

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

Planning and Development Division

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-EIGHTH(38th) MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD
HELD ON **28th** APRIL, **2011** AT **11:00** AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM,
BLOCK-8, IGNOU, MAIDANGARHI, NEW **DELHI – 110 068.**

The following were present:

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| 1. | Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU. | Chairman |
| 2. | Prof. B.P. Sanjay , Vice Chancellor, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur. | Member |
| 3. | Shri Kiran Karnik, Chairman, Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi and Former President NASSCOM. | Member |
| | Prof. Udai Pratap Singh, Former Professor, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. | Member |
| 5. | Prof. J.Shashidhara Prasad, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Mysore, Mysore. | Member |
| 6. | Dr. Deepak Sood , Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla. | Member |
| 7. | Prof. Kalyan K. Dutta, Jadavpur University, Kolkata. | Member |
| 8. | Prof. S.P. Narang, Honorary Professor of Eminence, New Delhi. | Member |
| 9. | Prof. Pardeep Sahni, School of Social Sciences, IGNOU. | Member |
| 10. | Prof. Savita Singh, Director, School of Gender & Development Studies, IGNOU. | Member |
| 11. | Prof. K. Elumalai , Director, School of Law, IGNOU. | Member |
| 12. | Dr. B.S. Sudhindra, Director, Regional Services Division, IGNOU. | Member |
| 13. | Shri U.S. Totia , Registrar, Administration, IGNOU. | Member |
| 14. | Prof. A.K.Jha , Director, Planning and Development Division, IGNOU. | Member-Secretary |

The following members could not attend the meeting:

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| 1 | Shri Anil K. Agarwal , President, COSMOS Group, New Delhi and Former President ASSOCHAM. | Member |
| 2 | Prof. Rupa Shah, Former Vice Chancellor, SNTD University, Mumbai. | Member |
| 3 | Prof. A. Sukumar Nair, Former Vice Chancellor, Kerala University. | Member |

The following special invitees from the University were also present in the meeting:

1. Dr. Latha Pillai, Pro Vice Chancellor, IGNOU.
2. Prof. Parvin Sinclair, Pro Vice Chancellor, IGNOU.

3. Prof. K.R. Srivathsan, Pro Vice Chancellor, IGNOU.
4. Prof. P.R. **Ramanujam**, Pro Vice Chancellor, IGNOU.
5. Prof. Pushplata Tripathi, Registrar, Student Evaluation Division (SED), IGNOU.
6. Dr. Arun Banik, Director, National Centre for Disability Studies (NCDS), IGNOU.

Shri Pankaj Khanna, Deputy Director, Planning and Development Division was **present** in the meeting to assist the Member Secretary.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members to **the meeting** of the Planning Board. He introduced the new members Prof. K. **Elumalai** and Prof. **A.K.Jha**. After a brief introduction by the members, the Chairman informed the Board about the recently held 22nd Convocation on April 2, 2011' (Saturday) in which about 2 Lakh candidates that passed in December 2009 and June 2010 examination were awarded their respective degrees and diplomas. Chief Guest Shri Kapil **Sibal**, Hon'ble Union Minister for HRD delivered the Convocation address which was telecast to all regional centres and also **webcast**. Prof. **P.T.Manoharan**, distinguished Scientist and Former Vice Chancellor of Madras University delivered the Guest of honour address and distributed Gold medals and awards. After briefing about high success rate in the term end examination, he told that the evaluation and result declaration of over three lakh students, who appeared for the December 2010 examination, has been completed by the **University** in less than 45 days. He then apprised about the need for amending the Ordinance of the **University** for declaration of the result and issuance of the grade card for the Term-end Examination within 45 days as per tabled agenda item, which was circulated before the Planning Board members. He informed that IGNOU conducts term-end-examination twice a year, though Convocation is conducted only once a year. This mechanism causes a delay of awarding of degrees by **10 to 16** months after declaration of results. It was also stated that the Academic Council has already approved the proposal for amendment of related ordinance ■ regulation to convene Convocation twice a year i.e. in the month of October (in respect of June TEE) and April (in respect of **Dec.** TEE) to avoid unnecessary delay of awarding of degree. The Planning Board members deliberated over the proposed procedure and appreciated the move so as to avoid delay in awarding of degree and limiting the duration of Convocation function to maximum 2 hours.

Chairman in continuation to above, briefed that at present more than 400 academic programmes are on offer which includes **on-campus** programmes in addition to ODL programmes. Various steps were **initiated** for enhancement of Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) like the reaching the unreached through Community Colleges, Convergence Scheme and ICT expansion through collaborations. Under the Convergence Scheme, the ideal infrastructure of the Conventional University and IGNOU course material is being utilized for teaching and learning processes in about 400 colleges of potential excellence. Army Community Colleges is a big success, wherein people who are not eligible to enter into higher education have been made to enter into the third year of degree programme after completion of two years associate programme. The associate degree concept which is very much prevalent at International level especially in the Open University System of China has been implemented in the University. He briefed about the achievements made for Skill development wherein pacts have been signed

with Government of Madhya Pradesh. A full fledged **Community** College has been set up in collaboration with Government of Haryana in **Manesar**. These **innovative** initiatives along with high campus placements and particular to mention about Tihar jail study centre placements have helped in improving the enrolment dramatically and at present the total enrolment of the University is more than three million.

