

ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION, NEW DELHI

SWAYAM PROJECT CELL



ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

(A STATUTORY BODY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)

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SWAYAM PROJECT CELL

**Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) and
Proposals for Developing MOOCs/Creation of New Courses**

Government of India (GOI) in its pursuit of National Digital Initiatives launched indigenous technology enabled learning platform— SWAYAM for hosting Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has been designated as National Coordinator (NC) for developing online Courses for SWAYAM. AICTE invites **Expression of Interest (EOI) and Proposals from all Private Universities and other Educational Content Developers** all over the Country for creation of new courses in Engineering and Technical disciplines for SWAYAM MOOCs Platform. Proposals are also invited for inter-disciplinary Courses for self-paced learning in various areas, like, Yoga, GST, Economic Survey, Skill Development, Panchayati Raj, etc. from different Government Departments/Ministries/Autonomous Bodies/Institutions in India and Foreign Countries. AICTE reserves the right to accept or reject the proposal for creation of new online courses for SWAYAM. Guidelines for Development and Implementation of MOOCs are available at <https://swayam.gov.in/About>

The last date of receipt of proposals is 30th September, 2017. For details, please visit website at www.aicte-india.org/btenders.Php

Advt. No. SWAYAM/ 08(08)/2017

MEMBER SECRETARY

ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION, NEW DELHI

SWAYAM PROJECT CELL

INVITATION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AND PROPOSALS FROM THE PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL CONTENT DEVELOPERS FOR CREATION OF NEW COURSES IN ALL ENGINEERING & TECHNICAL DISCIPLINES AND OTHER INTER-DISCIPLINARY AREAS, LIKE, YOGA, SKILL DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC SURVEY, PANCHAYATI RAJ, GST, ETC. FOR “SWAYAM” MOOCs PLATFORM

BACKGROUND

In pursuance of the initiation by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has developed SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active-learning for Young Aspiring Minds), one of the World's largest **MOOCs Platform** for hosting Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) with the help of M/s. Microsoft Corporation India (Pvt.) Ltd. **SWAYAM** has been designed to achieve the three cardinal principles of Education Policy viz., **Access, Equity, and Quality**. The objective of this effort is to take the best teaching learning resources to all, including the most disadvantaged. SWAYAM seeks to bridge the digital divide for students who have hitherto remained untouched by the digital revolution and have not been able to join the mainstream of the knowledge economy. SWAYAM is a One-stop web and mobile based interactive e-content for all courses from High School to University level; High quality learning experience using multimedia on anytime, anywhere basis; State of the art system that allows easy access, monitoring and certification; Peer Group interaction and discussion forum to clarify doubts and Hybrid model of delivery that adds to the quality of classroom teaching. The Platform facilitates hosting of all the courses, taught in classrooms from 9th class till post-graduation to be accessed by anyone, anywhere at any time, prepared by the best teachers in the country, free of cost to the residents in India. **There is no registration fee for learning any type of course through SWAYAM.**

LAUNCH OF “SWAYAM” PLATFORM

The soft launch of “SWAYAM MOOCs” Platform was held on 15th August, 2016 and after completion of first phase of the Project, the Platform was declared “go live” w.e.f. 16th November, 2016. The Second phase of the project has also been completed on 7th June, 2017 and the same has been declared “go-live” w.e.f. 7th June, 2017 itself.

The Hon'ble President of India launched the “**SWAYAM Platform**” on 09th July, 2017 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi during the three days’ “**National Convention on Digital Initiatives in Higher Education**” from 8th July, 2017 to 10th July, 2017 organized by MHRD in collaboration with AICTE.

MOOCs Contents

“**SWAYAM**” has “**four quadrant approaches**” with the following components:

- i) e-Tutorials containing High Quality Video & Audio Contents and multi-media instructions by best teachers in an organized form, Animation, Simulations, Virtual Labs etc. with the transcription of the Video;
- ii) e-Contents- Self Instructional material, e-Books downloadable, video demonstrations, documents and interactive simulations, wherever required; Web Resources containing related links, open content on internet, case studies, anecdotal information, historical development of the subject, Articles;
- iii) Discussion Forum for raising of doubts and clarifying them on a near real time basis by the Course Coordinator or his Team;

- iv) Self-assessment containing Problems & Solutions in the form of MCQ, Fill in the Blanks, Matching Questions, Short Answer Questions, Long Answer Questions, Quizzes, Assignments and Solutions, Discussion Forum Topics and setting up of FAQs, Clarifications on general misconceptions.

SWAYAM would allow Students in any part of the Country to take Courses offered by the best Teachers in the Country thereby allowing access to premier education to all.

