

Terms of Reference and Organization

The National Knowledge Commission (NKC) was constituted on 13th June 2005 as a high level advisory body to the Prime Minister of India. The vision for NKC was articulated by Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India, in the following words:

“The time has come to create a second wave of institution building, and of excellence in the fields of education, research and capability building.”

The Terms of Reference of NKC are:

- Build excellence in the educational system to meet the knowledge challenges of the 21st century and increase India’s competitive advantage in fields of knowledge.
- Promote creation of knowledge in Science & Technology laboratories.
- Improve the management of institutions engaged in Intellectual Property Rights.

- Promote knowledge applications in Agriculture and Industry.
- Promote the use of knowledge capabilities in making government an effective, transparent and accountable service provider to the citizen and promote widespread sharing of knowledge to maximize public benefit.

National Knowledge Commission has a designated time-frame of three years from 2nd October 2005 to 2nd October 2008

The second Report of NKC gives an overview of all the recommendations submitted by the Commission, as well as the follow up on the first set of recommendations. The full text of the recommendations submitted in 2007 and details of NKC consultations are also included in this report.

Organization

NKC consists of seven members, including the Chairman. All members perform their duties on a part-time basis and do not claim any remuneration.

The Members are assisted in their duties by a small Technical Support Staff headed by an Executive Director seconded to the NKC by the government. The Commission is also free to co-opt experts to assist in the management of its tasks.

The Planning Commission is the nodal agency for the NKC for planning and budgeting purposes as well as for handling Parliament submissions or responses.

