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From: Amalendu Chandra
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 11:07 PM
To: acadstaff@lists.iitk.ac.in
Subject: Meeting to discuss formation of an HPC Group

Dear Colleagues:

We are writing this e-mail to explore the possibility of forming an HPC
(High Performance Computing) Research Group at Institute level. The
idea of forming such a Group came while some of us were having an informal
discussion with DORD who felt that presence of such a Group would help
in better coordination of HPC activities with R&D office at the Institute
level and also perhaps with other nodal agencies outside IITK who support
HPC activities.

The Institute is in the process of upgrading the central computing
facilities on campus. With support from DST and our Institute, a
372-node HPC cluster was purchased a couple of years ago. This cluster,
housed in the Computer Centre, is currently the main computing facility
at the Centre which is being used by about 45 research groups. Housing
bigger clusters and more servers would require better infrastructural
facilities. To address this need for better infrastructural facilities,
a modern data centre consisting of three server rooms with
state-of-the-art precision air conditioning and fire safety features is
being built in the Computer Centre with full support from the Institute.
Many other infrastructural installations related to this Data Centre,
such as a new high-capacity electrical transformer, new DG sets, UPS
systems, electrical cables etc have already been put in place (thanks
to IWD for many of these installations). CC would be in a position to
host substantially bigger HPC facilities once this Data Centre comes
into operation in the second half of this year.

It's time that we start working to take the HPC initiative to its next phase. Clearly, formation of an HPC Group of interested people who are willing to work for advancement of the HPC initiative would be very relevant at this stage. In view of this, we are planning a meeting on April 20, 2012, at the Conference room of CC at 5 PM to discuss the possible formation of an HPC Research Group and also to outline the course of work that this Group (if formed) is expected to do over, say, next 1-2 years. All interested are welcome to the Meeting.

Thank you and best regards,

A. Chandra   S. Mittal   M.K. Verma   J.K. Singh

S. Aggarwal   R. Sankarramakrishnan   M. Ranganathan   N. Nair