulation

The Proposal was approved.

ix. Item No.9 Approval of extension of pilot projects upto 31st March, 2011

The Proposal was approved.

x. <u>Item No.10 Approval of 15 projects recommended by Standing Committee.</u>

The following proposals were approved:

1. e- CONTENT DEVELOPMENT

Control No.: 23011010521

Name of the Institute(s): CSK HP Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Palampur, HP

Name of PI(s): Dr. SP SHARMA

Amount approved: Rs. 7 lakh for one course as pilot.

2. E-Books on Introduction to High Energy Physics, Introduction to Astroparticle Physics and Instrumentation methods in Astroparticle Physics.

Control No. se-16120910469

Name of the Institute(s): Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra

Name of PI(s): Dr. Sonali Bhatnagar

Amount approved: Rs. 14 lakhs for two courses as pilot.

3. Library Automation and Resource Sharing Network

Control No.Ue-05031010571

Name of the Institute(s): Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi Name of PI(s):

- 1. Prof. Uma Kanjilal, School of Social Sciences, IGNOU, New Delhi
- Prof. K. S. Raghavan, Professor, DRTC, Indian Statistical Institute, 8th Mile, Mysore Road, Bangalore 560 059
- Dr. Parthasarathi Mukhopadhyay, Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Burdwan, West Bengal.

Amount approved: Rs.1,82,00,000/- for the project.

4. Development of e-content for professional skill development in teacher-training

Control No.: <u>Je-05031010572</u>

Name of the Institute(s):Department of Educational Technology, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai

Name of PI(s): Dr. Jayashree Shinde

Amount approved: Rs.93 lakhs for 360 hours e-content for 3 subjects. A proportionate amount of Rs. 10.33 lakhs is recommended to be released for completion of 40 hours and remaining should be released to the PI after evaluation by the constituted committee.

- 5. Development of E-Content in the Areas of
- 1. Insurance & Risk Management
- 2. MBA (Agri-Business)

Control No.: Se - 13021010543

Name of the Institute: Faculty of Management Studies, Banaras Hindu

University

Name of PI: Prof. S.K. Singh

Amount Approved: Rs. 14 lakhs for two courses as pilot in Phase-I. For Phase II, Rs.70 lakhs for each slot of 10 courses after successful completion of Phase-I. The fund for Phase-II should be released after evaluation of content developed in Phase I.

- 6. Development of e-Content in Physical Education for Undergraduate & Postgraduate Courses
 - (i) Anatomy and physiology
 - (ii) Kinesiology of body movements.

Control No. Se-12011010504

Principal Investigator: Syed Tariq Murtaza (Ph.D.), Department of Physical Health and Sports Education, Faculty of Social Sciences, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh-202002.

Amount approved: Rs.7 lakhs x 2 courses = Rs.14 lakhs as pilot.

7. Development of E-content for Slope Engineering

Control No.: Re-10031010581

Name of the Institute(s): Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University

Name of PI(s): Dr .Rajesh Rai and Dr. GSPSingh

Amount approved: Rs.7 lakhs for one course as pilot project.

8. Sakshat One Stop Education Portal

Control No.: Ue-22031010754

Name of the Institute(s): Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU),

New Delhi

Name of Pl(s): Prof. Uma Kanjilal

Amount approved: Rs.93,93,000/- till 31st March, 2012. However, Sakshat being official website of NMEICT, the above may be implemented by the Mission Secretariat.

9. Introduction to Programming and its Mathematical Foundations

Control No.: <u>Je-16031010655</u>

Name of the Institute(s):

Keshav Memorial Institute of Technology, Hyderabad (KMIT), and

Department of Computer Science, University of Mumbai (UDCS)

Name of PI(s):

1. Dr Jayant Kirtane (KMIT)

2. Dr Ambuja Salgaonkar (UDCS)

Amount approved: Rs.7 lakhs for pilot project.

10. Creation of content for ISTQB (International Software Testing Qualifications Board) foundation certification (as proposed by P1) and Content creation for foundation course for Software Testing Qualification (as recommended by Standing Committee).

Name of the Institute(s):

Keshav Memorial Institute of Technology, Hyderabad, A.P.

Chief Investigator:

Mr. Neil Gogte, Director,

Amount approved: Rs.7 lakhs for one course as pilot project.

11. Software Defined Radio (SDR)- Architecture, Systems for 3G

Control No.: SE-10051010858

Name of the Institute: Keshav Memorial Institute of Technology, Hyderabad

Name of PI(s): Prof. S.P. Venu Madhava Rao

Amount approved: Rs.7 lakhs for one course as pilot.

12. e-Content Generation and e-skill test in Specialized Areas of Information Technology

Control No.: Ve-25110910429

Name of the Institute(s): Centre For Development of Advanced Computing, CDAC, Noida

Name of PI(s): V.K.Sharma, Sr.Project Manager, CDAC, Noida

Amount approved: Rs.7 lakhs per course for 26 courses i.e. Rs.182.00 lakhs for the project.

