



Two New Initiatives of Ministry of Human Resource Development

Recently, the **Ministry of Human Resource Development** launched two new initiatives viz. **Leadership for Academicians Programme (LEAP)** and **Annual Refresher Programme In Teaching (ARPIT)**.

Leadership for Academicians Programme (LEAP)

- It is a three weeks Flagship **leadership development training programme** (2 weeks domestic and one week foreign training) for second level academic functionaries in **public funded higher education institutions**.
- The main objective is to prepare second tier academic heads who are potentially likely to assume leadership roles in the future.
- The programme would provide senior faculty, with high academic credentials, the required leadership and managerial skills including skills of problem-solving, handling stress, team building work, conflict management, developing communication skills, understanding and coping with the complexity and challenges of governance in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), financial & general administration.
- The implementation of LEAP Programme will be **through 15 National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)** top ranked Indian Institutions and **foreign Universities within the top 100 in the world global rankings**.

Annual Refresher Programme in Teaching (ARPIT)

- It is an initiative for **online professional development of 15 lakh higher education faculty** using the Massive open online courses (MOOCs) platform SWAYAM.

Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)

- MOOC is a **free Web-based distance learning program** that is designed for the participation of large numbers of geographically dispersed students.

SWAYAM

- SWAYAM is a programme initiated by Government of India 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 platform is indigenously **developed by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)** with the help of **Microsoft**.
- For implementing ARPIT, 75 discipline-specific institutions have been identified and notified as

National Resource Centres (NRCs).

- NRCs will prepare online training material with focus on latest developments in the discipline, new & emerging trends, pedagogical improvements and methodologies for transacting revised curriculum.
- NRCs are **located in a mixed range of institutions** such as, Central Universities, IISc, IUCAA, IITs, IISERs, NITs, State Universities.
- ARPIT will be an ongoing exercise so that every year NRCs will continuously develop new refresher module in their earmarked discipline each year.
- The training materials will be uploaded and made available through SWAYAM. NRC will also publish the list of the faculty who have been certified.

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