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## **LEARNING CURVE - DU's Life Long Learning Institute to be decentralised**

Delhi University's Institute of Life Long Learning (ILLL) is all set to be decentralised. The smaller versions of the learning centre will be located in 12 colleges. This is a step towards making learning a more interactive process between students and teachers. The ILLL presently has two centres--one in north campus and the other in south campus.

ILLL, which was started in 2007, is meant to provide additional study materials and tools to the students of the university. It has a portal which hosts e-content such as e-lectures, quizzes, e-lessons, e-labs for around 12 subjects.

“Setting up smaller versions of the ILLL in colleges will mean using connectivity in every way, be it connecting minds or institutions. It will be a two-way learning process where the students too will give their inputs on providing learning material,” said vice-chancellor Dinesh Singh.

The 12 colleges which are still in the process of being finalised will be chosen based on their competence on information and communication technology, and also their ability to provide additional inputs to ILLL.

**EARN WHILE YOU LEARN** The choice of these colleges will also be instrumental in integrating the students in the process of content creation.

“Creating content for so many subjects requires a lot of manpower and at the same time it costs us a lot. A decision has been taken to rope in students from computer science to help upload the material on the portal and also be paid for it. This way, they will not only utilise their skills but also earn both money and experience as they study,” said Chaturvedi.

**ONLINE DEGREE SOON** The ILLL is also planning to upload material for foreign students, who can obtain a Delhi University degree online. “The popularity of the university among African and southeast Asian students has grown over the years. A lot of students from this region cannot travel to India. So we are planning to make degrees available online,” said Chaturvedi.

A step in this direction has been taken in the form of the School of Open Learning, which runs a pan-Africa e-network project. Students from six African nations can avail online lectures in two certificate programmes: accounting and communication skills. On completion of the course, these students are awarded DU certificates.

## DEGREE OF CHANGE

- Decentralisation of ILLL will make learning a more interactive process.
- DU will identify 12 colleges for its learning centres. Right now, the ILLL has only two centres.
- Computer Science students will be roped in to help upload the material on its portal and will be paid for their work.
- There are also plans to make DU degrees available online by uploading material on the Net