PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
***

DIGITAL LITERACY

New Delhi, February 25th, 2015

The Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development is currently implementing the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) to leverage the potential of ICT in teaching and learning process. Under the Scheme, apart from other activities, e-content in a number of subjects pertaining to the engineering, science, social science and humanities streams at Undergraduate (UG) and Postgraduates (PG) levels have been created for the benefit of the students and learners.

The Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre of the UGC has taken up a number of initiatives for enhancing access to academic resources through ICT, namely: i) UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium that extends access to selected scholarly electronic journals and databases to the universities in different disciplines; ii) Shodhganga: A Reservoir of Indian Electronic Theses and Dissertations, that enables online submission of theses and dissertations by research scholars in digital repository set-up at the INFLIBNET Centre; iii) Shodhgangotri that enables research scholars to submit approved synopsis of research proposal submitted to the university; iv) Open Journals Access System (OJAS) that facilitates faculty and researchers in Indian universities to launch their open access journals on OJAS platform offered by the INFLIBNET Centre; v) Access management technologies that would facilitate users to access e-resources irrespective of their physical location. Besides, the Centre through a project entitled "National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content" (N-LIST) provides access to electronic journals and electronic books to eligible colleges.

The University of Delhi has informed that its Campus of Open Learning and Edinburgh College, Scotland have a MOU under UKIERI project (United Kingdom –India Education Research Initiative). As a result, University of Delhi organizes D-LITE (Digital Learning and Innovation for Tomorrow Education) where faculty members of the colleges are being trained on Digital/E-learning tools such as Web 2.0 tools, advanced presentation/audio-video lectures for classroom teaching with effect from 2013 to 2015.

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras along with its National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) partners and National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) have run, three Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs) of 10 weeks each. lIT Madras is offering certification on successful completion of the course and nominal fee for online examination and certification is charged. Similarly IIT Kanpur has conducted five Online Courses with certification of 4-5 weeks duration. IIT Bombay has also run four courses globally and three more courses are currently going on. A project on the "Development of National Digital Library" has also been sanctioned to IIT Kharagpur.

This information was given by the Union Human Resource Development Minister, Smt. Smriti Irani in a written reply to the Lok Sabha question.

*****

DS/RK/DIGITAL LITERACY