



MINUTES OF THE 143rd MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON AUGUST 06, 2021 AT 11.00 A.M. IN VIRTUAL MODE, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068

The following were present:

1.	Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice-Chancellor	- Chairman
2.	Prof. R.P. Das, Pro-Vice Chancellor	- Member
3.	Shri Sh. Mrutyunjay Behera, EA (HE), MOE	- Nominee, Secretary, MHRD
4.	Prof. V.S. Prasad	- Member
5.	Shri Ashok Bhagat	- Member
6.	Prof. K.K. Aggarwal	- Member
7.	Prof. Subha Sankar Sarkar	- Member
8.	Prof. S K Yadava	- Member
9.	Prof. Jitendra Kr. Srivastava	- Member
10.	Dr. Bharat Bhushan	- Member
11.	Dr. V.B. Negi, Registrar, Admn.(I/c)	- Secretary

The Secretary (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting), Shri Atul Kantilal Nishar, Prof. S.G. Deshmukh and Dr. P. Prakash, Members, BOM could not attend the meeting.

Shri A.K. Gigoo, Assistant Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Board.

At the outset, the Chairman, Board of Management (BoM), Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU, welcomed all the members of the Board of Management. The Vice-Chancellor narrated briefly the major developments in University since last BOM meeting.

- (I) Hon'ble Minister of Education, **Shri Dharmendra Pradhanji** has joined as new Minister of Education on 8th July 2021. The Board heartily welcomed the new Education Minister. The three Ministers of State namely, **Hon'ble Smt. Annpurna Devi**, **Hon'ble Dr. Subhas Sarkar** and **Hon'ble Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh** were also welcomed by the Board.

- (II) The Board also thanked the earlier Hon'ble Minister of Education, **Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishankji** for his kind guidance and valuable support in the University activities. During his tenure, University made significant mark in terms of starting new courses, promoting online programmes, accreditation by NAAC, starting of construction activities at Regional Centres etc.
- (III) **Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh**, Minister of State for Education and Minister of State for External Affairs launched the online programme on "PG Diploma in Sustainability Science" by SOITDS on 24th May 2021.
- (IV) On 2nd July 2021, Prof. G Ram Reddy Memorial Lecture was organized and **Prof. V S Prasad, Former Vice-Chancellor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad delivered the memorial lecture. Prof. K. K. Aggarwal, Chairman, National Board of Accreditation presided over the function.** On this occasion, an edited Book on **National Education Policy 2020 - Issues, Challenges and Reflections** was also released. The book has contained the insights of experts in the field of higher education.
- (V) The University has also started the process of Re-registration from July 2021 session. As on date, 3.17 lac learners were re-registered for various programmes of the university. Last year, the number of reregistered students is 3.49 lac for July session.
- (VI) The process of fresh registration has also started and has crossed 1.54 lacs. Various promotional campaign(s) including the use of social media has also been aggressively initiated. The university has started the following new programmes for July 2021 session:

ODL Programmes:

1. Master of Arts in Jyotish
2. Master of Arts in Urdu
3. Master of Arts in Design and Painting
4. Master of Arts in Entrepreneurship
5. Master of Science in Information Security
6. Bachelor of Arts in Performing Arts (Hons)
7. Post Graduate Diploma in Development Communication
8. Post Graduate Diploma in Digital Media
9. Certificate in Communicative Sanskrit

Online Programmes:

1. Bachelor of Commerce
2. Post Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Science

The faculty and other staff of School of Humanities, School of Vocational Education and Training, School of Performing and Visual Arts, School of Journalism and New Media Studies, School of Management Studies and School of Inter-disciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies were specially complimented for such efforts and initiatives.

(VII) The University has scheduled to conduct the Term End Examination from 3rd August, 2021 for final year/final semester students including their back papers/practicals. More than 4.37 lac students are appearing in these exams in more than 740 exam centres and 18 international study centres by following Covid 19 protocols.

(VIII) The Finance and Accounts division under the stewardship of Finance Officer, Shri J. D. Gangwar has made sincere efforts to present the replies of old audit paras before the audit team. Forty audit paras were dropped by the Audit Team. Twenty new audit paras were added during the audit inspection.

Prof. V.S. Prasad while appreciating the activities undertaken by the University suggested that the University should constitute a Task Force to look into inclusive access of students for increasing the number of enrolment across various programmes offered by the University. The Chairman agreed to the suggestion.

After the above prefatory remarks, the Secretary, BOM presented the following Agenda:

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF 142ND MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON MAY 31, 2021 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN REPORT THEREON

BM 143.1.1 The Secretary informed the Board that the Minutes of 142nd Meeting of the Board of Management held on 31.05.2021 were circulated to the members of the Board on 03.06.2021. No comments were received on the same. The Action taken Report on the decisions taken by Board in its 142nd meeting was also presented before the Board (**Appendix-I**).

BM 143.1.2 As regards Item No.13 regarding hospitalization facility in IGNOU campus for University employees and their dependents, Prof. K.K. Aggarwal suggested that some reasonable moderate medical facility may be available keeping in mind the cost-benefit of additional investment needs. The services of faculty of School of Health Sciences may also be used to provide medical facilities in campus.

The Chairman appreciated the suggestions and assured the Board to constitute a Committee to explore the feasibility of extending more medical facilities.

Prof. Aggarwal also pointed out the inconveniences/grievances of students in respect of conducting two or more examinations falling on the same date and time. He also suggested to streamline the mechanism in this regard to avoid such difficulties faced by the students.

The Chairman informed that students face this problem only if they are re-appearing for papers of previous year alongwith the current year exams. However, in any case, a student cannot be asked to appear for two papers on same date and time. Accordingly, Students Evaluation Division was directed to look into such issues immediately.

BM 143.1.3 After detailed deliberations, the Board confirmed the Minutes of the 142nd Board Meeting and also noted the Action Taken Report thereon.