13. GNUKhata

Control No. KE-29041010840

Name of the Institute(s): Master Dinanath Mangeshkar College of Arts and commers.

Name of PI(s): Manik Shingare, Krishnakant Mane

Amount approved: Rs.23.00 lakhs for the project.

14. DEVELOPING E-CONTENT FOR LAW SUBJECTS

Name of the Institute(s):

NALSAR UNIVERSITY OF LAW, Hyderabad, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF LEGAL STUDIES AND RESEARCH UNIVERSITY. Justice City, Shameerpet, R.R.District, Hyderabad-500078, A.P., (India)

Name of PI(s): Prof. M. Sridhar Acharyulu, Faculty, NALSAR, Hyderabad Prof (Dr) B.V. Somasekhar Prof. G.S.Srivatsa

Amount approved: Rs.7 Lakhs for one course as pilot.

15. E-course Development in Economics

Control Number: Te-08061010897

Name of the Institute(s): ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY, TAMILNADU

Name of Principal Investigator : Dr. T. SUDHA

Co- Investigators: Dr. N. MALATHI and Dr. T. S. KALYANI

Amount apporved: Rs.7 lakhs for one course as pilot.

χi. Item No.11 (Table Agenda No.1) Proposal for testing of Low Cost Accesscum-computing devices.

In pursuance of unveiling of \$ 35 device by Hon'ble HRM on 22nd July, 2010. Dr. Prem Kumar Kalra, Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Rajasthan made a presentation on proposals for: (i) Testing of Low Cost Access-cumComputing Devices and (ii) Hardware and Software Optimization of Low Cost Access Devices. Dr. Prem Kumar Kalra explained various aspects of these proposals and said that the revised financial proposal is to the tune of Rs. 41.50 crores. After detailed deliberations, National Apex Committee and Project Approval Board of NMEICT approved procurement of one lakh pieces of Low Cost Access-cum-Computing Device and their field trials and extensive testing. For this purpose, Rs. 41.50 crores was approved by National Apex Committee and Project Approval Board for the project to Indian Institute of Technology, Rajasthan.

xii. Item No.12 Presentations

- Shri Pradeep Kaul, Joint Director, CEC, UGC made a brief presentation on the e-contents developed on History subject under the pilot project sanctioned to CEC, UGC under NMEICT scheme.
- Prof. A.K. Bakhshi from University of Delhi made a brief presentation on the e-contents developed under a pilot project sanctioned to University of Delhi under NMEICT scheme.
- Representative of Amrita Vishwavidyalaya made a brief presentation on 'Haptic Device' project sanctioned under NMEICT.
- Representative of Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra made a brief presentation on `Motor Mechanic Course'.
- Shri Anil Jain, Sr. GM, BSNL made a brief presentation (as also included under Item No.5) on Connectivity matters under NMEICT.

xiii. Item No.13 Table Agenda 2

Table Agenda was duly circulated and no objections were made.

- xiv. Prof.Sridhar Iyer from IIT Bombay had presented the progress of the Open Source Software Initiatives at IIT Bombay before the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 20th Feb, 2010 where he was asked to submit the DPR. Prof. Iyer made the presentation and explained various aspects of the project OSCAR++ Open Source Courseware Animations Repository. Thereafter, National Apex Committee and Project Approval Board approved Rs. 3.00 crores for this project to IIT, Bombay.
- xv. During the discussion on Action Taken Note on the 15th meeting of PAB held on 24th May, 2010, Secretary, DOT offered necessary assistance for the project on Village Community Network. Thereafter, Dr. Soami Daya from Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra made a brief presentation on the proposal pertaining to The Village Community Network: Technology Development and Pilot Roll Out Plan for Low Cost Opportunistic Communication Networks for Rural Areas of India which submitted to NMEICT. Thereafter, National Apex Committee and Project Approval Board approved Rs.6.00 crores for this project to Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra.

xvi. Representative of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham made a brief presentation on the project pertaining to "u-share: Multi-user Real time Shared Access platform for Remote Experimentation" submitted to the NMEICT. Director, IIT Delhi was also present. Thereafter, National Apex Committee and Project Approval Board approved Rs.25.00 lakhs for this project Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham.

4. Other observations/suggestions

- Joint Secretary (Distance Learning), MHRD requested Vice Chancellors
 of the Central Universities present to pool together all Experts of the
 country to make NMEICT a big success. Inputs from VCs of Central
 Universities are crucial for improving the quality of education. They were,
 therefore, requested to actively participate in the Mission.
- Shri R.P. Agarwal expressed his apprehension that e-contents developed under NPTEL project were not reaching out to a large population of learners. Prof. Mangala Sunder Krishnan from IIT, Madras explained the response received by NPTEL courses on You-Tube website and said that the contents under NPTEL are being used by a large number of learners.
- 5. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

ANNEXURE

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