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To,
Director/Principal
AICTE Approved Institutions

Subject: Invitation to conduct for Student Solar Ambassador Workshop 2019, IIT Bombay

Dear Sir/Madam,

In the wake of energy sustainability and mitigating climate change, the idea of “Energy Swaraj” or localized energy self-sufficiency has been conceptualized. **Gandhi Global Solar Yatra** (GGSY, www.ggsy.in) is planned by IIT Bombay not only in India but across the globe to sensitize the young minds towards solar energy and dire consequences of climate change. The young generation, who will bear the maximum burden of climate change, has to be an integral part of this clean energy revolution and Energy Swaraj.

A culmination event of this yatra, the **Students Solar Ambassador Workshop**, is being organized by IIT Bombay on **2nd Oct. 2019**, marking the **150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi**, wherein hands-on training will be given to students to make their own solar study lamp. A similar workshop was also organized on 2nd October 2018, wherein more than 1.30 lakh students assembled their own solar study lamps all over India, which was also a Guinness World Record event.

In the above context, we would like you to invite students from your University/Colleges to participate in this one-day mega- global event on 2nd October 2019. Following points should be kept in mind while registering:

- It is important to enroll at least **50 students** to become a Workshop Associate. Students of **11 years** and above can become participants of this workshop. Schools and universities enrolling as a Workshop Associate can approach their teachers to become Master Trainers.
- The Workshop Associates will bear the lamp cost themselves and the estimated cost of the lamp kit is around INR. 510 -530. Certification fees of INR 10 per student (by the student) have to be paid after registration while freezing the exact count of participants (This amount will directly go to IIT Bombay Donation Account)

We look forward to your positive response.

Regards,

(Prof. M. P. Poonia)
Vice Chairman, AICTE

25/06/19

Students Solar Ambassador Workshop

Hands-on Solar Training for millions of Students on a single day

1. The Context

Today the world is at the crossroads of a contradictory energy scenario wherein, on the one hand, energy access has to be provided to billions while, on the other hand, increasing demand and usage of energy is causing catastrophic climate change. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 calls for ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable & modern energy for all. However, still, more than 1 billion people lack access to electricity while an estimated 2.8 million people lack access to clean cooking fuels¹. However, on the other hand, the over-exploitation of fossil fuels has made **the world already hotter by nearly 1°C**. The 2018 IPCC report² finds that **“limiting global warming to 1.5°C would require “rapid and far-reaching” transitions in energy and there is need to adopt 100% Renewable Energy as early as 2050** in the purview of the climate.

2. The Idea of Energy Swaraj

The 7.6 billion people on earth today are consuming more resources than the earth's capacity to generate those resources in the same year. **Not sustainable!** The world needs to switch towards green energy sources and utilize energy efficiently for sustainability of energy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Renewable energy technology-based solutions today, particularly solar due to advancement in technologies and reduction in cost, can be utilized to meet the complete 24x7 energy needs locally and sustainably. The approach of generation and consumption of energy to fulfill our requirements needs a relook. In this context, Energy Swaraj can be thought of, based on the Gandhian principle of **“not mass production but production by the masses”** is required to be applied in the field of energy for energy sustainability to address United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Local people can be trained to own, manage, and operate solar enterprises at every level including assembly, sale, after-sales service, and manufacturing.

Therefore, the idea of Energy Swaraj is much more relevant and required. The Gandhi Global Solar Yatra is planned to promote the message of Energy Swaraj. During this yatra, the principles of self-governance, self-reliance, non-violence, decentralized institutions, etc. will be discussed with communities. Through this yatra, the sensitizing key policymakers will be done.

3. Expected outcomes of GGSY

The GGSY is organized in the context of climate change, energy access, self-sufficiency in energy and global harmony marking the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. **As a culmination event, the Students Solar Ambassador Workshop will be organized on 2nd October 2019 wherein more than 1 Million students will receive hands-on training in the solar lamp assembly.** Following outcomes are anticipated through the Gandhi Global Solar Yatra and the Students Solar Ambassador Workshop:

- Sensitization towards dire consequence of climate change
- **More than 1 Million Global Students Solar Ambassadors across the globe**
- Skill development for millions of students in schools across the world
- Awareness about off-grid solar solutions for complete, cost-effective and reliable energy
- Policy dialogue with critical stakeholders about decentralized solar energy access at scale
- Promotion of International day on Non-Violence to Environment

4. Invitation to individuals and organizations to support

Climate change has an impact on the lives of all inhabitants of the mother Earth. There is an urgency to act fast to ensure energy sustainability as well as mitigating the changing climate. **Till date, 90 countries have come on-board in the Gandhi Global Solar Yatra, and many more countries are expected to join this global endeavor.** You can also be an essential part of this yatra in the form of Collaborator, Sponsor, Partner, Promoter & Patron. For more details you can visit our website www.ggsy.in or write it to us at info@ggsy.in.

¹ International Energy Agency (IEA), World Energy Outlook, 2017

² “Global Warming of 1.5°C”, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, 2018