ITEM NO. 2 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN APPOINTMENT/GIVING CHARGE OF DIRECTORS OF SCHOOLS/DIVISIONS

BM 143.2.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in appointment/giving charge of Directorship of Schools/Division/Centres to the following Teachers/Academics as per details given below:

Name of Teacher/ Academic	School/Division/ Centre/Unit/Cell	Period of Appointment/ Charge given
Dr. Sunil Kumar Gupta, Professor of Commerce,	School of Foreign languages (SOFL)	01.07.2021 to till further orders
Dr. Paramita Suklabaidya, Associate Professor, SOTHSM	School of Tourism and Hospitality Service Management (SOTHSM)	01.07.2021 to 30.06.2024
Prof. Jitendra Kumar Srivastava, Professor of Hindi, SOH	International Division (ID)	01.07.2021 to till further orders
Dr. VK Jagajeevan Deputy Librarian, L&DD	Library & Documentation Division (L&DD)	22.07.2021 to till further orders

ITEM NO. 3 TO REPORT THE PROGRESS IN RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF ASSISTANT REGISTRAR & SECURITY OFFICER, FOR WHICH RECRUITMENT TEST WAS CONDUCTED BY NTA

BM 143.3.1 The Board noted the progress in recruitment to the post of Assistant Registrar & Security Officer for which the recruitment test was conducted by NTA on 24.01.2021 and also that of Assistant Registrar (PWD).

ITEM NO. 4 TO APPRISE THE STATUS REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:
(i) GRIEVANCES RECEIVED AND DISPOSED ON PG PORTAL AND IGRAM PORTAL
(ii) VIGILANCE CASES PENDING IN THE UNIVERSITY; AND
(iii) PARLIAMENTARY ASSURANCES PENDING IN THE UNIVERSITY

BM 143.4.1 The Board noted the status report on the grievances received and disposed off on PG Portal and iGRAM Portal (**Appendix-2**), the vigilance cases pending in the University, and Parliamentary assurances. Three vigilance cases were closed during the last two months.

ITEM NO. 5 TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE MEDICAL BOARD, IGIMS, PATNA ON THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF DR. RAJIV KUMAR, ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR, IGNOU, REGIONAL CENTRE, IGNOU, REGIONAL CENTRE, DARBHANGA, LNMU, CAMPUS

BM 143.5.1 The Board was informed that Dr. Rajeev Kumar, Asst. Regional Director, RC Darbhanga had been continuously representing for his posting at RC Dehradun, his hometown. Dr. Rajeev Kumar vide his representation dt. 24.2.2021 addressed to the Hon'ble President of India, routed through the Director, Regional Services Division, requested the University to forward it to the Visitor *inter alia* praying for grant of permission for 'Death Wish'. The University on receipt of his letter, approached the SSP, Police Hqrs., Patna requesting to take all possible steps in accordance with Law to avoid occurrence of any unwarranted incident. Further, Dr. Rajeev vide email dt.10.3.2021 had again sought to know the status of his application for death wish and also stated that he has submitted his applications for death with good mental and physical health conditions. He had also sent a

proposal for shifting of RC Darbhanga to RC Patna on 6.3.2020 to Hon'ble Vice Chancellor without routing through proper channel.

The Board noted that his representation was placed before the Board in its 141st meeting held on 24.3.2021 and the Board had resolved that the case of Dr. Rajeev Kumar, ARD be referred to the State Medical Board at Patna in the first instance for examining his mental health condition. In case, he was found unfit in the medical examination, he be sent on medical/other leave due to his credit. However, in case he was found medically fit, disciplinary action be initiated against the Official for misconduct, threatening behavior and putting political pressure to seek personal favours.

The Board was further informed that the decision of 141st BOM meeting was conveyed to Dr. Rajeev Kumar with the direction to report to the Chief Medical Officer, IGIMS, Patna to get himself examined with regard to his present physical and mental state of mind and submit his report accordingly.

BM 145.5.2

It was further informed that meanwhile IGIMS, Patna vide its O/o dt.14.6.2021 constituted a Medical Board to examine Dr. Rajeev Kumar and also asked him to report before the State Medical Board IGIMS, Patna on 22.6.2021. The Medical Board has been conducted by IGIMS Patna and the Regional Director, RC Darbhanga vide his e-mail dt.1.7.2021 has now forwarded the Report of the Medical examination of Dr. Rajeev Kumar. The decision of the Medical Board was also placed before the Board, as follows:

“The Medical Board underwent all relevant investigations enumerated in Neuro Medicine OPD and also went through his Psychiatric-evaluations papers and concluded that the said person does not have any Neurological or Psychiatric Illness at present”.

The Board discussed the matter at length. The Vice Chancellor urged the Board to consider the whole issue empathetically since Dr Rajeev Kumar has just started his career and starting Disciplinary proceedings and awarding penalty would not be better for his future growth and career. Moreover, every employee should work towards realizing the goals of the University and contribute towards development of ODL system and growth of the University.

BM 143.5.3

After detailed deliberations, the Board decided to issue a stern warning to Dr. Rajeev Kumar to desist from any such acts in the

future and realize his responsibilities towards the University.

The Board also decided that Dr Rajeev Kumar should undertake a rehabilitation programme for one months' duration within a period of One Year.

ITEM NO. 6 TO CONSIDER THE ADVICE OF CVC ON THE MATTER REGARDING TWO FULL TIME M.TECH PROGRAMME LAUNCHED IN COLLABORATION WITH RAJAGIRI EDUCATIONAL CHARITABLE TRUST (RECT) IN THE YEAR 2009

BM 143.6.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. After detailed deliberations and considering the advice of CVC, the Board resolved to close the complaint against Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai, former Vice Chancellor, IGNOU in the matter of two full time M.Tech. Programme launched in collaboration with Rajagiri Educational Charitable Trust (RECT) in the year 2009, as per the advice of the MOE vide its letter dt.10.3.2021.

ITEM NO. 7 TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE 50TH MEETING OF THE STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE (SSC), A STANDING COMMITTEE OF BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON 29TH JULY 2021

BM 143.7.1 The Board considered and approved the recommendations of the Student Services Committee, a Standing Committee of the BOM made at its 50th meeting held on 29.7.2021. Prof. V.S. Prasad suggested for extensive use of technology through WEAS in providing the student support and curriculum transaction of various programmes offered by the University. The Chairman appreciated the NCIDE and its whole team in launching low cost technology support for transacting curriculum through WEAS which are gaining popularity among several Schools of Study. The Board also resolved that more programmes may be offered through WEAS.

