



Government of West Bengal
Higher Education Department
University Branch
Bikash Bhavan, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091

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Date: 11/07/2016

From: The Joint Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

To: The Vice Chancellor,
..... University

Subject: Setting up virtual classrooms in State-aided Universities in West Bengal

Sir,

Knowledge is freely available today through the internet. New educational material, which can be accessed from the World Wide Web, is changing the nature of education and education methodologies. To remain in the forefront of the knowledge society, it is critical that ITeS be harnessed in the State's higher education space so that the students are equipped with the latest knowledge and are competitive on the national as well as global scale.

With a view to bringing the virtual world and its multiplier advantages to the higher education sector, it has been decided to introduce virtual classrooms in phases, starting with the State-aided Universities and Government colleges first. A virtual class room is envisaged to be an existing classroom or a lecture theatre where a high-end desk top computer, a heavy duty projector, audio system, high speed datalink / wifi, etc. are to be installed to enable presentation of audio visual education material, live streaming of lectures or discussions etc.

To start with, two virtual classrooms are envisaged to be set up in each of the State-aided Universities at the rate of Rs. 3.00 lakh per virtual classroom, for which fund allocation will be made shortly. The State-aided Universities will procure the suitable hardware and software items on their own.

It is requested that the virtual classrooms should be operational by the end of November 2016, at the latest. The State-aided Universities in the State are to be requested to take advance necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Joint Secretary