



To,

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 2019

Shri Saswat Mishra, IAS  
Commissioner cum Secretary  
Higher Education Department  
Government of Odisha  
Bhubaneswar, Odisha

**Subject:** Extend support to Microsoft Exam Partner Pearson to have access to students' database of free laptop distribution scheme for +2 meritorious students of the state under **Biju Yuva Shashaktikaran Yojana**

Sir,

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude towards Higher Education Department, Odisha for opting for our Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) exam voucher, for the youth of Odisha in free laptop distribution scheme for +2 pass meritorious students under **Biju Yuva Shashaktikaran Yojana**. The effort of the department towards making the youth of Odisha more digitally qualified by providing laptop bundle with Industry certification of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills is a unique step and Microsoft feels proud to be associated with the Government in this noble journey.

During these years of execution of project, we have noticed that the Youth of the state are not able to get the benefit fully due to lack of awareness that three **MOS certifications** are attached with the laptop and the benefit associated with these certifications and because of this we have seen few students taking the exam.

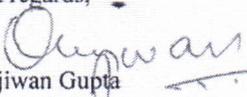
Microsoft's certification partner is Pearson which helps deploy examination centers and enables the consumption of exam vouchers, They have deployed Nice Computers Bhubaneswar to set up centers and encourage students to take exams as well. Unless Pearson has access to the students and also colleges where they are studying, it becomes difficult for them to reach out to students since several students do not have email and phone numbers.

In this regard, we would like to request you to see the possibility to release a letter/advisory to the nodal Colleges(Laptop distribution points) to allow Microsoft exam partner Pearson to have access to students so that they can facilitate the exams and if need be, developing capacity of teachers at colleges where most vouchers are given so that students can be mentored. The letter issued by your office to the Colleges last year was helpful in thousands of students taking the MOS exam. We request for a similar support this year for issuing an advisory to the college, The earlier letter issued by you to the nodal colleges is attached herewith for your ready reference.

Mr Shashaank Bawari, MOS deployment manager Asia at Pearson ([shashaank.bawari@pearson.com](mailto:shashaank.bawari@pearson.com)) will be in touch with you to take this forward. Also in addition, we can promote the advantages for the students if they take these exams and also participate in the MOS championship as well.

We really request you to allow Mr Shashaank to share the details with you on this and request your support so that students can be successful and use the opportunity meaningfully to certify themselves. Kindly acknowledge receipt of this letter and please favour us by sharing the communication sent to the Nodal colleges,

Best regards,

  
Omjiwan Gupta  
Director Education

Cc: Dr. Mihir Das, OIC, PTC, Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Odisha