ITEM NO. 8 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL TO ENTRUST THE RESPONSIBILITY TO INTERNATIONAL DIVISION TO ACT AS THE NODAL CENTRE FOR OFFERING ONLINE PROGRAMMES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

BM 143.8.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. The University is now offering ODL and Online programmes internationally. The number of international learners is increasing. The Board appreciated the

efforts being made by the University in offering its programmes online globally to enhance outreach of its academic programmes and approved the proposal to entrust the responsibility of promoting, offering and monitoring Online programmes for international students, to International Division of the University as the Nodal Centre.

ITEM NO.9 TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF SCREENING CUM EVALUATION COMMITTEE/ SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR PROMOTIONS OF TEACHERS AND ACADEMICS UNDER CAREER ADVANCEMENT SCHEME (CAS)

BM 143.9.1 The Board was informed that the University had conducted “Screening-cum-Evaluation Committees/Selection Committees” for Career Advancement of Teachers and Academics of the University as per Ordinances on Career Advancement Scheme of Teachers and Ordinances on Career Advancement Scheme of Academics including Librarian duly approved by the Ministry as per UGC Regulations, 2010 alongwith subsequent amendments thereto under 6th CPC, and UGC Regulations, 2018 under 7th CPC. The recommendations of the Screening-cum-Evaluation Committees/ Selection Committees were placed before the Board for consideration. The Board approved the recommendations of the “Screening-cum-Evaluation Committees/ Selection Committees”, as per details given below:

S. No.	Date of Selection Committee	Position(s)	Name(s) recommended by the Selection Committee	Date of eligibility
1.	09 th July, 2021	Promotion from Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) to Professor (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) in School of Inter-disciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies (SOITS)	Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya	31.08.2016
2.	27 th July, 2021	Promotion from Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) to Professor (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs.	Dr. Paramita Suklabaidya	11.12.2020

		10,000/-) in School of Tourism and Hospitality Services Management (SOTHSM)		
3.	27 th July, 2021	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4, AGP Rs.9,000/-) in School of Tourism and Hospitality Services Management (SOTHSM)	Dr. Sonia Sharma	26.11.2020
4.	27 th July, 2021	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4, AGP Rs. 9,000/-) in School of Tourism and Hospitality Services Management (SOTHSM)	Dr. Arvind Kumar Dubey	16.12.2020
5.	27 th July, 2021	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) in School of Tourism and Hospitality Services Management (SOTHSM)	Dr. Tangjokhombi Akoijam	27.11.2019
6.	29 th June, 2021	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) in School of Humanities (SOH)	Dr. A. Malathy	28.12.2015

7.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Planning and Development Division	Dr. Pankaj Khare	01.01.2009
8.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Regional Centre / Regional Services Division	Dr. Siran Mukherjee	20.08.2016
9.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Regional Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Senior Regional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Regional Centre / Regional Services Division	Dr. DR Sharma	13.01.2012
10.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Regional Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Senior Regional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Regional Centre / Regional Services Division	Dr. Sanjeev Pandey	01.01.2009
11.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Regional Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Senior Regional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised	Dr. Kiron Shankar Chakravarty	01.01.2009

		Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Regional Centre / Regional Services Division		
12.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Regional Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Senior Regional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Regional Centre / Regional Services Division	Dr. Umesh Chandra Pandey	01.01.2009
13.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Regional Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Senior Regional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Regional Centre / Regional Services Division	Dr. MS Parthasarthy	29.06.2009
14.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Regional Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Senior Regional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Regional Centre / Regional Services Division	Dr. Anil Kumar Dimri	24.06.2009
15.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Regional Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Senior Regional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Regional Centre / Regional Services Division	Dr. Abhilash Nayak	22.12.2014
16.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage	Dr. Bharat Bhushan	23.07.2011

		4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Students Services Centre		
17.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Academic Coordination Division	Dr. Dev Kant Rao	29.05.2014
18.	14 th July, 2021	Promotion from Deputy Librarian (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Deputy Librarian (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Library and Documentation Division	Dr. Seema Chandhok	01.01.2009
19.	14 th July, 2021	Promotion from Deputy Librarian (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Deputy Librarian (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Library and Documentation Division	Dr. VK Jagajeevan	24.01.2012
20.	23 rd June, 2021	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 5, AGP Rs.10,000/-) in Planning and Development Division	Dr. Neelam Chaudhury	25.01.2017
21.	04 th August,	Promotion from	Dr. Soumya	01.10.2019

	2021	Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) to Professor (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) in School of Continuing Education (SOCE)	Kanti Palit	
22.	04 th August, 2021	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4, AGP Rs.9,000/-) in School of Continuing Education (SOCE)	Dr. Gurupada Saren	20.01.2020

Dr Bharat Bhushan, Member of BOM and a candidate for promotion under CAS sought leave of absence for this Item which was granted by Board.

BM 143.9.2 The Board confirmed this Item for implementation and directed that Promotion Orders under CAS be issued accordingly. The Board also directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard.

ITEM NO. 10 TO CONSIDER THE STATUS OF RECRUITMENT TO TEACHING POSTS ADVERTISED BY THE UNIVERSITY IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019

BM 143.10.1 The Board was informed that pursuant to decision in its 135th meeting held on 19th July 2019, and in accordance with the Office Memorandum No. 36039/1/2019-Estt. (Res), dated 31.1.2019 of Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), Govt of India, and Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) letter F.No.12-1/2019-DL, dated 01.05.2019, regarding reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWSs) in direct recruitment in Civil posts and service in the Government of India, the University advertised various teaching positions in September/October 2019.

In response to the advertisement, the University had received 5152 applications. All the applications received were sent to respective Schools of Studies for screening in accordance with screening criteria as per the University Grants Commission Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance

of Standards in Higher Education, 2018. In order to bring uniformity and further check the process of screening, the Vice Chancellor had constituted a Standing Screening Committee having due representation of School Director and Senior Professor in the Discipline/from School for screening the applications for Teaching positions. The list of shortlisted candidates was also being placed on the University website for information and seeking representation/grievance/observations from the concerned.

Further, the Board of Management at its 140th meeting held on December 29, 2020 vide BM 140.12.2 decided to extend the validity of Advertisement upto 31.10.2021 to complete the selection process. Regarding the minimum number of candidates shortlisted to be called for interview, the Board was informed that interviews were being conducted only in such posts having minimum 02 eligible candidates against reserved posts and 03 eligible candidates against unreserved posts.

