

PRESS RELEASE

Mr. Jean Philippe Courtois, President, Microsoft International met Selvi J Jayalalithaa, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu today (6.3.2012) at Secretariat, Chennai-9 and discussed about further investments in the fields of education, e-governance, etc.

At the outset, Mr. Jean Philippe Courtois commended the steps taken by Selvi J Jayalalithaa, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in the field of education.

During the course of discussion, Mr. Jean Philippe Courtois recalled the Memorandum of Understanding entered with Microsoft Corporation by the Government of Tamil Nadu in November, 2005, which was aimed at accelerating IT literacy amongst Government School teachers and students in Tamil Nadu.

He informed that Microsoft Corporation is desirous of extending their core programmes such as 1) Faculty empowerment for non-IT faculty at higher education level 2) Peer coaching programme for select Teachers to serve as peer coaches for their colleagues 3) Nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship among students in higher education / IT Departments and Nurturing software start-ups and 4) Establishment of Cloud Computing Centres which will serve as a Centre of Excellence in cloud computing.

Selvi J Jayalalithaa, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu promised all help in collaboration with Microsoft Corporation for the training programmes and in establishing the Cloud Computing Centres.

On behalf of Microsoft Corporation, Mr. Baskar Pramanaick, Chairman, Microsoft India, Mr. Ranbir Singh, Director, MS India, Mr. Pratik Mehta, Director, MS India, and Mr. Alan, Business Manager, MS India were present. On behalf of Government of Tamil Nadu, the Chief Secretary, the Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education, the Principal Secretary, School Education, and the Secretary, Information Technology were present.

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