FROM THE DESK OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Dear Readers,

As we get ready to publish the third issue of the NIELIT Newsletter, I feel privileged to share with you the achievements of NIELIT, both in terms of “good governance” as well as improvement of service delivery mechanisms. An intranet application for tracking and monitoring of bar-coded files has been put in place at NIELIT Headquarters, which reinforces the commitment of the organization towards delivery of services in a timely and efficient manner.

The change in name from DOEACC to NIELIT has also encouraged us to develop innovative and technologically advanced solutions for e-mail, besides a fully invigorated online Portal, which web enables a host of NIELIT services for its students, accredited institutes and other stakeholders. The NIELIT Web Portal was inaugurated by Shri Kapil Sibal, Hon'ble Minister for Communications and IT on March 25, 2013 at e-Governance Hall, DeitY, Electronics Niketan, New Delhi.

With a goal of making one person in each family digitally literate, we are confronted with the mammoth task of effective proliferation of schemes and services, especially in the rural areas. NIELIT has endeavored to lead by example through good governance and best practices. In this context, it has considered appropriate to suggest the tagline “Digital Literacy for All” for the development of brand equity.

It gives me great pleasure to share with you that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been established with CSC-SPV that takes into account the delivery of services by the CSCs pertaining to the educational and the mass literacy programmes offered by NIELIT, and likewise, the delivery of various G2C services by the network of NIELIT Centres and Accredited Institutes. The institutionalized manner in which accreditations are granted by NIELIT ensures that the institutions adhere to a set of quality parameters and norms. By extending support to the common man and by also functioning as a CSC kiosk for the delivery of various G2C and B2C services, the NIELIT accredited institutions shall add great value to their existing services, notwithstanding the fact that these institutes would be also entitled to applicable rates and charges as is paid to the CSC operators. Essentially, the MoU is a force-multiplier insofar as building capacity and replicating best practices are concerned.

This issue of the Newsletter highlights the noteworthy accomplishments of NIELIT within a span of three months, i.e., from January, 2013 to March, 2013. I remain confident that the readers would find the articles informative and I take this opportunity to request the readers for their valuable feedback at newsletter@nielit.in

Dr. Ashwini Kumar Sharma

Dr. Ashwini Kumar Sharma, MD, NIELIT inviting Shri Kapil Sibal, Hon’ble Minister for Communications & IT to inaugurate the NIELIT Web Portal. Also seen in the picture are Shri J. Satyanarayana, ias, Secretary, DeitY, Shri Rajiv Gauba, ias, Additional Secretary, DeitY and Dr. Rajendra Kumar, ias, Joint Secretary (e-Gov), DeitY among others.
NIELIT AND TRIPURA UNIVERSITY SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) ON CAPACITY BUILDING

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between NIELIT and Tripura University on February 3, 2013 in the august presence of Prof. A. Saha, Vice Chancellor, and Prof. B.K. Agarwal, Pro Vice Chancellor of Tripura Central University. The MoU facilitates Tripura Central University to develop excellence by way of formal and non formal courses, thereby enhancing the employability of the students.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ashwini Kumar Sharma, MD, NIELIT informed that the Government of India is keen to initiate capacity building measures in the area of IT, e-Governance, ESDM and other verticals to enhance the employability of the youth of this country. He further emphasized that capacity needs to be developed for the supply of skilled manpower in the area of e-Governance to ensure that the common man is able to reap the wide ranging benefits of e-Governance services, which are required to be delivered at the door step in a citizen centric manner.

IEEE – NIELIT WORKSHOP ON VHDL

NIELIT Centre, Calicut in technical collaboration with IEEE successfully conducted a Workshop on VHDL on 9th -10th March 2013 at Calicut. The workshop served as a highly intense and rigorous training program for the participants in the domain of digital VLSI Design. VHDL is a hardware description language used in electronic design automation to describe digital and mixed –signal systems such as field-programmable gate arrays and integrated circuits. VHDL is also used as a general purpose parallel programming language.