The Board was apprised of the status of recruitment as on 05.08.2021 including future selection committees planned. The Board was informed that against about 43 posts there had been one or less than one eligible candidate, hence the same needed to be re-advertised.

BM 143.10.2 The Board noted the Status of recruitment (**Appendix-3**) and directed to re-advertise the posts having one or less eligible candidate as well as other vacant posts of teachers and academics as per requirement.

ITEM NO. 11 TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF INQUIRY COMMITTEE RELATED TO UNAUTHORIZED ABSENCE OF DR. BHAGWANTI JADWANI, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SOSS FROM HER DUTIES

BM 143.11.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. It was informed that the matter of unauthorized absence of Dr. Bhagwanti Jadwani, Asst. Professor as well as her non-cooperation with faculty members was brought to the notice of the authorities by the then Director of the School of Social Sciences. The Vice Chancellor had accordingly constituted a Committee to look into the complaints against her. In its report, the Committee observed that Dr. Jadwani had not attended office for a long period and had not taken leave of absence or even informed the Director or her faculty. Despite several efforts to reach out with Dr. Jadwani to understand her point of view, she did not appear on any occasions nor did she acknowledge or respond to the communications. Later, her salary was stopped with the approval of

the Competent Authority.

The Board was also informed that the matter was placed before the Board in its 131st meeting held on 22.12.2018 and the Board directed that the disciplinary action be initiated against Dr. Bhagwanti Jadwani for the issues raised against her. Accordingly, a Memorandum was issued conveying that she had been defying her academic duties and is continuously absent from her duties without information w.e.f. March, 2017 and she was asked to explain the reasons as to why Disciplinary action should not be initiated against her in terms of CCS (Conduct) Rules and relevant Statutory provisions. She was asked to submit her explanation in writing alongwith due justifications within 30 days of issuance of the Memo failing which it would be presumed that she had nothing to represent and appropriate action as deemed fit, including termination of services from the University would be initiated. The Memorandum was dispatched to the address available as per office records on 2.5.2021 but was returned back undelivered. The same was finally delivered at the address provided by her relative over phone on 10.5.2021. However, the University did not receive any response from Dr. Jadwani. Further, Sh. Ravindra Kumar, former Director (Retd.), DoPT, Govt. of India was appointed as Inquiry Officer and Sh. S.G. Swami, Joint Registrar, ACD was appointed as Presenting Officer. Also, a notice was issued in the Newspapers dt.19.1.2021, giving Dr. Bhagwanti Jadwani a last opportunity to furnish her explanation for her absence from duties within 15 days, failing which it would be presumed that she has nothing to say. She was also informed that if a satisfactory reply was not received within a stipulated time then her services will be liable to be terminated from the University as per CCS (CCA) Rules read with the relevant Statutory provisions without giving any further notice. However, she did not respond and did not report for duties.

It was further informed that the Inquiry Officer in their Report submitted on 12.7.2021 has concluded that articles of charge against the Charged Officer of non-performance of her duties as well as unauthorized absence stand fully proved.

BM 143.11.2

The Board considered the aforesaid Report and decided that the services of Dr. Bhagwanti Jadwani be terminated with immediate effect and the post, thus vacated, be re-advertised.

ITEM NO. 12 TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POSTS OF PROFESSORS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS AND ASSISTANT PROFESSORS ON DIRECT RECRUITMENT BASIS

BM 143.12.1 The Board was informed that the University had conducted the Selection Committee meetings as per the University Grants Commission Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Other Measures for the maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2018 for appointment to various teaching posts at the level of Assistant Professors/Associate Professors/Professors in various Disciplines across various Schools of Studies. The recommendations of the Selection Committee were placed before the Board. The Board approved the recommendations of the Selection Committees, as per details given below:

Date of Selection Committee Meeting	Position(s)	Name(s) recommended by the Selection Committee
29 th June 2021	Appointment to the post of Assistant Professor of English (UR-02) in the School of Humanities (SOH) in the Academic level 10 of 7 th CPC (Rs. 57,700/-1,82,400/-)	1. Dr. Monishita Hajra Pande 2. Dr. Prashant Shrivastava <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Rittvika Singh 2. Dr. Leena Pundir
30 th June 2021	Appointment to the post of Associate Professor of English (UR-02, SC-01) in the School of Humanities (SOH) in the Academic level 13A of 7 th CPC (Rs. 1,31,400-2,17,100/-)	SC (01) 1. Dr. Rajesh Kumar <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Bijender UR(02) 1. Dr. Anamika Shukla 2 Dr. Vibhuti Gaur <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Anurag Bhattacharyya 2. Dr. Kumar Parag
01 st July 2021	Appointment to the post of Assistant Professor of Extension and Development Studies (SC-01) in the School of Extension and Development Studies (SOEDS) in the Academic	1. Dr. Sarda Prasad <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Anjali Chunera

	level 10 of 7 th CPC (Rs. 57,700/-1,82,400/-)	
01 st July 2021	Appointment to the post of Assistant Professor of Translation Studies and Training (OBC-02) in the School of Translation Studies and Training (SOTST) in the Academic level 10 of 7 th CPC (Rs. 57,700/-1,82,400/-)	1. Dr. Chitresh Soni 2. Dr. Omprakash Prajapati
05 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Professor of Life Sciences (UR-01) in the School of Sciences (SOS) in the Academic level 14 of 7 th CPC (Rs.1,44,200-Rs.2,18,200/-)	None found suitable. Post to be re-advertised.
05 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Associate Professor of Life Sciences (SC-02) in the School of Sciences (SOS) in the Academic level 13A of 7 th CPC (Rs. 1,31,400-2,17,100/-)	1. Dr. Ravi Rajwanshi 2. Dr. Siya Ram
07 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Associate Professor of Economics (UR-01) in the School of Social Sciences (SOSS) in the Academic level 13A of 7 th CPC (Rs. 1,31,400-2,17,100/-)	1. Dr. Vijeta Banwari <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Archana Bakshi
07 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Assistant Professor of Economics (UR-01) in the School of Social Sciences (SOSS) in the Academic level 10 of 7 th CPC (Rs. 57,700/-1,82,400/-)	1. Dr. Vijeta Banwari <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Nidhi Tewathia 2. Dr. Apoorva Gupta
09 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Associate Professor of Sociology (UR-01) in the School of Social Sciences (SOSS) in the Academic level 13A of 7 th CPC (Rs. 1,31,400-2,17,100/-)	1. Dr. Deepak Paliwal <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Samya Pradeep Shinde
09 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Assistant Professor of Sociology (UR-01) in the School of Social Sciences (SOSS) in the Academic level 10 of 7 th CPC (Rs. 57,700/-1,82,400/-)	1. Dr. Tarushikha <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Shashank Yadav 2. Dr. Reema Gill
12 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Associate Professor of Statistics (SC-01) in the School of Sciences (SOS) in the Academic level 13A of 7 th CPC (Rs. 1,31,400-2,17,100/-)	1. Dr. Taruna Kumari

