

UPRTOU to develop world-class study material for students

- **K Sandeep Kumar, Hindustan Times, Allahabad**
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The Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open will develop world-class study material for students and provide special training to counsellors to guide pupils in association with Commonwealth Educational Media Centre For Asia . (Anil Dayal / HT file)

The Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University (UPRTOU) will develop world-class study material for students and provide special training to counsellors to guide pupils in association with New Delhi-based with the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre For Asia (CEMCA).

“Talks are in an advanced stage and we plan to sign the MoU soon. UPRTOU and CEMCA collectively plan to work on several plans like counsellors training programme, designing study material, developing massive open online courses (MOOCs) and ICT integration in teacher education programmes,” MP Dube, UPRTOU’s vice-chancellor, said.

CEMCA is a part of Commonwealth of Learning (COL), an inter-government organisation created by Commonwealth heads of government, to promote development and sharing of open learning and distance education knowledge, resources and technologies.

“The focus of COL is on strengthening institutions in developing Commonwealth countries that are striving to provide affordable education,” Dube said.

Established in 1994, CEMCA broadened the scope of education to cover formal, non-formal and lifelong education at all levels.

Dube said that setting up of a community radio was also a part of the agreement.

“Through community radio, we will air educational programmes tailor-made for students of the region besides providing help to our students. Interviews with scientists and experts will also be a highlight of the community radio,” the UPRTOU vice-chancellor said.

Another vital part of the mission will be to fine-tune open educational resources (OER) policy for the university.

“The aim of the exercise will be to promote and implement the creation, reuse, remix, re-purpose and redistribution of OER within an open licensing framework and finalise other terms and conditions as laid down by the university from time to time. The policy is fully prepared and we plan to implement it soon,” Dube added. UPRTOU

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