

ING UNPLUGGED



Know boundaries for knowlegde

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Guwahati: Nagaland University (NU), Kohima and the Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Kerala (IIITM-K) have signed a MoU to jointly work towards Technology Enhanced Learning and Teaching (TELT) methods in NU and colleges under its fold.

NU vice-chancellor K Kannan said students should have access to quality education irrespective of geographical barriers and this could be achieved using technological advances.

"We are introducing a new concept of Education Grid that is a suite of systems and processes over a network of institutions," said Kannan. He said there is a dearth of quality teachers in most places. In the North-East, the situation is even more difficult to attract best teachers. As a result, 75 per cent of the graduates do

not have a job. The conventional education system has failed to deliver so Education Grid is required for quality education.

Just as Power Grid enables to facilitate transfer of power within and across regions, the analogy extends to Education Grid. Developed by K R Srivasthan, director IIITM-K, colleges of the North-East may be brought under a regional Education Grid alliance to take advantage of the e-content being made under NPTEL (National Programme in

E-LEARNING

Technology Enhanced Learning) that is being executed by IITs and IISc (Indian Institute of Sciences). This will be possible with the help of e-learning system and instructional processes being developed under the Education Grid of IIITM-K.

IIITM-K and NU will jointly establish Education Grid systems across the university and colleges under it and link

it to the National ERNET and other broadband network and services relevant to TELT systems and processes. (ERNET is the nationwide terrestrial and satellite network with point of presence located at the premiere educational and research institutions in major cities of the country.)

Initially NU will focus on IT, electronics and communication (ECE), computer science, biotechnology and agriculture technology. The university has recently introduced biotechnology and will introduce BTech in agriculture technology from the next academic session.

In six month's time, there will be video conferencing between NU and IIT-G that would enable teachers and students to interact with IIT-G faculty members.

"The concept is very good and this will enable students to compete globally," said S K Borthakur, head of the botany department of Gauhati University.



RES 08 PHOTOS

Distance learning in Cotton