

State knowledge body to go global

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Students from China or Germany could soon be able to make use of the e-learning modules in information technology developed in the state.

In an effort to expand globally, the Maharashtra Knowledge Corporation Limited (MKCL) on Saturday, launched its website in seven foreign languages — Arabic, Spanish, Russian, Indonesian Bahasa, German, Japanese and Mandarin — as well as Hindi and Marathi.

Apart from conducting online college admissions for the past two years, MKCL also conducts the Maharashtra State Certificate in Information Technology, a basic IT literacy course, across the state.

“When a person sitting in China uses the search tool for various e-learning programs, the MKCL website will also appear in the search results. This will help create awareness about MKCL globally,” said Vivek Sawant, MKCL managing director. “Later, we plan to tie up with various universities and expand our network of students. We want to expand our e-learning programmes globally.

At present, the corporation’s subsidiary, MKCL International FZE has a tie-up with the Ministry of Education, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for training students at its various universities in a basic information technology course.

On its 10th Foundation Day, MKCL also inaugurated the Digital Citizenship Course aimed at training citizens in Information Technology that can be used in their daily lives.

“After online admissions, it is crucial to get rid of manual data and move towards computerisation for the entire state,” said Chief Minister Ashok Chavan, who was the chief guest.

“MKCL now needs to take a leap towards global competition. It should also start focusing on other sectors such as animation and gaming that will help generate more employment,” he added.

Apart from plans to digitalise content for conducting classes through e-learning aimed at reducing the school drop out rate, Sawant added that they want to provide courses that will help link the industry with the students and improve employability.

“The youth of Maharashtra need to be empowered with good communication and presentation skills. MKCL should now introduce these courses too,” said Dilip Walse Patil, MKCL founder and the speaker of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.

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