

Sikkim Manipal University Directorate of Distance Education launches ‘Vidyadeep’ – a nationwide scholarship initiative

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Category: [Associations & Organizations](#)

Press release from: [Sikkim Manipal University Directorate of Distance Education](#)

The article is about the introduction of scholarships initiative taken by Sikkim Manipal University of Distance Education to the poorer section of the society.

Sikkim Manipal University Directorate of Distance Education (SMU-DDE) today announced the launch of Vidyadeep, a nationwide scholarship program for 1500 meritorious and deserving students of SMU-DE programs across India. Out of these 1500 scholarships, 500 scholarships will be offered to students from the North East alone. This scholarship is a ‘first of its kind pioneering initiative’ in the field of distance education in the country!

At the 2nd National Learning Centre Convention at Mysore on 14th December 2009, in the presence of representatives from more than 400 learning centres of SMU-DE in India, Brand Ambassador for Manipal Education, Anil Kumble, and Brig. (Retd.) Dr. S.S. Pabla, Vice Chancellor, Sikkim Manipal University, launched ‘Vidyadeep’. Appreciating Manipal Group’s dedication and commitment towards education and healthcare, Anil Kumble applauded the efforts of SMU-DE in making quality higher education accessible to students and aspirants from the hinterland of India. He said, “Vidyadeep is a laudable initiative to help deserving students realize their educational dreams. I am sure this is a milestone in itself. SMU-DE is revolutionizing distance education in India providing access and equity to all its students.”

The scholarship programme is in the form of upto 100% tuition fee waiver for students currently in the 1st to 5th semester for the streams of IT, Management, Journalism & Mass Communication, Fashion, Hospitality & Tourism, Allied Health, Biotechnology and Bioinformatics.

Eligibility criteria include:

- Low family income
- Qualifying exam marks – an average of 45% and above
- Marks in last exam (for the 1st semester students)

Vice Chancellor of Sikkim Manipal University Brig.(Retd.) Dr. S.S. Pabla said “Commemorating our commitment to higher education for all, we are proud to launch this scholarship programme for our students. We encourage students to apply and avail this opportunity to realize their dreams”.

About Sikkim Manipal University – Directorate of Distance Education (SMU-DE)

Sikkim Manipal University – Directorate of Distance Education (SMU-DE) is amongst the largest distance education providers in India and offers Post Graduate, Degree and Diploma programs across 10 disciplines. The SMU-DE was established in 2001 by the Sikkim Manipal University of Health, Medical and Technological Sciences as part of its efforts to bring education to the masses to fulfill the growing demand for professionals and individuals who do not have the luxury of time to join regular, full-time courses. The programs offered by SMU are recognized by the Distance Education Council (DEC) of the Government of India.

As a part of its continuous efforts to improve pedagogy and instructional system in distance learning, Manipal has recently introduced EduNxt, the next-generation interactive learning system. Affordable and easy to use, EduNxt enables a collaborative and interactive environment for learning thus shifting the Education paradigm from being ‘faculty-centric’ to a ‘learner-centric’, thus making quality education available to all, at the convenience of their own time and location.

Website: www.smude.edu.in

EduNxt: edunxt.smude.edu.in

Sikkim Manipal University of Distance Education is a education providing university and it provides courses in IT, Management etc

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[You can find this press release here](#)