12 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Assistant Professor of Statistics (OBC-01) in the School of Sciences (SOS) in the Academic level 10 of 7 th CPC (Rs. 57,700/-1,82,400/-)	1. Dr. Gajraj Singh <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Kanika Verma 2. Dr. Saurabh
14 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Assistant Professor of Library and Information Science (UR-01, SC-01) in the School of Social Sciences (SOSS) in the Academic level 10 of 7 th CPC (Rs. 57,700/-1,82,400/-)	UR(01) 1. Dr. Pawan Kumar Saini <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Bebi 2. Dr. Har Singh SC(01) 1. Dr. Ashok Kumar <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Vasantha Raju 2. Dr. Amit Kumar
26 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Assistant Professor of Psychology (OBC-01) in the School of Social Sciences (SOSS) in the Academic level 10 of 7 th CPC (Rs. 57,700/-1,82,400/-)	1. Dr. Ashwini Kumar <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Beenu Varma 2. Dr. Sandeep
27 th July 2021	Appointment to the post of Associate Professor of Tourism and Hospitality Services Management (UR-01) in the School of Tourism and Hospitality Services Management (SOTHSM) in the Academic level 13A of 7 th CPC (Rs. 1,31,400-2,17,100/-)	1. Dr. Jatashankar Ramprasad Tewari <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Dillip Kumar Das 2. Dr. Garima Parkash
02 nd August 2021	Appointment to the post of Professor of Hindi (UR-01) in the School of Humanities (SOH) in the Academic level 14 of 7 th CPC (Rs.1,44,200-2,18,200/-)	1. Dr.Narendra Mishra <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Hemant Kumar Kukreti 2. Dr. Sushil Kumar Sharma
02 nd August 2021	Appointment to the post of Associate Professor of Hindi (UR-01) in the School of Humanities (SOH) in the Academic level 13A of 7 th CPC (Rs. 1,31,400-2,17,100/-)	1. Dr. Reeta Sinha <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Avinash Kumar Singh 2. Dr. Sheetanshu Kumar
04 th August 2021	Appointment to the post of Assistant Professor of Rural Development	OBC (01) 1. Shri. Sh. Buta

	(OBC-01, EWS-01) in the School of Continuing Education (SOCE) in the Academic level 10 of 7 th CPC (Rs. 57,700/-1,82,400/-)	Singh <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Shashank Yadav 2. Dr. Ram Pravesh Pal EWS (01) 1. Dr. Balkar Singh <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Mrinal Kanti Deb 2. Dr. Rimki Patgiri
04 th August 2021	Appointment to the post of Associate Professor of Rural Development (UR-01) in the School of Continuing Education (SOCE) in the Academic level 13A of 7 th CPC (Rs. 1,31,400-2,17,100/-)	1. Dr. Bishnu Mohan Dash <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Amit Kumar Srivastava
05 th August 2021	Appointment to the post of Assistant Professor of Political Sciences (OBC-01) in the School of Social Sciences (SOSS) in the Academic level 10 of 7 th CPC (Rs. 57,700/-1,82,400/-)	1. Dr. Madan Kumar Yadav <u>Waiting list</u> 1. Dr. Rana Sonia Tez Bahadur 2. Dr. Khushbu Gupta

BM 143.12.2

The Board confirmed this Item for implementation and directed that the Appointment letters for the above teaching posts be issued accordingly. The Board also directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard.

ITEM NO. 13

TO CONSIDER RENAMING THE CENTRE FOR BHOJPURI LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE (CBLLC) TO THE CENTRE FOR MODERN INDIAN LANGUAGES (CMIL) IN TUNE WITH REQUIREMENTS OF NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

BM 143.13.1

The Board approved the proposal for extending the scope of the Centre for Bhojpuri Language, Literature and Culture (CBLLC) to other modern Indian languages in tune with the guidelines of National Education Policy 2020 implementation plan and name the Centre as the Centre for Modern Indian Languages (CMIL).

ITEM NO. 14 TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST OF OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY (DIVYANGJAN) FOR GRANTING SHORT EXTENSION OF TENURE OF DEPUTATION OF DR. SANJAY KANT PRASAD, DY. DIRECTOR, NCDS PRESENTLY ON DEPUTATION AS DEPUTY CHIEF COMMISSIONER IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY (DIVYANGJAN) BEYOND 26.07.2021, FOR ANOTHER 3 MONTHS OR UP TO THE TIME OF JOINING OF NEW INCUMBENT, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER

BM 143.14.1 It was informed that Dr. Sanjay Kant Prasad, Dy. Director, NCDS was allowed deputation for 03 years to join the position of Dy. Chief Commissioner in the Office of the Chief Commissioner for persons with Disability (Divyangjan) w.e.f. 27.4.2016, followed by further extensions totalling two more years, and a three months' short term extension till 26.7.2021, which was ratified by the Board in its 142nd meeting held on 31.5.2021.

It was further informed that the Office of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disability (Divyangjan) vide its letter dt.23.7.2021 has now informed that the process to fill up the post of Dy. Chief Commissioner is about to complete and joining of new incumbent will take some time, Dr. S.K. Prasad could not be spared in view of the work handled by him and requested short extension of deputation period of Dr. Sanjay Kant Prasad for another three months beyond the already approved period upto 26.7.2021 or up to the time of joining of new incumbent, whichever is earlier.

