

IGNOU

MINUTES OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE **PLANNING BOARD OF THE INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD IN THE OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY AT K-76, HAUZ KHAS, NEW DELHI-110 016 ON MARCH 26, 1991 AT 10.30 HOURS**

The following were present:

- 1. Prof. V.C. **Kulandai Swamy** Chairman
- 2. Prof. Arun K **Mishra**
- 3. **Sh. Upendra Vajpeyi**
- 4. Dr Vina **Mazumdar**
- 5. Prof. T.V. **Rao**
- 6. Miss **Amrita Patel**
- 7. Prof. A.K. **Jalaluddin**
- 8. Dr L.M. **Nath**
- 9. **Prof. M. Shanmuqham**
- 10. Shri C.R. **Pillai**
- 11. Dr A.B. **Bose**
- 12. Dr R.K. **Grover**
- 13. Dr **P. Rengaramanujam**
- 14. Sh K. Narayanan, Registrar Member-Secretary

Dr. N.C.B. Nath and Dr T.S. **Papola** could not attend the meeting,

Shri K.J.S. **Prasada Rao**, Dy Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Member-Secretary.

Before the items of agenda were taken up, the **Vice-Chancellor** welcomed those members of the **Planning Board** who were attending the meeting for the first time. Thereafter, a brief introduction of the members followed.

The following agenda items were considered:

ITEM NO.1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE **PLANNING BOARD HELD ON NOVEMBER 19, 1990.**

10.1.1 The Member-Secretary pointed out that at page '5' of the minutes, under items No.5 and 6 respectively, the resolutions did not indicate their numbers. These are to be numbered 9.5.1 and 9.6.1 respectively. This was agreed to.

10.1.2 The Planning Board considered the comments received from one of the members regarding certain additions under item No.2 and 9. The Vice-Chancellor explained that paras (1) to (x) under Resolution No.9.2.3 were broadly the views expressed at the meeting. While the member did express the views as stated by him, the Vice-Chancellor pointed out that

it may not be feasible to record in the Minutes the statements made by every member. Attempt is normally made to grasp the salient points made during the discussion. He suggested, however, that the member's views may also be included in the minutes as indicated below:

(i) Para (xi) be added under Resolution No.9.2.3.

"A view was expressed that an internal sub-committee may be set up with representatives of all Schools and Divisions to process the matters related to Planning so that it would be easier for the Planning Division to finalise the items of the agenda for the Planning Board Meetings".

(ii) Para (vii) be added under Resolution No.9.9.3:

"A suggestion was made that an expert translation call may be set up at the IGNOU to guide the State Open Universities/Directorates of Distance Education in all the States, who come forward to launch IGNOU courses/programmes in regional languages."

10.1.3 With the above additions, the minutes of the 9th meeting of the Planning Board held on November 19, 1990, were confirmed.

ITEM NO. 1A TO CONSIDER COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM THE DIRECTOR, SCHOOL OF SCIENCES, ON THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD HELD ON NOVEMBER 19, 1990.

10.1A.1 The Planning Board noted the observations made by the Director, School of Sciences.

ITEM NO.2 TO CONSIDER A NOTE ON THE PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE TAKEN UP BY THE IGNOU IN THE REMAINING YEARS OF THE EIGHTH FIVE YEAR PLAN (1992-95).

10.2.1 The Planning Board considered the note on the progress made by the University and the programmes and activities to be taken up in the remaining years of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Board noted the progress on: (i) the programmes an offer; (ii) the preparations for launching new programmes in the areas of Computer Applications, Nursing, Water Resources Management, Construction Management, Education etc.; and (iii) the plans for development of new programmes.

10.2.2 The Planning Board also noted that the University has decided to make course-wise registration for the Management Programmes from 1992; and that some

significant steps have been taken for the operationalisation of the provisions contained in section 5(2) of the IGNOU Act for the promotion, coordination and setting of standards of the distance education system.

