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TEQIP-II sponsored
Center of Excellence in Advanced Materials
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DURGAPUR
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Prof. T. Kumar, Director

No.: NITD/CoE(AM)/TEQIP-II/NPIU/.....

To,
Professor A. U. Digraskar,
Central Project Advisor,
National Project Implementation Unit,
Ed.Cil House, 4th Floor
18-A sector 16-A, Goutam Budh Nagar
Noida-201301, Uttar Pradesh.

Date: July 23, 2014

Sub: Your email Ref. No. AC/TEQIP-II/CoE/2014, dated July 10, 2014

Dear Sir,

This has reference to your recent email in which you have forwarded the feedback of the review committee on the progress of our centre of excellence. First we would like to thank the experts for their time and effort to hear us during the meeting in New Delhi on May 30, 2014 and also for sending their constructive feedback to us. We feel honoured and more inspired than ever by the satisfaction and appreciation expressed by the committee.

The fact that our centre has been "highly recommended for continuation of the Research grant", will encourage us to take even more responsibility to achieve further heights in our mission of excellence. We assure you of our highest possible commitments for the success of this centre and in doing so we have laid down some **action plan** as requested by you which is attached overleaf.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,

(Director)

DIRECTOR
National Institute of Technology
Mahatma Gandhi Avenue
Durgapur - 713209 (W.B.) India

Centre of Excellence at Advanced Materials
National Institute of Technology Durgapur

Action Plan in view of Review Committee's report as on July 23, 2014

1. One of the actions that we are putting at our top priority at the moment is to complete the procurement of all the items that we had planned which has been delayed due to various reasons. Once this is completed, we can then start installing all these equipment and this in turn will have very strong impact on the outcome of the centre in terms of its experimental research.
2. We have recently started providing financial support to members of the centre to compensate the cost associated with characterisation of samples from external institutes for the purpose of this centre until our own facilities are developed and we expect to support more and more in the near future as the activity of the centre increases.
3. We are also recruiting two more Ph.D. students this semester, who may (we hope) start in the next month to work for the centre. This will make the total number of PhD students registered under the centre to six, resulting in a significant increase from its current workforce of four PhD students.
4. We plan to make several industry visits as well as visits by industry people at our centre within the next six months to improve our interaction with industry which is an area we have not had much success yet. However, we hope that once we are done with procurement of all the equipment, we shall be in a better position to market our potential when interacting with the industries.
5. We are also dedicating our focus on training manpower in areas of advanced materials research by organising short-term courses, seminars and conferences. One short course (of one week duration) is being organised in September 2014, and one International Conference on Emerging Materials is on its way to be held in December 2014. The conference will be jointly organised with CSIR-Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute, Kolkata along with several other industry partners. These two major events are likely to have strong impact on the centre's visibility in the national/international community engaged in materials research. We are expecting more such proposals of conferences and courses to come in the next few months from other members of the centre.
6. We value the review committee's comment that "Some application of the materials should be developed", and hence we are proposing a slight alteration in the list of equipment to be procured in order to be able to focus more on the application. For example, a potentiostat/galvanostat for investigating the super-capacitor materials (to be developed at this centre), is being planned as against some small equipment with due permission of the competent authority.

Sach
24/7/14

ADZ
23/7/14