BM 143.14.2 The Board did not agree to the request of the Office of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disability (Divyangjan) for further extension and decided to issue directions to Dr. S.K. Prasad to join back the University within 10 days.

The Board also directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard.

ITEM NO. 15 TO CONSIDER THE MATTER RELATED TO CONVERSION OF SOME VACANT POSITIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY INTO THE TECHNICAL POSITIONS AS REQUIRED IN COE

BM 143.15.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. It was informed that the matter for conversion of some vacant positions of the University into the Technical positions as required in COE was placed before the

Board in its 142nd meeting held on 31.5.2021. The Board had directed that the existing vacant posts in the CMD, Computer Division, EMPC etc. be converted and advertised as per the initial requirement stated in the proposal of the Centre. Accordingly, a Committee was constituted to examine the suggestion and direction of the BOM in the matter.

The Committee has submitted its recommendations for conversion of some vacant positions in the University for considering the provision of technical staff in the Centre for Online Education (COE) alongwith the proposal of R&P Rules related to the technical staff in the COE.

BM 143.15.2 The Board considered the report of the Committee and approved the same. A copy of the R&P Rules (COE) is placed at **Appendix-4**.

ITEM NO.16 **TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF INQUIRY COMMITTEE RELATED TO DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST DR V P RUPAM, THE THEN REGIONAL DIRECTOR, RANCHI REGARDING IRREGULARITIES REPORTED AT PSC-0534, SWAMI VIVEKANAND SEVA TRUST, JAMSHEDPUR**

BM 143.16.1 Prof. R.P. Das, Pro-VC and Member of the Board who was also the Inquiry Officer, requested for leave of absence for this Item, which was granted by the Board.

The Board was informed that a complaint was received regarding irregularities reported at Swamy Vivekananda Seva Trust (SVST), Jamshedpur (PSC-0534P) in 2004 which was forwarded by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) vide OM No.004/EDN/057/8252 dated 29th April 2005. A Preliminary Enquiry was conducted by the CVO, IGNOU into the matter and no charge-sheet was issued to Dr. V.P. Rupam, the then Regional Director, RC Ranchi. On the recommendations of the CVO, IGNOU a penalty of censure as a deterrent measure with the direction that such an act should not be repeated in future has been imposed by the Vice Chancellor to Dr. V.P. Rupam under Rule 11 (minor penalty) of CCS (CCA) Rules. The CVC in its letter dated 09.08.2018 rejected the penalty and has asked disciplinary authority to send the first stage advice. The Board in its 130th meeting directed that an enquiry be initiated against Dr. V.P. Rupam and charge-sheet be issued. Accordingly, the University sought first stage advice from the CVC vide letter dt.11.7.2019 and the CVC vide their letter dt.23.9.2019 provided first stage advice and had advised initiation of major Penalty Proceedings against Dr. V.P. Rupam.

It was further informed that the matter was placed before the 137th meeting of the Board held on 16.10.2019 and the Board directed to initiate the disciplinary proceedings against Dr. V.P. Rupam as per the directions of the CVC. In compliance with the decision of the Board, a Chargesheet/Memorandum was issued to Dr. V.P. Rupam vide dt.27.12.2020. An Enquiry Committee was also constituted by the Vice Chancellor to enquire the matter under Statute 2(5) of Statutes of the University and sub rule (5)(c) of Rule 14 of CCS (CCA) Rule, 1965 vide Office Order No.71 and 72 dt.16.2.2020. The Enquiry Committee has submitted its Report, which was placed before the Board.

BM 143.16.2 The Board considered the Report of the Committee as well as the reply submitted by Dr. V.P. Rupam. The Board noted that it was a 19 years old case and the main complainant (expired) or his heir did not appear before the Inquiry Committee. The imputation of misconduct relating to each Article of charges was mainly based on the complaint and the related documents. In the inquiry, it also emerged that the matter pertained between two private parties, SVST and SVT. Also the funds were withdrawn by the SVST Officials (duly nominated /authorized by SVST) and not Dr VP Rupam, Regional Director IGNOU. Also misappropriation by former Secretary of SVST and thereafter his removal was the internal matter of the SVST. There is also no direct or indirect evidence that the funds have been withdrawn or utilized by the Charged Officer. There is also no financial loss to the University. The Board also noted that the Inquiry Committee has found that based on the preponderance of probability, two charges stand proved fully and one charge stands proved partially.

BM 143.16.3 After detailed deliberations, the Board decided to impose major penalty. Accordingly, penalty of reduction of one increment for a period of 4 years with cumulative effect was imposed on Dr. V.P. Rupam, former Regional Director, Regional Centre Ranchi with immediate effect.

ITEM NO.17 **TO REPORT THE APPROVAL OF ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION (AICTE) TO MCA AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES OF THE UNIVERSITY FOR THE YEAR 2021-22**

BM 143.17.1 The Board noted the approval accorded by the All Indian Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to offer certain Computer and

Management Programmes of the University in terms of the provisions under AICTE (Grant of Approvals for Technical Programmes) (1st Amendment) Regulations, 2021 for the year 2021-22 (**Appendix-5**). The BOM members appreciated the University for obtaining the approval from the AICTE.

BM 143.17.2 Prof. V.S. Prasad pointed out that IGNOU being a reputed & established University at national and international level, the approval should have been at least for a period of three years since it would be difficult for the University to apply for approval to UGC and AICTE on yearly basis. The members suggested that the matter may be taken up at the appropriate level with the Ministry of Education.

ITEM NO. 18 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2020-2021

BM 143.18.1 The Board approved the Annual Report of the University for the Financial Year 2020-21 and authorized the University to submit the same to the Ministry for placing before both the Houses of Parliament, as required under Section 28, read with provision under Statute 25 of the IGNOU Act.

