गोंडवाना विद्यापीठ गडचिरोली

महाराष्ट्र शासन अधिसूचना क्रमांक २००७/(३२२/०७) विशी—५, महाराष्ट्र अधिनियम १९९४ (१९९४ चा महा. ३५)
च्या कलम ३ च्या पोटकलम (२) अन्वये दिनांक २७ सप्टेंबर २०११ रोजी स्थापीत राज्य विद्यापीठ)

(कुलसचिव कार्यालय)

एम.आय.डी.सी. रोड, कॉम्प्लेक्स, गडचिरोली — ४४२६०५

फोन/फॅक्स नंबर ०७१३२—२२३१०४

E-Mail : registrar.gondwanauniversity@gmail.com

जा.क्र./गोंवीग/कुसका/**4415**/२०१६   दिनांक   २५/०८/२०१६

प्रति,

मा. प्राचार्य
सर्व संलग्नित महाविद्यालये,
गोंडवाना विद्यापीठ,
गडचिरोली.

विषय :— महाविद्यालयांचे संकेतस्थळ मांडणी विकसित व देखरेख करण्याकरीता समितीचे गठन करण्याबाबत...

संदर्भ :— उपसचिव (शिक्षण) मा. राज्यपाल कार्यालय यांचे पत्र क्र. CS/Gen/38/16/CFR/2045 दिनांक २२ जुलै, २०१६

मा. महोदय,

उपरोक्त संदर्भांकित विषयांन्वये सूचित करण्यात येते की, महाविद्यालयाद्वारे तयार केलेले संकेतस्थळाची मांडणी देखरेख व संकेतस्थळ अद्यावत ठेवण्याकरीता महाविद्यालय स्तरावर एक तज्ञ चमूचे गठण करण्यात यावे व या बाबतचा अहवाल विद्यापीठास कळविण्यात यावा.

कुलसचिव
गोंडवाना विद्यापीठ, गडचिरोली

सहपत्र :— उपरोक्त प्रमाणे.

RAJ   BHAVAN
MALABAR HILL
MUMBAI 400 035

22 July 2016

DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNOR OF MAHARASHTRA

To,

The Vice Chancellor,
Gondwana University,
Gadchiroli– 442605.

गोंडवाना विद्यापीठ, गडचिरोली
कुलसचिवांचे कार्यालय
आवक क्र. १७८ दि. 5/8/16
आवक क्र. 52 दि. 6/8/16

Subject :   Regarding to evolve guidelines to design, develop, update and maintain the websites of the Universities, Colleges and other educational institutions.

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the letter dated 2nd July 2016, received by the Chancellor from Prof. (Dr.) Kiran Thakur, Pune, on the subject mentioned above, for your consideration and further appropriate action.

I am further directed to request you to constitute a team to look into the matter of designing, developing, updating and maintaining the website of the University and the Colleges & institutuions affiliated to the University. Action taken report in the matter may please be communicated to this office, for information of the Chancellor.

Your faithfully

(S.M. Salunke)
Deputy Secretary to the Governor (Edn).

Prof. Dr. Kiran Thakur
03, Indrayani
Patrakarnagar
Pune 411016

Mail: drkiranthakur@gmail.com
http://mediasceneindia.blogspot.in/

(M) 9373331733

July 02, 2016

Shree C. Vidyasagar Rao
Chancellor and Governor
Raj Bhavan, Malbaar Hill
Mumbai 400035

D.S.(E)

No. 04/07/16   1699805

5 0011/15/16
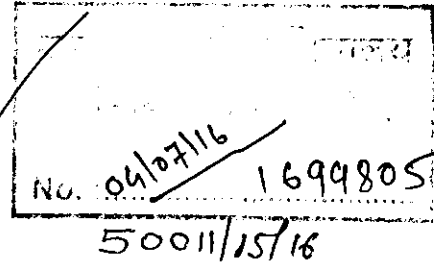
Dear Sir/Madam,

I enclose a copy of a monograph *Websites of State Universities in Maharashtra: A Study of Attributes and Attitudes Towards Content and Responses.* I request you also to peruse the enclosed executive summary and consider the following suggestions for your approval:

- The government should set up a committee to decide on the minimum essential attributes of the state and private universities and of schools.
- The committee should consider need to evolve a watchdog mechanism to ensure that the universities and other academic institutions to design, develop, update, and maintain the websites.
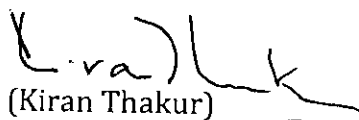- This should be treated as essential for transparency and for service to all the stakeholders.