The workshop witnessed enthusiastic participation from academia, especially those who are associated with research and development activities, drawn from all parts of the country. Buoyed by the success of the Workshop, the Centre plans to conduct such workshops on regular basis. Further details in this regard can be obtained through http://calicut.nielit.in

WORKSHOP FOR SYSTEM ADMINISTRATORS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POSTS


Inaugurating the Workshop, Shri John Samuel, Chief Post Master General, J&K circle lauded the efforts of the NIELIT Centre Jammu/ Srinagar in developing capacity and expertise in IT for the Government sector. Shri A.H. Moon, Director, NIELIT Centre, Jammu/Srinagar was optimistic that the Workshop would facilitate the System Administrators to effectively adopt state-of-the-art technologies in IT.

MOU WITH GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH (HP) FOR PROVIDING TECHNICAL AND SKILLED MANPOWER FOR TRAINING, SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The Government of Himachal Pradesh has entrusted NIELIT Centre, Chandigarh to provide IT education and training in all Government Schools in Himachal Pradesh. The NIELIT Centre, Chandigarh has issued an advertisement seeking suitable applications for the post of Faculty and Jr. Faculty at Government Schools located in the district of Shimla, Kinnaur, Kangra, Mandi, Sirmaur, Una, Bilaspur, Chamba, Hamirpur, Kullu, Lahaul Spiti and Solan. Further details are can be accessed through the website of NIELIT Centre, Chandigarh at http://nielitchd.in and the website of Directorate of Higher Education, Himachal Pradesh at http://www.educationhp.org
STANDARDISATION OF NIELIT SHORT-TERM COURSES

A Committee has been constituted at NIELIT under the Chairmanship of Dr. A.K.D. Dwivedi, Director, NIELIT Centre, Chandigarh to prepare a roadmap for standardization of short term courses (with duration of less than one year) across all NIELIT Centres.

The wide repertoire of NIELIT courses are broadly classified as: (a) courses in the Formal Sector, being offered by the NIELIT Centres, in association with State Universities/Technical Boards; (b) Courses in the Non – Formal Sector, being offered by NIELIT Centres and other accredited training institutions; (c) Short Terms skill oriented courses by the NIELIT Centres based on demographic demands; and (d) Training Programs or Corporate Training programs, which are tailor made programs, to suit specialized requirements. Insofar as the Short Term Courses are concerned, the existing courses have been categorized into well defined groups for the purpose of standardization. Efforts are also being made to introduce new short term courses in niche areas such as Cloud Computing and Mobile Applications.

MASTER e-GOVERNANCE TRAINING PROGRAM

The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances has entrusted NIELIT with a pilot role of its Master e-Governance Training Plan for two batches each for G-1 and G-2, comprising of Assistants and Section Officers and Under-Secretaries, Directors and Deputy Secretaries respectively. The four-day training programme started on 4th March 2013 for G-1 officers. Similarly, training for G-2 officers commenced from 18th March 2013.

e-GLC TRAINING AT NISG, HYDERABAD

Envisaging NIELIT’s growing role in capacity-building in the e-Governance sector, a residential training programme in e-Governance Life Cycle (eGLC) for the nodal officers of NIELIT was conducted by the National Institute for Smart Government (NISG), Hyderabad from 14th January 2013 to 18th January 2013. The objective of this programme was to build capacity in e-Governance sector and prepare a trained workforce at NIELIT for the conduct of future training programmes of similar nature. On the occasion, MD, NIELIT also delivered a lecture on ‘Challenges in e-Governance Projects’. For the conduct of similar training programmes on a regular basis, NIELIT has also earmarked an officer in each NIELIT Centres as the ‘Nodal Officer’ for e-Governance.