### 10.2.3

After a brief introduction, the Vice-Chancellor invited views and suggestions from members on the performance of the University so far and the directions of its future growth. During the general discussion that followed, a number of points were made. Some of the major points made were:

- (i) The objectives of the University could be achieved only if the University enrolled large numbers of students especially from rural areas, remote areas etc. It is, therefore, necessary that the University develops appropriate mechanisms and structures like the Open University Network as early as possible.
- (ii) It is equally important that the programmes and courses offered by the University are relevant to the life and work of the target population for whom the programmes are intended.
- (iii) The University should initiate steps to develop suitable methodologies for determining programme areas, in defining their content and structure, and also in marketing them;
- (iv) The Management programmes of the University have made significant progress and continue to attract large enrolment. It was noted that these programmes did not insist on any pre-entry academic qualifications and that they enabled working managers to obtain an MHA Degree.
- (v) The structure of the management programmes has much to contribute to its success. No student is admitted directly to the Master's Degree; the programmes are so structured that a student can either obtain an MBA or any one or more of the five Diploma Programmes that comprise the MBA. It was also noted that the range of courses in the next two years would permit two more diploma programmes in specialised areas. This flexibility in structure contributes significantly to sustaining student interest and is an

important aspect which should be considered for restructuring the programmes in other professional areas in the future.

- (vi) The programmes presently offered in Management were, by and large, to meet the human resource development needs of the profit making sectors. The University should consider offering programmes to professionalise management of the non-profit sector including the service sectors.
- (vii) The School of Management should try to establish active collaboration with the large number of professional bodies working in the country at present. It should also establish inter-faces with other Schools of the University, for example, with the School of Education in the area of Management of Education, with the School of Continuing Education in the area of Management of Rural Development, and so on.
- (viii) The experience of the Bachelor's Degree was not as encouraging. Although it is too early to express any firm view on emerging trends, (the first cycle of the programme has not yet completed) student registration for the second and third years suggests a lack of sustained student interest. Unlike the management programmes, the Bachelor's Degree Programme did not offer any intermediate qualifications. A student either got a Bachelor's Degree or nothing.
- (ix) In the overall context of student progress in the Bachelors Degree Programme, some doubts were expressed whether it would be advisable to commit a substantial part of the University's resources to the Bachelors Degree Programmes in the future.
- (x) Continuing social pressure for University degrees and the fact that promotional opportunities in various employment sectors are progressively being linked to the attainment of higher qualifications, there would be sufficient justification for the University to continue to offer Bachelor's Degree Programme in general education subjects. However, it would be worthwhile if the Bachelor's degree programmes offered by the University are given a different orientation from those offered by conventional Universities by incorporating

more employment-related and application-oriented courses.

- (xi) The Bachelors degree Programme in Science to be offered by the University should be open to students who have taken the vocational stream at the + 2 stage.
- (xii) The proposed programme of training of teachers (BEd) may be designed on a modular pattern; it could contain Diploma programmes in specialised areas of higher secondary education, like science teaching, vocational education, curriculum design and development, etc. There could also be advanced diplomas for such teachers in these areas. A degree programme (BEd) could be built around two or more such Diploma programmes.
- (xiii) The University might consider launching programmes in legal education especially in areas of law for every day life. These programmes could be related to Management (Labour Laws, Consumer Protection etc.) in Rural Development (Land Reforms, Rural credit etc.) and so on.
- (xiv) The University should also consider a greater involvement of the large number of non-governmental organisations working in the field of rural development throughout the country. Their experience and expertise could be drawn upon in designing and developing programmes as well as in their delivery.
- (xv) For the Bachelor's degree programme, the University might consider Micro-electronic Applications, Rural Entrepreneurship, Medicinal Plant Cultivation and Processing, etc, as possible areas in which employment-related courses could be developed.
- (xvi) In the context of the experience of the last 4-5 years, while developing new programmes, the University will also have to consider an appropriate marketing methodology. For example, in its advertisement for recruitment of teachers, the University has indicated preference for those who have obtained IGNOU Diploma in Distance Education. The University should initiate efforts to evolve an effective strategy for the determination of programmes in the future, by linking various qualifications offered by it with the

career development opportunities within different professional fields. Extensive consultations with various employing organisations could be initiated as a part of such a strategy.