ITEM NO. 19 TO CONSIDER THE RELEVANT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKS COMMITTEE, STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE BOM MADE IN ITS 77TH MEETING HELD ON 26.7.2021

BM 143.19.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. The Board noted that as per the BOM decision (vide Resolution No.BM98.5.2), the delegation of financial powers with the Works Committee is upto Rs.5 crores. In view of this, the brief of the following matters which were taken up in 77th meeting of the Works Committee were placed before the Board of Management for consideration and approval being a statutory requirement:

WC 77.05: The Jammu Development Authority allotted land measuring 7335 sqm. on lease basis for establishment of Regional Centre at Jammu at Rajinder Vihar, Housing Colony, Phase-1, Bantalab, Jammu. An amount of Rs.2.35 crores was paid to Jammu Development Authority. The CPWD has carried out the survey and soil testing and submitted the drawing for an area of 1248.4 sqm. on 14.6.2021. the CPWD vide mail dt.16.7.2021 has submitted the tentative estimates amounting to Rs.8,94,08,000/- The estimates was duly scrutinized by CMD and were approved by the Works Committee.

WC 77.06: The following proposals approved by the Works Committee in its 74th & 76th meetings were placed before the Board at its 140th meeting and the Board referred the matter to the Finance Committee:

- (1) Construction of RC building and boundary wall at Noida amounting to Rs.10,00,78,800/-.
- (2) Construction of RC building at Aizwal amounting to Rs.9,68,41,200/-.
- (3) Construction of RC building at Bangalore amounting to Rs.7,25,71,000/-.
- (4) Construction of RC building at Jodhpur amounting to Rs.7,65,58,047/-.
- (5) Construction of RC building at Itanagar amounting to Rs.9,76,67,000/-.
- (6) Construction of RC building at Agartala amounting to Rs.12,32,14,700/-.
- (7) Construction of Vice Chancellor's Residence including Residential Office at IGNOU Campus amounting to Rs.2,48,18,614/-.
- (8) Construction of Administrative Building at IGNOU Campus amounting to Rs.1,03,43,71,000/-.

The recommendations of the Finance Committee were placed before the 141st BOM meeting held on 24.3.2021. In light of observations made by MoE vide letter dt.24.3.2021 as the total expenditure involved in this project was Rs.1,62,61,20,361/- a Committee was constituted to suggest implementation of the approved projects before submitting the proposal to MoE for concurrence. The Committee suggested to implement the project in three phases to avoid larger financial implication in single stretch as per the priority of the project.

- Construction of Regional Centre buildings at Noida, Aizwal, Bangalore, Jodhpur and Agartala with a cost implication of Rs.46.92 crores
- Construction of one block of administrative building out of two blocks with a tentative cost of Rs.50.00 crores and V.C. residence including residential camp office with an estimated cost of Rs.2.48 crores.
- Construction of 2nd block of administrative building with a tentative cost of Rs.53.44 crores and construction of regional centre building Itanagar at an estimated cost of Rs.9.77 crores.

The Board in its 142nd meeting held on 31.5.2021 had noted the status of implementation of projects. The proposal of construction of RCs at Noida, Aizwal, Bangalore, Jodhpur and Agartala with a total cost of Rs.46.92 crores was approved by the MoE vide letter dt.13.7.2021. CPWD has awarded the works to take up construction of RC buildings at Aizwal, Noida and Bangalore and construction work has started. The administrative approval and expenditure sanctioned for construction of Regional Centre building at Jodhpur and Agartala

were also provided by CPWD on 20.7.2021. The Works Committee perused the minutes and took cognizance of the approval received from MOE dt.13.7.2021 and suggested to place before the BOM for perusal.

BM 143.19.2 The Board was also informed that it is the recent priority of Govt., for infrastructure development in Jammu & Kashmir. Also several important students' service divisions like Material Production and Distribution Division, Administration Division, Students Registration Division and Students Evaluation Division, which are handling student support services activities for 15 lacs students, are operating from temporary sheds. The present capacity of these temporary sheds is only 2-3 lac students. Therefore, there was a need to undertake construction work for permanent construction of building to house these Divisions and replace those sheds. Creation of permanent technology infrastructure will give better results in providing student support service to students.

BM 143.19.3 The Board approved the proposal of the construction of RC Jammu as recommended by Works Committee in its meeting held on 26.07.2021. Further, the Board while considering and approving the proposals under WC77.05, and WC77.0 resolved that proposal for Phase-2 be sent to the Ministry for concurrence.

BM 143.19.4 The Chairman conveyed the resolve of the University not to purchase any new land or even accept gifted land in future until an approval is sought from the BOM. The Board agreed to the same.

ITEM NO. 20 TO CONSIDER THE MATTER RELATED TO TRAVELLING ABROAD BY PROF. P SRINIVAS KUMAR, SOET WITHOUT PERMISSION

BM 143.20.1 The Board was informed that Prof. P. Srinivas Kumar, Professor in Civil Engineering, SOET had applied for No Objection Certificate to visit USA during the period from 27.04.2021 to 30.06.2021 on personal ground vide his application dt.22.03.2021. On examination of his application it was observed that even though Prof. P. Srinivas Kumar had applied for personal visit to USA to visit his family, he had applied two kinds of leave with a break in between for the purpose i.e. Casual leave from 27.04.2021 (Tuesday) to 30.04.2021 (Friday) citing reason as "personal work". Then with a gap of two days i.e. 1st and 2nd May 2021 (Saturday and Sunday), he applied for vacation from 03.05.2021 to 30.06.2021 with the reason as Academic work. Since vacation are mandated for undertaking academic work

and there was a gap in between two leaves, therefore especially considering the purpose of foreign visit, his request was not agreed to and the Competent Authority sought some more clarity on the same.

Due to second wave of COVID 19 pandemic, vide Office Orders dated 18.04.2021, 20.04.2021, 24.04.2021 which were followed further, the University decided to close all the offices/Schools/Regional Centers and Regional Evaluation Centre in order to contain the spread of COVID-19 and instructed all staff including teaching, academic and non-teaching employees posted at the Schools/Divisions/Units/ Centres/ Cells of the University Not to leave the station without prior permission of the Competent Authority and such person shall be treated on leave due to him/her (EL/CL).