Hindi समाहार समिति

हिंदी समाहार समिति की बैठक दिनांक 21 मार्च, 2013 को इस्लामाबाद में हुई थी। इस मe विभिन्न भारतीय तथा आंतरराष्ट्रीय विभागों के बैठक के शीर्ष प्रतिनिधियों का अनुभाग आयोजित किया गया था। यह बैठक में, हिंदी समाहार समिति की सदस्य विभागीय समिति, विभागों के आईनेस्वर कार्यालयों की मुख्य विभिन्न अधिकारियों ने भाग लिया। बैठक में हिंदी समाहार समिति की सदस्य सदस्यों, विभागीय समिति, विभागों के आईनेस्वर कार्यालयों के मुख्य विभिन्न एवं विभिन्न अधिकारियों ने भाग लिया। बैठक में हिंदी समाहार समिति की सदस्य सदस्यों, विभागीय समिति, विभागों के आईनेस्वर कार्यालयों के मुख्य विभिन्न एवं विभिन्न अधिकारियों ने भाग लिया। बैठक में हिंदी समाहार समिति की सदस्य सदस्यों, विभागीय समिति, विभागों के आईनेस्वर कार्यालयों के मुख्य विभिन्न एवं विभिन्न अधिकारियों ने भाग लिया। बैठक में हिंदी समाहार समिति की सदस्य सदस्यों, विभागीय समिति, विभागों के आईनेस्वर कार्यालयों के मुख्य विभिन्न एवं विभिन्न अधिकारियों ने भाग लिया। बैठक में हिंदी समाहार समिति की सदस्य सदस्यों, विभागीय समिति, विभागों के आईनेस्वर कार्यालयों के मुख्य विभिन्न एवं विभिन्न अधिकारियों ने भाग लिया। बैठक में हिंदी समाहार समिति की सदस्य सदस्यों, विभागीय समिति, विभागों के आईनेस्वर कार्यालयों के मुख्य विभिन्न एवं विभिन्न अधिकारियों ने भाग लिया।
NIELIT CONDUCTS DGCA PILOT ONLINE EXAMINATIONS

NIELIT has successfully conducted the Pilot Online (Computer based) examinations for January 2013 session on behalf of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation Technical Centre. The examinations were held in association with the National Informatics Centre (NIC), Hyderabad at six centres at Delhi, Aurangabad, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Lucknow.

Shri Arun Mishra, ias, Director General of Civil Aviation Technical centre has personally complimented NIELIT for the sustained hard work, dedication, commitment and support in conducting the examinations, which was truly stupendous. He urged NIELIT for similar cooperation and commitment in the future also.

NEW WEB PORTAL OF NIELIT

Shri Kapil Sibal, Hon’ble Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology launched the new NIELIT Web Portal at a glittering event held on March 25, 2013 at the e-Governance Hall of Department of Electronics and Information Technology at Electronics Niketan, New Delhi.

The web portal boasts of a modern colourful design besides being GIGW (Guidelines for Indian Government Website) compliant. The web portal is accessible through www.nielit.in The web portal has a multitude of online services which are dynamic, interactive and user friendly. NIELIT students can now register online and also make payments online as the new web portal is integrated with a payment gateway.

NIELIT students stand benefited as the new web portal shall also provide placement facilities for employment purposes besides a free online assessment test on employability and soft skills, in association with Wheebox.

Speaking on the occasion the Hon’ble Union Minister, Shri Kapil Sibal underlined that the sustainable efforts of NIELIT would help in eliminating digital illiteracy. For this he also emphasized the need for having high quality e-content to be made accessible to the NIELIT students. While praising the efforts of NIELIT, he also called for the greater use of innovation and technology in student support services.

NEW NIELIT CENTRES AT SRIKAKULAM AND ROPAR

With a view to further expand its outreach, especially in the rural areas, NIELIT proposes to setup new centres at Srikakulam (located in the northeastern region of Andhra Pradesh) and Ropar (in the state of Punjab). Initial assessments with regard to setting up of NIELIT Training Centres have already been carried out by officials from NIELIT assisted by the local administration. The youth in the region would be benefitted by the high quality NIELIT courses, training of which is expected to start shortly. In addition NIELIT also proposes to set up its own permanent campuses in the said locations. NIELIT also proposes to lay the Foundation Stone of its campus at Srikakulam shortly with the blessings of Dr. Killi Kruparani, Hon’ble Minister of State for Communications & IT.

