

1st Commonwealth hub for civil servants likely in city

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Gurgaon: The city is likely to get the first Commonwealth Hub for Business of Governments to train civil servants across 56 nations in government performance management. Management Development Institute (MDI), Gurgaon presented a proposal to set up the hub at a conference held on Tuesday.

The hub will provide training to civil servants on the effective delivery of public services and efficient imple-

mentation of public policies. The hub is expected to stimulate capacity building and research in these areas, said Prajapati Trivedi, special envoy to the Commonwealth Secretary-General and professor at MDI.

The Commonwealth is setting up the hub based on the model of IBM Centre for the Business of Government in Washington DC, a private institute. This would be the first Commonwealth-run hub on business of governments in the world. Mauritius has a similar hub for climate.

The Gurgaon hub will include an advisory board of experts with a secretariat under the institute's overall governance, according to Rajnish Kumar, MDI chairman. These experts will conduct the training.

A formal announcement of the hub will be made at an international conference to be held in June, after MDI gets all the necessary permissions from the government.

"Most governments across the world are facing the troubles of fragmented institutional responsibility

for performance management and implementation, and selective coverage with a time lag in reporting," Trivedi said.

Many nations in the Commonwealth suffer from digital divide and implementation divide, said Patricia Scotland, the Commonwealth Secretary-General. Pointing out that of the 2.6 billion people in the Commonwealth, 1.3 billion are from India, she said, "India has made many of our member states believe that change and development are possible."