

## CBSE set to roll out virtual labs online

Vinod Nedumudy, **January 6, 2012**



Performing an experiment showing reflection of light on a concave mirror, the reaction of zinc with dilute sulphuric acid and other lab activities in schools is going to be different.

Students in schools affiliated to CBSE will soon enter the virtual lab environment to do tests online instead of gathering instruments and chemicals in physical lab environment.

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) in association with Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC), Mumbai, the Amrita University and the ministries of human resources development and IT is readying to make available online labs for Class IX and X students across the country.

Physics and chemistry subjects alone will be taken up in the first phase.

The CBSE chairman, Mr Vineet Joshi, told Deccan Chronicle that he hoped to make the nationwide launch of the facility within the next fortnight.

The online lab is based on the idea that experiments can be taught using the internet more efficiently and less expensively.

Simulations in 2D and 3D modes and interactive animations on computers will help students understand and practice the experiments.

All these are aligned to the CBSE syllabus and will describe the working of real world experimentation concepts.

The four divisions of an experiment will consist of theory, procedure, simulator and viva voce.

“This environment will enable schools spare physical lab environment and thus cut costs too. Students will be spared of coming in contact with chemicals in the case of chemistry experiments.”

“The tests will bring accurate results also,” said Ms Susan, a teacher.

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