F.No. 35-1/2017- TS-I
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of Higher Education
(TEL Division)
****

New Delhi, dated the 27th August, 2020

Office Memorandum

Sub: Popularising Online courses- reg.

This has reference to the DO No. 1/28/5/2020 dated 20th August 2020 (copy enclosed) of the Cabinet Secretary regarding major initiatives announced by the Hon'able Prime Minister during his address to the Nation on 15th August, 2020. Several initiatives and reforms were announced to meet the objective of Atmanirbhar Bharat. One of the major initiatives/reforms is to sustain the momentum created for online classes even in rural areas.

2. Online learning has gained unprecedented momentum during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Government of India is making continuous efforts to provide teaching - learning materials suitable for online classes. The digital initiatives like SWAYAM, SWAYAM Prabha, Virtual Lab, National Digital Library (NDL) have proved beneficial to a sizable number of students in far flung areas of the country.

3. MOOCs available on the SWAYAM platform are playing a pivotal role in meeting the requirements of quality online courses. On this platform, courses are available on almost all the disciplines from 9th standard to Post Graduation. Students residing in urban as well as rural areas are taking advantage of the quality MOOCs during the closure of educational institutions. The framework for transfer of credits has been put in place by AICTE and UGC by bringing out necessary regulations. With this, students studying in a conventional Institutes / Colleges can transfer the credits earned through the SWAYAM Courses into their academic records.

4. For the benefit of a large number of students, specially in rural areas, some of the SWAYAM and SWAYAM Prabha courses have been translated into regional languages. All out efforts are being made to provide more and more number of courses in regional languages.

5. Apart from the SWAYAM, several EdTech companies are providing MOOCs. Students are supplementing their knowledge and skills by joining these courses. Many HEIs have started their own online classes for their students.

6. Considering the above and the vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, there is a need to sustain the momentum generated for online courses during the pandemic. Therefore, all Bureaus/ UGC/ AICTE are requested to kindly issue necessary instructions to Institutions for encouraging their students to take advantage of online programmes, courses and learning materials. The credit transfer facility of SWAYAM may be utilised as much as possible.

(Vishwajeet Kumar)
Director (ICT)
Tele: 2338 5220

To

1. Prof. D. P Singh, Chairman, UGC, New Delhi
2. Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, AICTE
3. All Bureau Heads of the Department of Higher Education

Copy to: -

1. Sr. PPS to Secretary (HE)
2. Sr. PPS to Additional Secretary (TE), M/o HRD

राजीव गौबा

Rajiv Gauba

मंत्रिमंडल सचिव
भारत सरकार
CABINET SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

D.O. No.1/28/5/2020-Cab.

20th August, 2020

Dear Secretary

As you are aware, Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address to the Nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on 15th August 2020, announced several major initiatives and reforms that will play a critical role in accelerating the country's development and attaining the objective of Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

2.   It is important that these initiatives and reform measures are translated into concrete action plans and implemented in a time bound manner. The major initiatives have been identified Ministry-wise and are annexed.   All Ministries and Departments are requested to draw up Action Plans and put in place a mechanism to implement these on a mission mode basis. The progress of implementation of these Action Plans may also be monitored by respective Sectoral Groups of Secretaries on a regular basis.

4.   Your personal attention and leadership in the matter would be vital in ensuring timely and effective implementation of these initiatives and for achieving the overarching objective of progress and Atma Nirbhar Bharat. A status report on the implementation of these initiatives may also be sent to this Secretariat.

with regards

Yours sincerely,

20/8/20

(Rajiv Gauba)

