

No. 10-4/2013-SD
Ministry of Communications & IT
Department of Telecommunications
(HR and Skill Development Group)

New Delhi, the ⁰⁶ April, 2015

**Gist of deliberations in the Advisory Groups
on Skill Development in Telecom Sector**
*held under the chairmanship of Adviser (O) and Adviser (T)
at Sanchar Bhawan on 23rd March 2015*

1. Regarding NTP-2012/ Para 8.1.2 (to put in place an ecosystem to advise and assist Ministry of HRD to periodically upgrade academic curriculum of telecom courses)

- (a) The Advisory Groups were informed that a working Group was constituted at NTIPRIT to review the curriculum of engineering courses of AICTE etc. and submit its recommendations.
- (b) The group studied the syllabus of Electronics & Communication and Computer Science of AICTE, IIT Kharagpur, GB Technical University Lucknow, MBM Jodhpur, Madhav Institute of Technology Gwalior, Manipal Engg College Karnataka and the national level GATE examination conducted for entry to MTech courses. The observations of the working group, including their recommended listing of topics for inclusion in the engineering curriculum, were shared with the participants. The group had recommended that for effective participation in course design/upgradation of syllabi by AICTE and other Technical Universities, AICTE may be requested to include DOT/ NTIPRIT officials in their curriculum review committees.
- (c) It was agreed that in line with the recently concluded Skill Gap study for the Telecom Sector, requirement of review of Telecom curriculum would be at various levels, viz, (i) Secondary/Higher Secondary, (b) Vocational/ Diploma, (c) Graduate, and (d) Post Graduate.
- (d) It was decided that small groups may be formed for different verticals. The groups may deliberate further detailing of the curriculum under their respective verticals. The curriculum recommended by these groups shall be approved by the Advisory Groups before being placed in public domain.
- (e) Shri Goyal from TEMA informed that he has good networking in the academia, and offered to organize a workshop with the involvement of Academia. Coordination with SMEs from the NTIPRIT will be done by DDG(SD).

2. Regarding NTP Para 8.1.3 (to put in place an ecosystem to create an enabling framework including funding mechanism to meet the HR demand in the sector in partnership with Ministry of HRD)

- (a) Anna University made a presentation about a proposal to skill 3000 final year students of Engineering in collaboration with BSNL – with a funding of Rs 3 crore from MHRD. DOT informed that preliminary discussions regarding this proposal were held by Director (SD) with MHRD, and MHRD has indicated that presently they do not have any scheme for such skill development projects.
- (b) It was agreed that students of Engineering Colleges are the major source of skilled manpower in the Telecom Sector, and a dialogue may be initiated with Department of Higher Education, MHRD to create an enabling framework, including funding

mechanism, for imparting industry-ready skills to the students in Engineering Colleges.

- (c) TEMA shared the Gujarat model of funding the Skill-development initiatives, where the Government is funding the Universities to the extent of Rs 75 lacs with an equal contribution from the Industry for setting up skilling infrastructure in the Universities.

3. Regarding NTP Para 8.4 (To develop other training institutes under DoT and its organisations as national level Telecom Schools of Excellence for imparting training to Govt/ PSU officials and other stakeholders)

- (a) The participants were informed that the Apex Body had desired BSNL and MTNL to play a pivotal role in catering to the higher skill levels where exposure to the back-end equipment will be a must.
- (b) It had been intimated earlier that nineteen training centres of BSNL and MTNL have been registered for the skill-building initiatives being spearheaded by NTIPRIT. These training centres will function as premier Institutions at State/ Regional level under the aegis of NTIPRIT and will also play a lead role in the decentralization of Government's Skill-building initiatives in the Telecom Sector. They will also act as DoT's Points-of-Presence for skilling initiatives at regional level.
- (c) Deliberations were held on designating these Institutes as Telecom Schools of Excellence as envisaged under para 8.4 of National Telecom Policy, and the manner in which these Schools of Excellence may be supported by DoT in line with the vision paper submitted by the Working Group on Telecom Sector. It was decided that in view of the mandate from the Telecom Policy, BSNL and MTNL may prepare comprehensive proposal for upgradation of infrastructure and equipment in these identified training centres and submit these proposals to DOT for approvals and necessary budgetary provisions - for upgrading these training centres into Telecom Schools of Excellence.
- (d) BSNL informed that ALTTC, Ghaziabad has been declared as Centre of Excellence for Broadband by ITU for 3 years. They informed that infrastructure in the premier training centres registered with NTIPRIT is proposed to be upgraded as zonal super-specialty centres to have more focus in the spending on upgradation.
- (e) BSNL informed that extensive digital library and e-learning resources have been developed with RGMTTC, Chennai and RTTC Trivandrum as the nodal training centres. Presently these resources are available for BSNL employees only; but these are proposed to be opened up for the general public within the next quarter.
- (f) CDAC shared that they have 11 training centres and some more training centres under franchisee arrangement. Some of the CDAC courses have been affiliated with respective state Universities. They invited the participants to have a look at their facilities in Noida or other stations to see how the CDAC initiatives can be dovetailed in the Skilling initiatives under NTP-2012.

4. Regarding NTP Para 8.5, i.e., to promote and augment vocational and non-formal training institutes in urban and rural areas to cater to the skill and training needs of telecom sector.


- (a) The participants were briefed about relevant mandate from NSQF in this regard, that the concerned central ministries will have to provide the leadership to ensure that all stakeholders align the programs being offered by institutions/ bodies under their

aegis to the NSQF. NSQF will be implemented through the National Skills qualification Committee (NSQC), which will have participation from Ministry of HRD, Ministry of Labor, Planning Commission and concerned Administrative Ministry. Sectoral participation will also include SSCs, regulatory bodies like AICTE etc, and heads of two training Institutions. Identification, registration and accreditation of the institutes/ training providers would be done through a mechanism determined by the concerned Ministry and regulators in consultation with SSCs/ Industry.

- (b) Deliberating on the way forward to promote vocational training institutes in the hinterland, it was agreed that keeping in view their strong presence in the last mile, ITIs need to be roped in for this purpose. To expand the Telecom curriculum as per industry requirements and give a push to such courses in ITIs, Mentor Council for Telecom Sector – having representation from all strata of Telecom Industry - has been constituted by DGET vide their order dated 19th march 2015. The participants were briefed about the mandate of the Mentor Council.
- (c) DGET briefed the participants about the roadmap for approval by NCVT for inclusion of new curriculum in the NCVT stream. They requested for identifying hands-on people for the core groups, since they will play key role in designing the curriculum.

5. Regarding NTP Para 8.6, i.e., to encourage collaboration with premier institutes like IITs and telecom research organisations of excellence for directing R&D to India-centric problems

- (a) The participants were briefed about DOT's R&D initiatives under PPP model in collaboration with Industries and premier academia under the aegis of Telecom Centres of Excellence (TCOEs). Eight such Telecom Centres of Excellence have been established across the country, and each TCOE has a leading telecom service provider as industry partner and receives support from DOT to focus on specific areas of research, technology development and incubation.
- (b) Deliberating on the way forward, Director (IC), DOT informed that since TCOEs are the technology incubators in academic institutes, these are under consideration for CSR funding under Schedule VII of Companies Act, 2013.


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To

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