- (xvii) In this context, it was suggested that the proposed Diploma in Higher Education should be linked with the career development design of University and college teachers and discussions should be held with the University Grants Commission as soon as the courses are finalised.
- (xviii) In the context of expansion of higher education facilities, several Universities are considering introduction of correspondence education on the same pattern as in other conventional Universities. If the IGNOU's role in coordination and maintenance of standards in distance education has to be effective, the University should be associated with the decisions of such Universities in the planning stages of their programmes of correspondence education. For this purpose, appropriate mechanisms for consultation with the IGNOU should be established as early as possible.
- (xix) Since IGNOU graduates of some programmes have begun to come out and their number is still not too large, it would be worthwhile if the University could consider evaluation of its programmes based on the reaction of students and their employers. Such an evaluation would provide valuable experience in design and development of new programmes.
- (xx) Since the 8th plan is yet to be finalised, it would be desirable to identify the thrust areas for programme development in the next 3-4 years and work out the priorities.

- 10.2.4 The Planning Board decided that the Vice-Chancellor may appoint a Committee to consider the various suggestions/views mentioned above, and to recommend the action to be taken on them.
- ITEM NO.3 TO REPORT ON THE HOLDING OF THE SECOND CONVOCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY.
- 10.3.1 The Vice-Chancellor informed the Board that the Second Convocation of the University is scheduled to be held on Saturday, April 27, 1991 at the Siri Fort Auditorium and that Dr Shanker Dayal Sharma,

Vice-President, has agreed to be the Chief Guest and deliver the Convocation Address. A list of students who have qualified for the award of Diplomas is placed at Appendix-1. This was noted.

ITEM NO.4 TO REPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCHOOL OF COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES.

10.4.1 The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained the need for establishment of a separate School of Computer and Information Sciences and informed that the Board of Management had, at its meeting held on February 18, 1991, considered the matter. The Board of Management has approved the establishment of such a School by upgrading the centre for computer education. The School will formally be set up as soon as the amendment proposed to the Statute 10A on Schools of Studies received the approval of the Visitor. The Planning Board noted these decisions.

ITEM NO.5 TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL ON MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE PROPOSED BY THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES.

10.5.1 The Board considered the proposal of the School of Social Sciences for launching a Masters Degree Programme in Library and Information Science. The Vice-Chancellor explained that the University's Bachelor's degree programme in Library Science is progressing well and that it would be appropriate to develop a Master's degree programme also in Library and Information Science. The Planning Board approved the proposal in principle and desired that it be placed before the Academic Council.

ITEM NO.6 TO REPORT ON THE PROGRESS MADE WITH REGARD TO THE BSc NURSING PROGRAMME UNDER THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES.

10.6.1 It was reported that consultations are on with the Indian Nursing Council, the ROK Nursing College, Delhi, and the Nursing Advisor in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for launching the programme of B.Sc. Degree in Nursing. The Vice-Chancellor informed the Board that an Expert Committee consisting of eminent educationists in Nursing has been set up to work out the modalities. It was also stated that at the last meeting of the Board of Management held on February 18, 1991, the Board had approved the creation of posts of a Professor, two Readers and four Lecturers for the School of Health Sciences. The Planning Board

noted the progress of preparatory work for the launching of the B.Sc Programme in Nursing.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

V.C. Kulandai Swamy  
Vice-Chancellor

10/11/2011  
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APPENDIX-1  
(to 10.3.1)

IGNOU

Number of Students qualified for Diploma/Certificate  
in 1989

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	Batch	
1. Certificate in Rural Development.	1988/89	133
2. Certificate in Food & Nutrition.	1988/89	531
3. Diploma in Management.	1987	221
	1988	1359
	1989	547
4. Advanced Diploma in Management.	1988	154
	1989	86
5. Diploma in Distance Education	1987	61
	1988	142
	1989	63
6. Diploma in Creative Writing in English	1988	9
	1989	30