To

Shri Amit Khare
Secretary,
Deptt. of Higher Education
New Delhi

PM's Address on Independence Day (15.8.2020) –Major Initiatives and reforms

Ministry/ Department	Major Initiatives
Ministry of Home Affairs	- Early completion of delimitation exercise in Jammu- Kashmir. - Strengthening educational infrastructure in UT of Ladakh - Setting up a Central University, new research centres, starting new courses including hotel management. - Making UT of Ladakh a new frontier for clean environment - Creation of 7,500 MW Solar Park in Union Territory of Ladakh - Ladakh, Leh and Kargil to strive to become Carbon Neutral units. - To start new development schemes in selected islands.
Ministry of Defence	- Strengthening infrastructure in border and coastal areas. - Expansion of NCC in about 173 border and coastal districts. One lakh cadets (one-third of them girls) to be trained by Army, Navy & Air Force.
Ministry of Finance **M/o Commerce & Industry** **M/o Railways** **M/o Shipping** **MoRTH** **M/o Civil Aviation** **Niti Aayog**	- National Infrastructure Pipeline Project- Investment of over Rs. 110 lakh crore in more than 7,000 projects. - Move ahead with the mantra of 'Make for World' alongside 'Make in India'. - Move towards One Tax, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code - Encourage value addition in natural resources. - Infrastructure development to be comprehensive and integrated. To move towards a multi-modal connectivity infrastructure. - Port led development- Focus on a modern state-of-art infrastructure, construction of four lane road across the entire coastline. - Better education, health facilities and opportunities for local employment in 110 + Aspirational districts. - Completion of critical projects- Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor, connecting the eastern region with the gas pipe line, new rail infrastructure and new ports to be expedited.
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare	- Encourage value addition in agriculture sector- focus on food processing, food packaging. - Work to reduce the input cost of the farming. - Important measures to increase the income of farmers- avenues like beekeeping, fisheries, poultry to be promoted - Special Economic Zones to be created in rural areas. A web of agriculture and non-agriculture industries to be created. FPO (Farmer Product Association) need to be strengthened.
Ministry of Communication	- Connectivity for Everyone--All villages to be connected with optical fiber cable in next 1000 days - In the last five years, 1.5 lakh gram panchayats in the country have been connected with optical fiber. All 6 lakh villages in the country to be connected with optical fiber within 1000 days. - In the next 1000 days, Lakshadweep to be connected to submarine optical fiber cable.
M/o Electronics & Information Technology	New Draft Cyber Security Policy to be prepared to put in place a robust system to meet cyber security threats.
Ministry of External Affairs	Action Plan to leverage Buddhist linkages with ASEAN and East Asian countries.

Ministry of Education	• Special stress in National Education Policy on National Research Foundation. • Momentum created for Online classes even in in rural areas needs to be sustained.
Ministry of Tribal Affairs	• Provision of clean potable drinking water under Jal Jeevan Mission- Water has been provided to 2 crore families, especially the tribals living in forests and far-flung areas in the last one year. This needs to be taken forward. • Clarion call for Vocal for Local to reduce our import dependence and empower our small-scale industries, and benefit youth, women, scheduled tribes, scheduled castes, specially differently-abled, economically weaker sections, villages, backward classes etc
Ministry of Women & Child Development	• More than 5 crore sanitary pads have been delivered to women from 6000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras. • To further expand this initiative. • Committee set up to look into nutrition related aspects and right age of marriage for women. On receipt of Report of the Committee appropriate decisions to be taken about the age of marriage of girls.
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	• National Digital Health Mission- strong implementation mechanism to be put in place. • Establish necessary arrangements for development and distribution of COVID-19 vaccine.
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	• Project Lion on the lines of Project Tiger to be taken up. • Project Dolphin to conserve both river and oceanic Dolphins to be taken up. • Ladakh to become first Carbon Neutral region • Strong push towards mitigation of Air Pollution in more than 100 cities.
Ministry of Jal Shakti	• Jal Jeevan Mission has created healthy competition among the districts, cities and states. Need to focus on achieving the targets within stipulated time lines.
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs	• Increase Ease of living for the aspiration middle class. • Utilization of Special fund of Rs 25 000 crores set up to complete the incomplete houses. • Implementation of the PM SVANidhi scheme for street vendors • Timely implementation of the Affordable Rental Housing Scheme for arranging affordable housing for migrant labour/urban poor people.
Ministry of Tourism	• Promotion of Health tourism • Initiatives like Project Dolphin to give a boost to Biodiversity, create employment opportunities and act as attraction for tourism.
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy	• Creation of 7,500 MW Solar Park in Ladakh. • Aspire for achieving one world, one sun and one grid, particularly in the field of solar energy.
Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	• Emphasis on increasing the use of ethanol to reduce pollution
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	• Major programme for the youth in 173 districts in border areas - One lakh NCC cadets including one third girls to be trained by Army, Navy & Air Force. This trained manpower can play important role in disaster management, and the youth would also get skill training and opportunity for a career in the armed forces.