Punjab Government has also provided 12.5 acres of land, free of cost, for the setting up of NIELIT campus at Ropar. This land is adjoining the campus of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar.
NIELIT ACCREDITED INSTITUTES ALSO TO OPERATE AS SERVICE DELIVERY GATEWAY (CSC CENTRES)

CSC-SPV has signed MoU with NIELIT, wherein services provided by NIELIT to citizens and students will be made available through the CSCs across the Country. Similarly, NIELIT accredited institutions will be able to provide G2C services to citizens. This will enhance the number of outlets for delivery of services in the States.

The Department of Electronics and Information Technology has issued an Office Memorandum numbered N-22014/60/2012-eGov dated 12th February 2013 to this effect, which also states that the NIELIT Accredited Institutions will levy service charges as being authorized to CSCs, by the respective State Government / other service providing agencies/institutions.

Literacy in India is one of the important factors in socio-economic progress. CSCs are the front-end delivery points for government, private and social-sector services to citizens of India. The CSCs are also envisaged to transform India into a knowledge society.

NIELIT SIGNS MOU WITH SFIO FOR SETTING UP OF COMPUTER FORENSIC LAB

The SFIO (Serious Fraud Investigation Office), Ministry of Corporate Affairs has formally established an alliance with NIELIT for the setting up of a Computer Forensic Lab at SFIO Office at New Delhi. A MoU was signed on March 18, 2013 by Dr. Ashwini Kumar Sharma, MD, NIELIT and Shri Nilimesh Barauah, Director, SFIO in the presence of Shri Sachin Pilot, Hon'ble Minister of State for Corporate Affairs.

This MoU is a significant step in setting up of a state-of-the-art Computer Forensic Lab at SFIO, which shall be also utilized by regulators and other law enforcing agencies, besides SFIO.

Speaking at the occasion, MD, NIELIT assured SFIO that NIELIT would also assist in training of SFIO employees besides a hand holding support in solving cyber fraud investigation and analysis at the Cyber Forensic Lab, which is being set up at the total outlay of about Rs. 3.80 crores.

NEW CAMPUS OF NIELIT CENTRE, KOLKATA

The new campus of NIELIT Centre, Kolkata is coming up at Plot No BF-267, Sector – I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata. CPWD, Kolkata Division has been entrusted with the construction of the new office campus, which is being built in a land admeasuring about 13000 sq. ft. allotted by the State Government of West Bengal. The estimated target for completion of the project is November 30, 2013. Construction work has already started on the site and the site is being made ready for the foundation structure.

MD, NIELIT along with officers of NIELIT Centre, Kolkata visited the site and held meeting with CPWD officers with a view to expedite the execution of the project. CPWD Kolkata was also directed to submit timelines with milestones for the proper monitoring of the project.
FREE ONLINE ASSESSMENT OF EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS FOR NIELIT CANDIDATES

NIELIT in association with Wheebox has enabled an online Aptitude Test which is designed to assess NIELIT candidate’s cognitive abilities. The test is specially designed to diagnose strengths and improvement areas in verbal, numerical, logical and spatial abilities of NIELIT candidates. This test is hosted on IBM Cloud enterprise and can be accessed free of any cost by NIELIT candidates from the new web portal (www.nielit.in)

This test also enables NIELIT candidates to identify and develop their aptitude skill which would lead to better employability. This test is being offered free to the initial ten thousand candidates as a proofing of concept.

MOU WITH CENTRE FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE (CGG), HYDERABAD FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF ORPS

NIELIT has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Centre for Good Governance (CGG), Hyderabad for the development and deployment of Online Recruitment Processing System (ORPS). The MoU was signed between Shri S.K. Sinha, Director General, CGG, Hyderabad and Dr. Ashwini Kumar Sharma, Managing Director, NIELIT. As per the MoU, CGG, Hyderabad shall provide facility in the form of web enabled software for the receipt of online applications, allocation of centres and online dispatch of admit cards, etc. This software shall be utilized by NIELIT to conduct recruitments for the Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) and its attached offices.

As many as 3-4 lakh candidates are expected to undertake the recruitment test, a notice for which has already been issued by NIELIT. The web enabled software which is accessible through the NIELIT Portal is also integrated with the payment gateway for online payments.

