

Government of India  
Ministry of Information Technology  
**WORKING GROUP ON IT FOR MASSES**  
New Delhi – 110003

**Dated: 21.07.2000**

**MINUTES OF SIXTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP  
ON IT FOR MASSES HELD ON 20th JULY, 2000 AT NIC, DELHI**

The meeting was attended by the following members:

- |                            |       |                  |
|----------------------------|-------|------------------|
| 1. Shri Prakash Javadekar  | ..... | Chairman         |
| 2. Shri P.V. Indiresan     | ..... | Member           |
| 3. Shri Gautam Soni        | ..... | Member           |
| 4. Shri Ashok Jhunjhunwala | ....  | Member           |
| 5. Shri S. Ramakrishnan    | ..... | Member           |
| 6. Dr. Y. K. Sharma        | ..... | Member Secretary |

Shri, A. K. Basu and Shri Dewang Mehta could not attend the meeting. Dr. S. K. Choubey from Bhopal, Shri Ashok Jhunjhunwala from Chennai and Shri Gautam Soni from Bangalore participated in the meeting through Video Conferencing.

Draft Report (version 2.0) prepared based on proceedings of earlier meetings was discussed. Each para of the report was discussed in detail. Summary of discussion points are given below :

1. Dr. Choubey made presentation on IT Yatra, its structure, preparatory measures before yatra and follow-ups to be undertaken after yatra. In order to ensure that IT Yatra makes national impact, mobilization of resources was emphasized. In preparatory phase, atleast 100 panchyats may be selected for making survey of Information needs. In Post Yatra phase consolidation and continuity plan is essential. E-Yatra web site may be setup.
2. For wider information dissemination, setting up IT Kiosks may be proposed as an immediate and intermediate step. To facilitate setting up of IT Kiosks, an economically viable formula based on revenue sharing need to be worked. Ultimately information access from homes and small businesses must become affordable. Shri Ashok Jhunjhunwala was requested to send recommendations on this.
3. Implementation strategies must encourage competition to ensure Quality of IT services.
4. Places where communication facilities are below national average, private entrepreneurs should be allowed to establish Internet facility by paying only inter-connectivity charges.
5. Concrete strategy need to be evolved for Content creation in regional languages.
6. Standardization of Unicode and Keyboard must be done for all Indian languages.
7. Promotional schemes may be launched to encourage indigenous technology development.
8. Multi-purpose centers may be setup for all services and information.

9. There is tremendous desire of education among different sections of society. For this Internet based or enabled education facilities must be strengthened.
10. Two teachers from all secondary schools must be trained.
11. Role of non-formal sector for sensitization and training may be encouraged.
12. An organizational structure at district, state and inter-state level must be setup to maintain continuity of on-going activities, share experiences and exchange best practices. Comprehensive Web site may also be setup to provide information as well as to get feedback.
13. National IT Mission may be launched to consolidate, strengthen as well as to accelerate activities for achieving ultimate goal.
14. Vision may be focused to achieve that for public utility services nobody needs to go to government offices.

Meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.