Following are two examples on the status of contents of the universities in this state:

Search on July 01, 2016 yielded the following results:

Title	Copied from the website of **Mumbai University** http://mu.ac.in/portal/)
Chancellor's details	Shri C. Vidyasagar Rao Contact : - **Phone/Mobile numbers not mentioned** E-mail : - **not mentioned**
Vice-chancellor's details	Dr. Sanjay V. Deshmukh Contact : - **Phones (landline of mobile not available)** E-mail : vice-chancellor@mu.ac.in
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Technological University (www.dbatuonline.com)	
Names of Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Heads of departments, and their contact details **not displayed** on the website.	

I hope you will consider the above.,
Yours sincerely,

(Kiran Thakur)

Prof. Dr. Kiran Thakur
03, Indrayani
Patrakarnagar
Pune 411016

Mail: drkiranthakur@gmail.com
http://mediasceneindia.blogspot.in/

Executive Summary

We carried the study in three phases in 2012, 2013, and 2016 to find how the state universities use the websites to communicate with students, parents, teachers and other stakeholders.

Essential Attributes

We compiled data on the 12 essential attributes which were common in three top world universities, namely Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Cambridge, and Harvard University.

Following were some important observations from the study:

- None of the state universities in Maharashtra contained a section for parents/guardians
- Many universities do not have links to the social networking sites
- Regular updates of the websites were absent in many universities
- Most did not have adequate Marathi contents
- Many universities do not have features like search, web site maps, web masters, feedback, and campus map. At least four universities did not provide profiles of their faculty.

Attitudes and Responses to emails from the university staff

We studied attitudes of the university staff while responding to the queries that parents emailed to them about points such as admissions to the courses. We used email addresses displayed in the Contact Us sections of the Websites of the universities, and of their departments.

- We sent electronic letters with specific queries to email addresses of the heads of departments and their colleagues.
- Data on the responses from 1270 members of the universities have been analysed. Of these, 205 mails bounced, and only 136 replied to the queries. Remaining did not respond.
- We found that many members of the staff were indifferent and or were casual while attending to the queries. Some wrote incorrect English and did not observe email etiquettes.
- Most top executives did not respond to the emails.
- We came across instances also of courteous writings by some staff. In some cases, the faculty attended to the queries even when it was not their responsibility to respond.

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I suggest the Maharashtra government's Ministry of Higher Education, UGC, or Union Ministry of Human Resource Development should evolve guidelines for the academic institutions to set up websites of universities, colleges and other educational institutions. **These guidelines are required because the existing rules cover only the technical issues.**

These ignore the essential attributes that would take care of interests of all the stakeholders, such as students, parents/guardians, teachers and non-teaching staff. There has to be a mechanism to ensure that essential attributes are covered in the websites.

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About me:

Dr Kiran Thakur: I was a journalist for over three decades after which I joined academics in the year 2000. I retired as Professor and Head, Department of Communication and Journalism, University of Pune in 2007, and worked with Mudra Institute of Communications Research, Ahmedabad. My doctoral research was on online journalism and have completed two Major Research Projects funded by the University Grants Commission. The second project submitted earlier this month to the UGC related to Language of English Newspapers.

I have to my credit research papers presented at national and international conferences. My publications include a biography of Dr. N B Parulekar, Pioneer among Indian Journalists, Handbook of Print Journalists and one monograph titled: Websites of State Universities in Maharashtra which concerns topic of this letter.

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