FEATURES OF “SWAYAM”

1. High Quality learning experience using multimedia on anytime, anywhere basis;
2. One-Stop web location for interactive e-content for all Courses from School to University level;
3. State of the art system that allows easy access, monitoring and certification;
4. Peer group interaction and discussion forum to clarify doubts; and
5. Hybrid model that adds to the quality of class room teaching.

NATIONAL COORDINATORS (NCs)

For development of the e-content, delivery of online courses and overseeing the assessment procedures of courses offered on SWAYAM, nine (9) National MOOCs Coordinators (NCs) have been identified and approved by MHRD under the Revised MOOCs Guidelines effective from 1st June, 2017. They are NPTEL for Technical/ Engineering UG & PG Degree Programmes; UGC for Non-Technology Post Graduate Degree Programmes; CEC for Non Technology UG Degree Programmes; NCERT for School Educational Programmes from Class 9th to 12th; IGNOU for Diplomas and Certificates Programmes; NIOS for out of School Children Educational Programmes from Class 9th to 12th ; IIM, Bangalore for Management Programmes; NTTR, Chennai for Teacher Training Programmes and AICTE for all courses that do not fall in the purview of any of the existing NCs, including foreign university courses.

CONTENT CREATION

Courses under SWAYAM would be available in the following levels:

- a) Out of School Children Educational Programs from Classes 9th to 12th (**NC- NIOS**)
- b) School Educational Programs from Classes 9th to 12th (**NC-NCERT**)
- c) Diplomas and Certificates Programs (**NC-IGNOU**)
- d) Non-Technology Under Graduate Degree Programs (**NC-CEC**)
- e) Non-Technology Post Graduate Degree Programmes (**NC-UGC**)
- f) Technical/Engineering UG and PG Degree Programs (**NC-NPTEL**)
- g) Management Programs (**NC-IIM Bangalore**)
- h) Teacher Training Programs (**NC-NITTR, Chennai**)
- i) All courses that do not fall in the purview of any of the above Eight (8) NCs including foreign university courses (**NC- AICTE, New Delhi**)

SCOPE OF SWAYAM

The SWAYAM shall cover the following:

- a) Curriculum based course contents covering diverse disciplines such as arts, science, commerce, performing arts, social sciences and humanities, engineering, technology, law, medicine, agriculture etc. in higher education domain (all courses to be certification-ready).
- b) School education (9-12 levels) modules; for teacher training as well as teaching and learning aids to learners to help them understand the subjects better and also to help them in better preparedness for competitive examinations for admissions to professional degree programmes.
- c) Skill based courses, which cover both post-higher secondary school skills that are presently the domain of polytechnics as well as industrial skills certified by the sector skill councils of various Ministries.

- d) Advanced curriculum and professional certification under a unified scheme in higher education domain that can be tailored to meet the demands of Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) currently being implemented in India at under graduate level.
- e) Curricula and courses that can meet the needs of life-long learners.
- f) Independent courses which may not be part of any set curriculum and may be taught as awareness courses, continuing education programme and for training of specific skill sets.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

MHRD, Govt. of India has issued MOOCs Guidelines for developing Online Courses for SWAYAM for maintaining best standards. Video and Multimedia Contents shall meet highest Industry Standards, both in technical and academic terms; HDTV 1920 x 1080, H.264, 3.5 Mbps AR 16:9. MOOCs shall follow the Model Curriculum. Best Subject Experts have been engaged in the Country. SWAYAM Board has been constituted which is empowered to take decisions for smooth running of SWAYAM.

INTEGRATION WITH CONVENTIONAL EDUCATION

University Grants Commission (UGC) vide its Gazette Notification dated 19th July, 2016 and AICTE vide its Gazette Notification dated 22nd August, 2016 regarding "Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through SWAYAM" have notified that a Student studying at a recognised Institute, anywhere in the Country and having cleared the Online Course through SWAYAM, shall be awarded Credits and the Credits earned by such a Student shall be transferred from the Host Institute to the Parent Institute where the student is studying. However, at present, the Credits upto 20% of the Total Courses can be earned in a Semester by such students through online learning delivered on SWAYAM Platform. Nearly 10 lakh students would be able to access Courses on this Platform simultaneously. The students will be able not only access the best teaching resources but would be able to interact with the teachers from anywhere in the Country using the IT systems. Backward rural areas can access teaching from the best Institutes in the Country electronically, thereby raising the overall standards of higher education in the Country.

