Karnataka Jnana Aayoga  
(Karnataka Knowledge Commission)  
Government of Karnataka

Ref: KJA: 06/1: KJA-EduTechTaskgroup: 2015

June 27, 2015

Sub: Extension of term of the KJA-Task Group on Educational Technology for Higher Education in Karnataka and EduSat Utilisation Review

- This amendment order issues with the approval and under authority of Chairman, KJA.

(Mukund Rao)  
Member-Secretary, KJA

To,

All Members and Convenor of KJA Education Technologies Task Group

Copies for information to:

- All Members of KJA
- Chief Secretary of Karnataka
- Principal Secretary, Dept of Higher Education
Sub: Establishment of KJA Task Group for Educational Technology for Higher Education in Karnataka and EduSat Utilisation Review

- In the 2nd meeting of KJA held on September 22, 2014, the Aayoga has discussed the request from Higher Education Department (HED) of GOK for the need for improving education quality and outreach through usage of advanced education technologies in the general, technological, medical and agricultural Universities of Karnataka. Karnataka was one of the first few states that established an Edusat network in 2007 – with a hub and connectivity to various colleges/institutions. While the Edusat network has been in operation, HED, GOK has requested for a review of the current Edusat utilisation in state and assess gaps/issues and recommend actions required for increasing usage of satellite communications for education activities in the state.

- Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and Satellite-based Education need to be extensively utilised for imparting education. There are a wide range of technologies available – in the form of Audio and video technology; Computers, tablets and mobile devices; edu-conferencing, dedicated Satellite-based Education, high-speed computer networks for students/faculty etc; Whiteboards; Screen casting; Satellite Virtual classroom and many others. There are also operational examples of self-instructional digital materials, Audio/Video digital instructional materials, Learning Management Systems, Learning Content Management System, Computer-aided assessment and Electronic performance support systems (EPSS) and other classic applications for education.

- While technology can significantly contribute towards efficient and effective education at university level, the importance of teachers/faculty and formal class education systems also must be recognised, in the larger context of the education environment in the state. A technology-drive must not and cannot be the main solution; at same time resistance and non-acceptance to modernisation also cannot become a limiting factor for the future generation of students. The goal must be to see how present education technologies is best adapted/assimilated to effectively improve and modernise the education system in the state at the university level.

- While a plethora of technologies that are available, it is important to utilise the most suitable, effective, efficient and progressive technologies that can mesh with the existing educational system in the state. KJA has decided that a Task Group of technology and education specialists/experts be constituted to prepare an action plan and bring out a comprehensive and actionable report.

- The Task Group will have following membership:
  
  - Dr BN Suresh, Former Member, Space Commission & Former Director, Indian Institute of Space Technology - Co-Chair
  - Dr P Balakrishna Shetty, Member, KJA - Co-Chair
and VC, Sri Sidharta Academy of Higher Education

- Representative from IGNOU - Member
- Representative of ISRO - Member
- Mr BS Bhatia, Former Director of DECU/ISRO, Ahmedabad & Expert in Satellite Education Systems and Dev Comm - Member
- Dr K S Dasgupta, Director, Indian Institute of Space Technology Thiruvananthapuram - Member
- Representative of Shiv Nadar University - Member
- Prof S Sadagopan, Member, KJA & Director, IIIT-B - Member
- Prof Anurag Behar, Azim Premji University - Member
- Dr H Maheshappa, Vice-Chancellor VTU, Belgaum - Member
- Prof K S Rangappa, Vice Chancellor, Mysore University - Member
- Dr KS Ravindranath, Vice Chancellor, RGUHS - Member
- Prof Narayan Gowda, Vice-Chancellor, University of Agriculture Sciences - Member
- Commissioner for Collegiate Education - Member
- Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department - Member
- Dr Mukund Rao, Member-Secretary, KJA - Member
- Dr. Nazeer Ahmed, Member, KJA - Member
- Prof Viraj Kumar, PES University - Member-Secretary
- Ms Jayashri, KJA Secretariat - Convenor

Terms of Reference:

- The main objective of the Task group is to prepare a blueprint for Education Technologies - Action Plan for Karnataka – that will help standardise the use of most appropriate technologies across the state in universities, actions for assimilation/embedding the technologies into the present education system and ultimately enable a scheme-oriented planning input to GOK. Amongst other important issues, the Task Group will:
  
  - Assess and evaluate, in a holistic manner, the state of educational technologies usage in Karnataka university and higher education system
  - Study/assess available modern education technologies and recommend suitable systems, including “packaging” a standardised suite for universities across the state; undertake any demonstrative assessment studies that may be required
  - Recommend an Action plan for educational technologies – addressing suggested technologies to adopt; implementation issues; broad cost plan; institutional and interface issues and a way of working out a GOK scheme for this.
  - Assess present status of Edusat usage in the state and identify gaps – both technological and institutional; identify the best way of using Satellite-based education system across the state
  - Recommend an Action Plan for Satellite-based education – technological aspects, institutional aspects, requirement of transponders and interface with ISRO, broad cost plan, institutional and interface issues etc
  - Address any other related aspect on education technologies and Satellite-based education, which the Task Group may feel necessary.
Towards the above, KJA the Task Group may undertake wide consultations across the universities, organise consultation workshop of experts to solicit inputs and holistically study all aspects of education technologies for the Action Plan.

Co-Chairs of the Task Group, in discussion with Member-Secretary, KJA, may co-opt any other expert to the Task Group, as required.

Specific budget has been earmarked by KJA for the Education Technologies assessment activity. The expenses of the Task Team and for the Plan development would be met from this approved budget. For administrative purposes, the meetings of Task Team will be treated on par with any other KJA meetings – thus, all expenses for meetings, any travel/fees/honorarium and any other meeting expenses etc can be met from KJA funds, as per KJA procedures. Funds related to this activity will be expended upon approval of Chairs of Task Group and as per procedures of KJA.

The term of the Task Team will be for a period of 6 months from the date of issue of this order.

This order issues after consultation with Higher Education Department, GOK and with the approval and under authority of Chairman, KJA.

(Mukund Rao)
Member-Secretary, KJA

To,

All Members and Convenor of KJA Education Technologies Task Group

Copies for information to:

- All Members of KJA
- Chief Secretary of Karnataka
- Principal Secretary, Dept of Higher Education

November 25, 2014

Sub: Establishment of KJA Task Group for Educational Technology for Higher Education in Karnataka and EduSat Utilisation Review

- In partial modification to the Karnataka Jnana Aayoga Office Order-06: KJA-EduTechTaskgroup: 2014 dated: November 17, 2014, Dr. Nazeer Ahmed, Member, KJA and Advisor, World Organization for Research Development and Education is included as a Member of the Task Group.

- This amendment order issues with the approval and under authority of Chairman, KJA.

(Mukund Rao)
Member-Secretary, KJA

To,

- Dr Nazeer Ahmed, Member, KJA
- All Members and Convenor of KJA Education Technologies Task Group

Copies for information to:

- All Members of KJA
- Chief Secretary of Karnataka
- Principal Secretary, Dept of Higher Education