

#### **4.3.1 Institution frequently updates its IT facilities and provides sufficient bandwidth for internet connection**

The campus network at Pondicherry University was established in 1998, initially connecting four buildings via Optic Fibre Cable (OFC). Over the years, this intranet has significantly expanded in size, capacity, and scope, now covering all academic and administrative buildings. The network integrates data, voice, and IP-enabled video services, utilizing a gigabit-switched infrastructure supported by approximately 31 kilometers of OFC. Each building is equipped with Structured Data Cabling (SDC) to provide reliable wired connectivity.

In addition to wired access, the campus is fully equipped with VoIP phones in all buildings. These phones use a SIP server, Communication Gateway, Communication Manager, and SIP Phones to facilitate seamless communication. Campus-wide Wi-Fi extends network access throughout the campus, allowing users to connect from virtually anywhere at any time. Since 2001, internet access has been provided through the intranet, with bandwidth steadily increased from 1 Mbps to 1 Gbps to meet the growing demands of the University. This upgrade ensures robust and reliable internet connectivity for all users.

Pondicherry University has been connected to the National Knowledge Network (NKN) since January 12, 2011. This connection allows access to a wide range of online journals that were previously available through the UGC-Infonet consortia. The NKN network enhances collaboration with universities, colleges, and premier research institutions across the country. The Computer Centre acts as the nodal center for the NKN, managing and supporting its functions.

The Computer Centre also plays a key role in establishing EDUSAT for the UGC Academic Staff College, now known as the MMTTC. EDUSAT services are available to the university community, particularly benefiting participants in various MMTTC programs. The Centre provides orientation sessions on using EDUSAT to ensure effective engagement with its services.

In addition to these responsibilities, the Computer Centre manages web content hosting for several university units, including the UGC MMTTC, Dean of Students Welfare, FM Community Radio Station, Directorate of Distance Education, and Community Colleges. The Centre offers a comprehensive range of IT support services, including Web Services; Internet Services; E-mail Services, Video Conferencing and Live Webcasts, VoIP Intercom, Biometric Attendance Systems, Emergency Management Systems (EMS), Complaints Management System for Electrical and Engineering Wings, Online Application and Computer-Based Testing for Entrance Exams and Online Admissions for Postgraduate and Research Programs.

These services ensure that the university's technological infrastructure supports both academic and administrative functions efficiently, enhancing the overall operational effectiveness of the campus. All the above said services are governed by a strong IT policy in the Institute.