STUDENTS' ENGAGEMENT

In terms of MOOCs Guidelines, SWAYAM shall have credit and non-credit Courses; 2-3 hours of Lecturers/Supplementary reading. Lectures have been broken into short modules. Every Module has a clear description of its contents and expected learning outcomes. MOOCs consists Objective-Type Assessments every week (to be auto-graded or assisted by Teaching Assistants (TAs)/Mentors as the case may be. Longer assignments would be discussed extensively in the Course Discussion Forums. SWAYAM MOOCs Platform has a provision of online payment for examinations and Credit Transfer.

STUDENT COMPONENTS

- Login with SWAYAM local ID, Facebook, Google & Azure Cloud and view calendar of upcoming events on the Dash Board.
- Enrolment of Course and Registration using SWAYM local ID, Facebook, Google and Live ID
- Consume Course Contents (Videos, Articles, Uploaded Files)
- Submit Assignments & Take Course Tests; initiate and follow Discussions;
- Apply for Examination (online payment via PayGov or CCAvenue)
- Download Completion Certificate

GLOBAL REACH & PARTNERSHIP

SWAYAM Courses are open to Foreign Students also. As on date, learners and students of nearly 66 Foreign Countries have enrolled themselves with SWAYAM. Foreign Universities on selective basis are welcome to contribute Online Courses on SWAYAM Platform. Credits would be given through local partner. MoUs have been entered with British Council, UNSW Australia, and CEMCA. In India also, various Government Agencies and Private Institutes like, NPC, NACEN, CMAI, etc. have requested MHRD/AICTE for entering MoU with them for contributing Online Courses on SWAYAM.

In view of the above features & Scope of SWAYAM, AICTE invites **Expression of Interest (EOI)** from all the private universities and other educational content developers for creation of new courses in all engineering and technical disciplines to be evaluated separately for SWAYAM MOOCs Platform. Proposals are also invited for inter-disciplinary Courses for self-paced learning in various areas, like, Yoga, GST, Economic Survey, Skill Development, Panchayati Raj, etc. from different Government Departments/Ministries/Autonomous Bodies/Institutions in India. AICTE reserves the right to accept or reject the proposal for creation of new online courses for SWAYAM. For detailed Guidelines for **Development and Implementation of MOOCs** and “Guidelines for Developing Online Courses for SWAYAM, please visit www.swayam.gov.in.

Since AICTE is the National Coordinator, all such Private Universities and other Educational Content Developers would be the Course Coordinators (CCs). The CCs while submitting the EOIs shall also submit an Undertaking from a Host University/Institution conveying its willingness to offer the Course for credit, conduct examination, assessment, evaluation, issue certificates and transfer the credits to the students of the Parent University/Institution as per the UGC/AICTE/any other regulatory body Regulations issued for the purpose. Converting a Course submitted by CCs into a MOOC shall be done by AICTE in a comprehensive manner such that there is complete coverage of all the Courses in a Subject/Programme as per the Guidelines for Developing Online Courses for SWAYAM issued by MHRD.

CCs would get themselves registered on SWAYM and submit the Course Contents for approval of AICTE. Keeping in view the Technical standards laid down in the MOOCs Guidelines, 2017 issued by MHRD, the National Coordinator i.e. AICTE shall identify a Course Coordinator (CC) for each Course, based on (i) the quality of the sample content, (ii) reputation of the expert/Institute and (iii) teaching-learning methods proposed and invite him/her to prepare the MOOC within 6 months from that date. AICTE would not allot any further Course to a CC unless he/she has successfully completed a Course allotted earlier. In case, two or more CCs from the same Institute drop/discontinue courses at a given time, the host Institute shall be denied further participation for a stipulated time.

In case, the selected CC is a private person or a private Institution, not entitled to award Credits/Certificates, it shall identify a public Institution authorised to offer credits/certificate for the Course and issue certificate, as Co-applicant. A MoU between the two defining their roles will be formulated and later approved by the NC/SWAYAM Board (SB).

The proposals from all the Private Universities and other Educational Content Developers for creation of new courses in all engineering and technical discipline as well as the proposals for inter-disciplinary Courses for self-paced learning in various areas, like, Yoga, GST, Economic Survey, Skill Development, Panchayati Raj, etc. from different Government Departments/Ministries/Autonomous Bodies/Institutions for SWAYAM MOOCs Platform must reach AICTE addressed to Dr. M.S. Manna, Director (Administration)/Incharge SWAYAM Project Cell, AICTE HQ, Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110 070 within 20 days from the date of publication of this Expression of Interest (EOI). The final decision to approve or reject the Course Contents/Course(s) would be taken by the SWAYAM Board constituted by MHRD for the purpose.

MEMBER SECRETARY