After above deliberations, Chairman informed about the White paper on the Financial Status of University and details of this white paper published in the **OpenLetter**, which was circulated among members. He told that Board of Management while considering the Annual Accounts of the University for the financial year 2009-10 resolved to have White Paper on overall financial status of the University as on date, **inter-alia** giving full details of the receipts, expenditures, investments and value of the assets etc. to be duly examined & certified by a reputed **agency/firm**. He informed that in the Finance Committee meeting held recently, it has approved and reported that the financial reserves of the University were intact and the value of assets created by the **University** has recorded growth. At the end, Chairman stressed on the need to cater to the strategic challenges in the 12th Five Year plan and role to be played by distance education in enhancing the GER to 30% to the global average by the year 2020.

The Chairman after initial remarks requested Member Secretary to present the agenda items.

- PB 38.1** To confirm the minutes of the 37th meeting of the Planning Board held on April **13,2010** and the Action Taken **Report(s)**.
- PB 38.1.1** Member Secretary submitted that the minutes of the 37th Planning Board meeting were circulated to the members and no comments were received in respect of minutes which are placed at **Annexure-111**.
- PB 38.1.2** Member Secretary informed that the Action Taken Report for **Item** no. PB 37.2, PB 37.5 and PB 37.6 have been received.
Regarding ATR for **Item** no PB 37 2 it was informed that three Committees were constituted by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor for revision of phase forms and subsequently manual for programme **and** course coordinators vide its notification dated Oct. 20, 2010. After which, the Chairperson of these three committees apprised the Planning Board about the progress of the work to which members expressed their **satisfaction** and suggested to complete the **task** at the earliest.
- PB 38.1.3** The Planning Board confirmed the minutes **of its** 37th meeting as circulated and noted the action taken reports

PB 38.2 To consider and approve the recommendations of the 38th meeting of the Academic Programme Committee (APC) held on November **11, 2010**.

PB 38.2.1 The Member Secretary reported that in the 38th meeting of the Academic Programme Committee, the following Phase forms of programmes were approved.

Phase-4 (Programme Launch Approval Form) of:

1. Post Graduate Diploma in Disability Management for Medical Practitioner.
2. **B.Ed.** Special Education (Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment, Mental Retardation).
3. ~~Foundation~~ **Course** on Education of Children with Disabilities.
4. **M.Ed.** Special Education (Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment, Mental Retardation).
5. Post Graduate Professional Diploma in (Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment, Mental Retardation).
6. Post Graduate Professional Certificate in Special Education (Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment, Mental Retardation).
7. Certificate in Cosmetology.
8. M.A. in Participatory Development.
9. Advance Diploma in Participatory Development.
10. Post Graduate Diploma in Participatory Development.
11. Post Graduate Certificate in Participatory Development.
12. Certificate in Jewellery Designing.
13. Post Graduate Diploma in Fire Safety & Disaster Management.
14. Certificate in Chinese Language and Culture.
15. Post Graduate Certificate in Extension and Development Studies.
16. **Post** Graduate Diploma in Educational Management and Administration.

PB 38.2.2 The Planning Board approved the minutes of the 38th meeting of the Academic Programme Committee (APC).

PB 38.3 To nominate a member to the Academic Programme Committee (a Standing Committee of the Planning Board).

PB 38.3.1 The Member Secretary informed that in terms of the provision of Statute 16, the Planning Board has constituted a Standing Committee and under **clause-II**, in the composition of Academic Programme Committee (APC), two members of the Planning Board are to be nominated by it. Presently, Prof. **S.P.Narang** is one of the members and the term of Prof. Udai Pratap Singh has expired on 13.07.2010. In view of this, one member among the **Planning Board** members needs to be nominated to the **Academic Programme**

Committee.

- PB 38.3.2 The members authorized the Chairman to nominate a member from the Planning Board to the Academic Programme Committee.
- PB 38.4 To present a report on the 22nd Convocation of **IGNOU** held on April 2, 2011.
- PB 38.4.1 The Chairman informed about the 22nd convocation ceremony in which more than 2.15 lakh students got their respective degrees, diplomas and certificates across the nation. Amongst them, a total of 78 students were rewarded with gold medals. Around 45,000 students got **Bachelor's** Degree, 21,000 Masters' Degree, 60,000 diplomas and approximately 91,000 students received certificates in a ceremony held concurrently at IGNOU regional centres across the country. Today, IGNOU is the largest University in the world, a fact confirmed by a Wikipedia listing of 61 top universities in the world by student enrollment. IGNOU has more than three million students, 62 Regional Centres, over 3000 Learner Support Centres, presence in 40 countries with 67 Partner Institutions, 445 Academic Programmes, 12 Divisions and 21 Schools of Study.
- PB 38.4.2 The Planning Board after deliberations noted the report and expressed its appreciation for the University achievements and growth.
- PB 38.5 Proposal for creation of New Schools in the University namely,
(i) School of Rehabilitation Sciences
(ii) School of Earth, Atmosphere Sciences **and** Geo-informatics
(iii) School of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics
- PB 38.5.1 Chairman while informing about the process involved in the creation of Schools apprised the Planning Board members that creation of a School require amendment in statute **10(A)** of **IGNOU**. A comprehensive note for establishment of a School from respective authorities is sent to the Government for **approval** of the Hon'ble Visitor of the University and to carry out the amendment in the Statute.
- PB 38.5.2 Dr. Arun Banik, Director (NCDS), in continuation to above, informed the Planning Board about the approval granted by Academic **Council**.

