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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
SHASTRI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI-110 115

D.O.No.16-4/2011-TEL

Dated: 26.09.2011

Dear Sir / Madam,

As you are aware, an ambitious Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme, namely, National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) is being administered by this Department. This scheme has three major objectives, viz., connectivity, e-content generation and providing low cost access-cum-computing devices to the institutions. The Mission Document of this Scheme/Mission is available on Sakshat Portal (www.sakshat.ac.in). As of now, the process of highly quality e-content generation for various Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses, adopting four quadrant approach, are underway, through projects sanctioned to institutions of national importance. Since excellence in teaching is expected to be distributed among various institutions in the country, there is a felt-need to encourage good teachers to deliver their classes live on the web for the benefit of a larger section of student population beyond the boundaries of the physical class being taught by them. These lectures could also be archived for use in any time any where mode by the interested learners. We would also be able to create a repository of high quality video courses at UG and PG level in a majority of disciplines.

For live webcasting of lectures of eminent teachers, webcasting can be used which does not require studio and can be resorted to immediately. A-View software has been developed by Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham under NMEICT which can be installed in universities and colleges, free of cost, with the help of BSNL and MTNL. Video conferencing and delivery of live lectures will become possible through this software. You may contact Shri Kamal Bijlani of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (Mobile No. 09447571000) in this regard. In the longer run, we will have to develop a dedicated studio for delivery of such quality lectures.

I am sure your University/Institution has a galaxy of eminent teachers and researchers whose talents could be utilized for this national cause, of course, with their consent. Since such lectures would be transcending the classroom boundaries, in a physical sense, the freedom to use someone else's copyrighted material would not be there. This would entail some extra efforts on the part of the faculty participating in this programme. Under the said Scheme, 1 Gbps connectivity being provided to all the Universities/University level institutions and upto 10 Mbps connectivity to every recognized college, the online lectures could create a large number of countrywide classrooms in almost every discipline with the students having the choice of following those lectures which best suit them.

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As suggested, you could explore the possibility of live webcasting of the courses conducted by your institution. This activity, will of course, be of immense help to the weaker students and will also ensure maximum utilization of VPN connectivity provided under the Scheme.

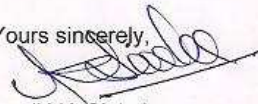
I shall be grateful if you could also send details in respect of the following for studying the feasibility of providing studios and also for pursuing the matter further for optimum use of the VPN broadband connectivity:

- (a) Provision of space for setting up studio;
- (b) Identify the disciplines in which your faculty can give live lectures, with details about the syllabus to be covered in each discipline; and
- (c) List of volunteers who will participate in these activities and also act as champions of the Mission.
- (d) Suggestions regarding token honorarium, if any, required to be paid to the teachers for recording of lectures in studio.

An early response is requested.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(N.K. Sinha)

To

VCs of all Universities and Directors of all Central Educational Institutions