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Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

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MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2018:

1. Important Policy Decisions Taken and Major Achievements During August, 2018

A. Meeting for Social Media Strategy of SWAYAM Courses was held on 02.08.2018 – Aim of the meeting was to popularize SWAYAM Course by using social media platform.

B. Meeting of e-Shodh Sindhu (eSS) Review was held on 03.08.2018 –A review meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary(HE) and the following points were reviewed :

a. Growth of project.
b. Fund requirement.
c. Optimal use of e-resources, possibility of providing the same to research scholars, students and faculty on actual use basis by providing credit points to them may be considered. INDLIBNET was requested to work on this possibility.

C. Meeting of 3rd NMEICT Phase-II Review was held on 03.08.2018 – Meeting was chaired by Secretary (HE).Review of projects that come under NMEICT was taken. NDL, Virtual Labs, e- Yantra, FOSSEE, BAADAL, UEAF are some of the projects that come under NMEICT.

D. Meeting of 7th SWAYAM Board was held on 13.08.2018 – meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary(HE) and the following actions were taken:

a. Confirmation of minutes of 6th SWAYAM Board meeting.
b. Discussion on Action taken and status report
    i. Local Chapters: UGC and NPTEL informed the board regarding activities of local chapters.
    ii. Awareness Creation & Publicity.
    iii.Asked NITTTR to upload their committed courses for july, 2018.
    iv.Ministry requested IIT Madras to provide the status on Application Service Provider in every Board
      meeting.
c. Enrollment in July, 2018 Semester.
d. Board instructed to AICTE & UGC to direct Universities/Institutions to do mapping of courses.
e. Proposal of developing SWAYAM courses in Indian languages.

E. Meeting of National Steering Committee (NSC) of e-Shodh Sindhu (eSS) was held on 14.08.2018 meeting held under the chairmanship of Prof Partha Pratim Chakrabarti, Director IIT Kharagpur and the following actions were taken:

a. Confirmation of minutes of the 4th meeting of NSC e-Shodh sindhu.
b. Action taken and progress made File No.C.29011/02/2018-CDN
    i. Funds received from ministry and payment made.
    ii. Renewal of Subscription to e-Resources for the 2018.
    iii.Inclusion of SPAs in e-SS Consortium.
    iv.Evolving cost sharing model for eSS.
    v. Subscription to AICTE funded resources.
c. Presentation on New Model and Current Status of e-SS.
d. Post facto approval of rates of subscription negotiated by Joint negotiation committee for the year 2018.
e. Request for release of funds.
f. Decision on continuation of subscription to World eBook Library beyond 2018.
g. Implementation of New Model of e-SS.
h. New Model of e-SS for the years 2019-20.
i. Constitution of Negotiation Committee for providing Access to plagiarism detection software to all universities (including CGTIs).
j. Demonstration of Indian Research Information Network System developed by INFLIBNET Centre Gandhinagar.

F. Meeting of National Advisory Committee (NAC) of e-Shodh Sindhu (eSS) was held on 14.08.2018 – meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary(HE) and the following actions were taken

a. Confirmation of minutes of 3rd meeting.
b. Action taken and progress made and new developments since the last meeting of the NAC.
c. Presentation of New Model and current status of e-SS.
d. Presentation on the proceeding of the 5th meeting of the National Steering Committee of e-SS.
e. New Model of e-SS for the years 2019-20.
f. Constitution of Negotiation Committee for providing Access to plagiarism detection software to all universities (including CFTIs).
g. Request for intervention of MHRD for Exemption of GST for all payments made for e-Resources under e-SS by the INDLIBNET Centre.

G. Meeting of Operation and Maintenance of BAADAL by NIC was held on 16.08.2018 – meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary(HE) and it was observed that BAADAL is an education cloud. It was discussed how this cloud is to be maintained by NIC.

H. Meeting of 4th Workshop of SWAYAM Prabha was held on 29.08.2018 at AICTE HQ, New Delhi – meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary(HE) and the following actions were taken:

a. New content is to be created in all the channels.
 b. Improvement in most of the channels.
 c. Marketing strategy to be followed.
d. Pedagogy techniques has to undergo change depending nature of the channel.

I. National Academic Depository(NAD) – The National Academic Depository (NAD) has been launched by the Hon'ble President of India on 9th July, 2017. This is a digital storehouse of academic degrees and awards of all Higher Education Institution and School Examination Boards like the CBSE. As on 24th August, 2018, around 1.14 crore academic awards including degrees, marksheets, certificates etc. have been lodged by various academic institutions on NAD.

J. Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchtar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA): An amount of Rs.4298 crore including Rs.643.01 crore during the current financial year has been released to State Governments since its inception.

K. University Grants Commission (UGC): University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil/ Ph.D Degrees) (1st amendment) Regulations, 2018 was published in Gazette of India on 27.08.2018.The notification of University Grants Commission (Recognition and Monitoring of Assessment and Accreditation Agencies) Regulations – 2018 was published in Gazette of India on 14.08.2018.

L. A meeting between Secretary (HE) and Director, UNESCO New Delhi was held on 28thAugust, 2018 at Secretary(HE)'s Chamber, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi. In the meeting the lease agreement (called Host Country Agreement between GOI and UNESCO for leasing UNESCO House to UNESCO for the period of 99 years w.e.f. 3 rd December, 2016) was signed between Government of India and UNESCO Regional Office, New Delhi.