and recommendations made by the experts in the field of Disability Studies and Rehabilitation for creation of a School of Rehabilitation Sciences and its two disciplines i.e. Disabilities Studies and Special Education and Rehabilitation Sciences. Prof.A.K.Jha, Director(P&DD), explained about the background and need to have two more Schools namely, School of Earth, Atmosphere Sciences and Geo-informatics and School of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics.

PB 38.5.3

Prof.K.R.Srivathsan, Pro Vice Chancellor, submitted that subjects like Atmosphere Sciences are highly competitive and complex. Prof.P.R.Ramanujam, Pro Vice Chancellor, suggested that the two disciplines in context of Disability Studies are important and may be placed appropriately by Director(NCDS), so that it covers complete prospects of the new School.

PB 38.5.4

The Planning Board after deliberations opined that the proposal of two Schools, namely, School of Earth, Atmosphere Sciences and Geo-informatics and School of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics may be first placed in the Academic Council for its consideration and concurrence before placing in the Twelfth Five Year Plan 2012-17.

PB 38.6

Recruitment of a Principal Consultant to coordinate and execute following projects:

- (i) Empanelment of Consultancy Services for Business Transformation, Project Management and IT Advisory and Organization Structuring & Capacity Building.
- (ii) Impact assessment Study, and
- (iii) SAMARTH Project.

PB 38.6.1

Prof. A.K.Jha, Director(P&DD), explained about the need to have a Principal Consultant in order to coordinate and execute projects for Impact assessment Study, Business Transformation, Project Management, IT Advisory, Organization Structuring & Capacity Building and SAMARTH.

PB 38.6.2

Chairman apprised the Planning Board about the current academic consultants and sr. consultants being engaged by various Schools for unit writing and other academic work. The Planning Board members deliberated over the need to have a different set of consultants to look after these multifaceted projects, where these consultants shall advice on the various issues related to a specific project implementation and execution. In continuation to it, Dr. Latha

Pillai, Pro Vice Chancellor also enlightened about the Board of Management decision to **carry** out a detailed Impact Assessment of **IGNOU's** Education pursuits in last 25 Years with an independent assessment and plan for the future directions, approved the appointment of a leading management consulting firm through **NICS/ I NIC**.

PB 38.6.3

The Planning Board after deliberations suggested that a **policy** may be worked out as per norms and procedures of the Government of India for engaging these different set of consultants. It should cover the terms of reference; scope of the work, duration, execution etc. and the consultant requirement may be placed before the concerned administrative and financial authorities of the **University** for its concurrence and approval.

PB 38.7

To consider the Standard document **I Base** agreement for entering into **MOUs/ MOCs I** Agreements with External Institutes **I** Agencies.

PB 38.7.1

Member Secretary narrated about the item and **submitted** that the same is placed as a reporting item before the Planning Board. He then directed Dy. Director to explain the details of the item. Shri Pankaj Khanna, Dy. Director, with the permission of the Chair explained about the details of the standard document developed along with recommendations of the 96th Board of Management vide **its** resolution BM 96.9. It was informed that the said Standard document **I Base MoU** document have also been considered and seen by the legal cell of the University.

PB 38.7.2

The Planning Board members after deliberation opined that restricting dynamic academic activities of a University in a template would not be feasible. Programme coordinator, dealing **with** a particular **MoU** may take assistance from it-while entering into a particular agreement. The Planning Board suggested that the decisions taken in the past by the University in the 96th meeting of the Board of Management and vide its resolution BM 96.9 may prevail as a procedure for entering into **MoU /MoCs I** agreements with external institutes and agencies.

PB 38.7.3

The Planning Board noted the item with above deliberations.



- PB 38.8** - Convocation Procedure: Proposal for amendment of **Ordinance**
■ Regulation. (TABLED ITEM)
- PB 38.8.1** The tabled item was deliberated upon during the initial remarks of the **Chairman** as per details mentioned at page number 2 of the minutes of the meeting.
- PB 38.8.3** The Planning Board approved the proposed amendment in the ordinance ■ regulation with regard to scheduling and procedure for the Convocation twice a year.

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


(Prof. V.N. **Rajasekharan Pillai**)
Chairman