However, Prof P Srinivas Kumar left the country. The University came to know about country leaving of Prof P Srinivas Kumar, vide the mail dated 31.05.2021 of the Pro- VC incharge of SOET, informing that in the meeting held with SOET, Prof. Srinivas Kumar was not present since he was out of the country. Accordingly, Prof. P Srinivas Kumar was requested to submit the copy of the country leaving permission issued by the University and copy of NOC issued by the University for Issuance of Visa to travel to USA along with copy of passport and Visa to USA. In response Prof. Srinivas Kumar submitted that *“my son has been blessed with a baby girl in USA. Me and my wife need to be there with my family in the current situation... ..I already have a visiting visa which is valid from 2017 to 2027.”* In response Prof P Srinivas Kumar was again requested to submit the scanned copy of full Passport and not the cover page only as had been submitted by him. He was also requested to submit the copy of tickets of his onward and return journey for Office records and placing before the Competent Authority. However, Prof Srinivas Kumar has yet to submit the copy of his passport.

The matter was placed before the Competent Authority and vide Office Order F. No. IG/ACD/PSK/2021, dated 24th June 2021 Prof Srinivas Kumar was informed that he had proceeded to the foreign country without prior permission of the Competent Authority in violation of the instructions issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), Govt of India, from time to time and that the nature of leave applied by him was used for personal private purpose. Accordingly, the Competent Authority decided to temporarily withheld the salary of Prof P Srinivas Kumar for the month of June, 2021 and report the matter to Board of Management for its

consideration and further decision. Meanwhile, Prof P Srinivas Kumar vide his email dated 24.06.2021, informed that he has joined office on 24.06.2021 after availing vacation leave from 27.4.2021 to 23.6.2021. He started visiting different offices after joining.

The University vide its letter F.No. IG/TA/1/1292/89 (Vol. III), dated 30th June 2021 informed him that, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in consultation with Ministry of Civil Aviation, in order to minimize the risk of importation of mutant strains of SARS-CoV-2, has issued certain Standard Operating Procedures for all international travellers coming to India.

Prof. P. Srinivas Kumar, Professor of Civil Engineering, SOET was requested to provide a copy of the related documents as well as copy of order of Competent Authority vide which he has been exempted by the Competent Authority from mandatory home quarantine/ self-monitoring of his health for 14 days, so as to enable the University take further necessary action in this regard. The Board was also apprised the response submitted by Prof. P.Srinivas Kumar in return.

BM 143.20.2 The Board deliberated the matter in detail. The Board was of the opinion that being a senior Professor of the University he should have followed the norms of Govt of India and University on country leaving permission, Covid 19 protocols, guidelines for international travelers returning to India etc. Therefore, the Board decided to issue a showcause notice to Prof. P. Srinivas Kumar for reasons stated above. However, the Board agreed to the proposal of University to release his salary for the month of June 2021.

BM 143.20.3 The Board was also informed that the University has taken a decision to release the transport allowance of the employees only after a certificate is received from the Directors/HODs in respect of the employees absent for that particular month as per norms. The Board agreed to the proposal.

ITEM NO. 21 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL OF NORDIC CENTRE IN INDIA FOR SIGNING AN MOU WITH THE UNIVERSITY FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING

BM 143.21.1 The Board was informed that a proposal was received from the Nordic Centre in India, a consortium of 18 Nordic universities and research institutions across Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Iceland and Lithuania. NCI for exploring ways of offering Indian students the possibility to study in programs that are organized by the consortium in India and the Nordic countries. Nordic Centre in India

has specifically shown interest in formalizing a programme on behalf of Aarhus University through its Department of Global Studies for the Masters students/alumni to participate in a 10 months research training project in which the students will get a chance to train in Hindi as a foreign language along with leading conversation classes for AU students. The students will get financial support for the programmes as well as opportunities to build up a research profile from the Nordic Centre of India. There would be no financial commitment on the part of IGNOU. The Board was also informed that an MoU was also received from the Nordic Centre of India for this purpose and the same has been legally vetted by the Legal Cell of the University.

BM 143.21.1 The Board approved the signing of MOU with Nordic Centre in India for Research and Training.

ITEM NO. 22 TO CONSIDER THE STATUS OF ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY SCHOOLS AND THE PRESENTATIONS MADE BY THE SCHOOLS OF HUMANITIES (SOH) AND SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (SOITS)

BM 143.22.1 The Directors of School Humanities, Prof. Malati Mathur, and School of Inter Disciplinary and Trans Disciplinary Studies, Prof Shachi Shah, made their presentations before the Board regarding the activities undertaken by the Schools which were well appreciated by the members. The Board also noted the Status of academic activities undertaken by the Schools of Studies (**Appendix-6**).

The Board suggested that henceforth the presentation by Schools of Studies may be concise and focus more on innovative initiatives/best practices taken by the Schools and the future plans for next 3 years. The Board further suggested that the School of Studies should share their best practices and innovative ideas amongst other Schools.

ITEM NO. 23 TO CONSIDER THE RAISING OF INCOME TAX DEMAND BY INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT FOR THE FY 2018-19 AND FY 2019-20

BM 143.23.1 The Chairman informed that the Income Tax Department had earlier raised a demand of Rs.46.15 crore on the receipts of the FY 2018-19. The University had reported this matter to the Ministry of Education (MoE) vide letter dated 19.02.2021 for requesting the Competent Authority in the Ministry of Finance (MoF) to exempt IGNOU from the taxation as it is a Central University partially funded by the GoI.

The MoE after having consultation with the MoF desired that the self-contained proposal of IGNOU be re-submitted again. The re-submission is in the process. Recently, the IT Department has intimated u/s 143(1) for the FY 2019-20 wherein a total tax demand has been mentioned as Rs.797.32 Crores.

It was further informed that the IT Department has taxed the receipts of IGNOU due to the reason that IGNOU did not have the required exemption under section 10(23C) of the IT Act which was required for claiming exemption from income tax by the Universities which were not substantially funded by the Government (i.e. where the Government grant was less than 51% of the total receipts). The share of the Government grant in the total receipt of the IGNOU has been around 10% to 15% for the past five years. Board was informed that exemption u/s 10(23C) for three years has now been obtained by IGNOU which is effective from the FY 2020-21. However, the outstanding tax demands of Rs.46.15 Crore and Rs. Rs.797.32 Crores for the financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20, respectively, are a matter of concern.

BM 143.23.2 The Board noted the status and authorized the Vice Chancellor to take up the matter with the Ministry of Education for the waiver of the tax imposed by IT Department on the University.

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

(Nageshwar Rao)
Chairman