

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY: TIRUCHIRAPPALLI-620015

Press Release

15 May 2020

NIT, Tiruchirapalli appointed as the National MOOCs Coordinator for offering Engineering Courses at UG and PG level by MHRD, GOI

Ministry of Human Resource Development has appointed NIT, Tiruchirappalli as the National MOOCs Coordinator for offering Engineering Courses at UG and PG level. This recognition comes at a time when teaching and learning is moving to digital platforms and there is great demand for good quality online courses. NIT Trichy is the first Engineering Institute to be added as a National Coordinator, after the consortium of NPTEL, for developing Engineering courses.

Congratulating the Faculty, Students, Staff and Alumni of the Institute, Director, Prof. Mini Shaji Thomas informed that the courses planned by NIT Tiruchirappalli will cater to the needs of the Engineering students across India and the world. The Institute is planning to produce videos of international quality and will utilize the expertise of the faculty available in the NIT system. She attributed this recognition to the hard work put in by all stakeholders, Faculty, students, staff and alumni, which catapulted the Institute to the top 10 in Engineering and top 24 overall in the NIRF Rankings, which is bringing in laurels, including the Supercomputing facility, Prime Minister's Research Fellowship and the SWAYAM National Coordinator position.

SWAYAM is program initiated by GoI and 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 has courses from 9th Class till

This is done through a platform that facilitates hosting of all the courses, taught in classrooms from Class 9 till post-graduation to be accessed by anyone, anywhere at any time. All the courses are interactive, prepared by the best teachers in the

country and are available, free of cost to any learner. More than 1,000 specially chosen faculty and teachers from across the country have participated in preparing these courses.

Already there are nine National Coordinators for SWAYAM, AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) for self-paced and international courses, NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning) for Engineering, UGC (University Grants Commission) for non-technical post-graduation education, CEC (Consortium for Educational Communication) for under-graduate education, NCERT (National Council of Educational Research and Training) for school education, NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling) for school education, IGNOU (Indira Gandhi National Open University) for out-of-school students, IIMB (Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore) for management studies, NITTTR (National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research) for Teacher Training programme. NIT Tirucirappalli will be the 10th coordinator

Courses delivered through SWAYAM are available free of cost to the learners, however learners wanting a SWAYAM certificate should register for the final proctored exams that come at a fee and attend in-person at designated centres on specified dates. Eligibility for the certificate will be announced on the course page and learners will get certificates only if this criterion is matched. Universities/colleges approving credit transfer for these courses can use the marks/certificate obtained in these courses for the same.

UGC has already issued the UGC (Credit Framework for online learning courses through SWAYAM) Regulation 2016 advising the Universities to identify courses where credits can be transferred on to the academic record of the students for courses done on SWAYAM. AICTE has also put out gazette notification in 2016 and subsequently for adoption of these courses for credit transfer.

The current SWAYAM platform is developed by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and NPTEL, IIT Madras with the help of Google Inc. and Persistent Systems Ltd.