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## Video conferencing software to connect 20,000 colleges across the country

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The central government has decided to connect 20,000 colleges across the country through video conferencing software called 'A-view'. The software would allow students to attend lectures by well known faculty through online classes.

A meeting between the higher education secretary Ashok Thakur and 60 vice chancellors from colleges and universities across the country was convened to familiarize the heads of institutions with the software.

The e-learning platform, which will enable teachers and faculty to interact with participants in remote classrooms using the internet, was developed by Kollam-based Amrita University under the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology programme. The software will address the shortage of highly-trained, experienced faculty across the country and will additionally provide a platform for social collaboration among teachers and students.

The programme would especially come as a boon for universities and colleges in remote places where getting good faculties is a challenge in itself. A source from the North Eastern Hill University in Shillong revealed that 'A-view' would be particularly useful for them, since the university had 100 affiliate institutions in remote areas.

Currently, about 450 universities and 2000 colleges including [Mumbai University](#), [NITTTR Calcutta](#), [Pondicherry University](#), [IIT Hyderabad](#) are connected by the software and a program known as 'enlighten yourself every Saturday' is being broadcast to connected colleges.