The Online Recruitment Processing System will minimize the cycle-time, physical drudgery, storage space, use of paper and human interventions.

MOU WITH CENTRE FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE (CGG), HYDERABAD FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF ORPS

The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) vide Office Memorandum No 2(11)/2012-Pers.I Vol.III dated March 14, 2013 has appointed NIELIT as the agency to conduct recruitments on behalf of DeitY and its attached offices.

In this regard, NIELIT has issued a detailed notification vide an advertisement in leading dailies inviting applications from eligible candidates for different post in the Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY), its attached offices and statutory organizations. The said notice can be accessed at http://recruitment.nielit.in/Documents/DetailedNotificationNIELIT.pdf Candidates are requested to apply online at www.nielit.in. The examination is OMR based and the examination syllabus is available at http://recruitment.nielit.in. Online applications shall be accepted only between March 25, 2013 and May 08, 2013 (both days inclusive). The recruitment test is likely to be conducted on June 9, 2013 at twenty five cities in the country. NIELIT is also in the process of filling up about 90 posts in various NIELIT centres.

NIELIT IS NOW THE AGENCY TO CONDUCT RECRUITMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DEITY) AND ITS ATTACHED OFFICES.

Dr. Ashwini Kumar Sharma, MD, NIELIT addressing the officials of Centre of Good Governance (CGG), Hyderabad and NIELIT. Seated on his right is Shri S.K. Sinha, Director General, CGG, Hyderabad.
PERMISSION TO TRAINING PARTNERS FOR THE CONDUCT OF NIELIT IT LITERACY COURSES

With the objective of engaging committed and enthusiastic training providers for training of NIELIT IT Literacy courses in the country, namely Course on Computer Concepts (CCC) and Basic Computer Course (BCC), NIELIT has revisited its guidelines and the revised guidelines along with the fee structure which is applicable with immediate effect. Granting permission to institutes for the conduct of training and fielding candidates CCC & BCC examinations entails an assurance of quality delivery of courses to the candidates by the institutes. Therefore, such institutions are required to be reviewed periodically on certain parameters to ensure that the objectives are being met. This periodical review is an assurance that the institute meets established quality standards. Institute also have an option to exit from the system by applying for voluntary withdrawal, in case they do not wish to continue as a permitted institute of NIELIT for the conduct of its IT Literacy Courses. However, institutes applying for voluntary withdrawal would be required to submit an affidavit that they have distributed all the certificates of BCC and / or CCC that were sent to the institutes for onward disbursement to the candidates and have completed all mandatory processes connected with NIELIT courses. Institutes conducting training programmes in IT should note that any attempt to mislead students and stakeholders by way of malicious or misleading promises/advertisements, including misusing NIELIT’s brand or logo, would attract suitable penal action.
CAPACITY BUILDING IN e-SECURITY, DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND IPR

The SecureIT 2013 convened on 8th March 2013 provided a platform for comprehensive discussions to tackle the evolving cyber threats that are critical to the national security. The platform also provided for discussion on ways of tackling disaster including the best methods for providing physical security to important installations and infrastructure. These challenges are also associated with the vast proliferation of mobile computing devices. As technology increasingly becomes integrated with the day-to-day governance, the need for securing data, protecting privacy of individuals and guarding systems against unauthorised access is becoming paramount. Technology is also becoming increasingly deployed to minimise loss of life and property in times of disaster, thus ensuring citizens’ safety and security.

NATIONAL WORKSHOP OF AOs and FOs: A Workshop of NIELIT Administrative Officers (AO) and Finance Officers (FO), at the national level, was held on February 22, 2013 with participants drawn from 23 NIELIT offices in the country. The Workshop provided a platform to plan suitable strategies. Speaking on the occasion, the Managing Director, NIELIT said that Administrative and Finance Officers render a significant role in assisting the Management in decision making and urged the Officers to put forth their proposals with renewed vigor and thereby support NIELIT in building capacity in the country. Seen in the picture are participants of the NIELIT AO/FO Workshop.

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