

Pan African e-Network Project (PAENP)

The Project was conceived by former President of India Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and was formally launched on February 26, 2009..

Under the Pan African e-Network Project, India has set up a fibre-optic network to provide satellite connectivity, tele-medicine and tele-education to countries of Africa. M/s. TCIL, a Government of India undertaking, is implementing the project on behalf of Government of India. (The project cost is approximately Rs. 542 crores.)

The project aims to create significant linkages for tele-education and tele-medicine, internet, video-conferencing and VoIP services, making available the facilities and expertise of some of the best universities and super-specialty hospitals in India to the people of Africa. The receiving centres are fully equipped by GOI and local staff there is trained by Indian experts.

The project is also equipped to support e-governance, e-commerce, infotainment, resource mapping and meteorological and other services in the African countries, besides providing VVIP connectivity among the Heads of State of the African countries through a highly secure closed satellite network.

The project has been commissioned in 47 countries out of the 48 that have signed the agreement with TCIL for participating in the project. The Project is presently being implemented in South Sudan. Angola, South Africa, Equatorial Guinea, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia have not signed the agreement for joining the project.

Under the Telemedicine component, patient end locations have already been set up in the 12 Indian Super Specialty Hospitals, namely, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi; Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi; Apollo Hospitals, Chennai; CARE Hospital, Hyderabad; Escorts Heart Institute and Research Centre, New Delhi; Fortis Hospital, Noida; Narayana Hrudayalya, Bangalore; Sri Ramchandra Medical Centre, Chennai; Moolchand Hospital, New Delhi; HCG, Bangalore; Dr Bala Bhai Nanavati Hospital, Mumbai; Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow

These 12 Indian Super Specialty Hospitals have been connected to 48 Patient-End Locations/Hospitals in African countries.

Tele-Education teaching centres have already been set-up in the five Indian Universities, namely; Amity University, NOIDA; IGNOU New Delhi; BITS, Pilani; University of Delhi; University of Madras.

47 Learning Centers (LCs) have already been set up in African countries.

Tele-Education learning centres have been set-up in the 5 Regional University Centres in Africa, namely, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana; Makerere University, Uganda; Yaounde University, Cameroon; Alexandria Faculty of Commerce, Egypt; Chancellor College, Zomba, Malawi.

9916 students from African countries have already registered with Indian universities for a variety of PG, UG and certificate courses. 3503 tele-education sessions have been held till end September 2012.

Tele-Medicine centres have been set up in four Regional Super Specialty Hospitals in Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Mauritius and Egypt and 5th is in the process of being set up in Senegal.

460 Tele-Medicine consultations have taken place under the Project.

Regular Continuing Medical Education (CME) sessions had started from April 22, 2009 from Super Specialty Hospitals. 2439 CME Sessions in English and 167 CME Sessions in French have been held from Indian Super Specialty Hospitals till September, 2012.

As per existing commitment, GOI will maintain the facilities created in each country for five years after commissioning them.

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