

Indira Gandhi National Open University
School of Agriculture (SoA)

Minutes of the 34th Meeting of the School Board

The 34th Meeting of the School Board of School of Agriculture was convened on 11th October, 2019 at 10.30 a.m. in the Conference Room, School of Agriculture (SOA), G-Block, Zakir Hussain Bhawan, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068.

The following members were present:

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| 1. Prof. S. K. Yadav , Director, SOA, IGNOU | Chairman |
| 2. Dr. B.S. Hansra , Emeritus Professor, Amity Institute of Horticulture Studies & Research, Amity University, Noida | Member |
| 3. Prof. R.K. Sahu , Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering, <i>Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya</i> , Raipur (Chhattisgarh) | Member |
| 4. Prof. Madhu Tyagi , Professor, SOMS, IGNOU | Member |
| 5. Dr. Ramesh Yadav , Assistant Professor, SOJNMS, IGNOU | Member |
| 6. Dr. Amiteshwar Ratra , Assistant Professor, STRIDE, IGNOU | Member |
| 7. Prof. M.K. Salooja , Professor, SOA, IGNOU | Member |
| 8. Dr. Praveen Kumar Jain , Assistant Professor (Stage 3), SOA, IGNOU | Member |
| 9. Dr. P. Vijayakumar , Assistant Professor (Stage 3), SOA, IGNOU | Member |
| 10. Dr. Mita Sinhamahapatra , Assistant Professor (Stage 3), SOA, IGNOU | Member |
| 11. Dr. Mukesh Kumar , Assistant Professor (Stage 3), SOA, IGNOU | Member |

Dr. Ashutosh Upadhyay, Professor and HOD, Department of Food Science and Technology, NIFTEM, Kundli, Sonapat, Haryana, **Dr. G. Venkateshwarlu**, ADG (EQA&R), Division of Agricultural Education, ICAR, New Delhi, **Dr. Latha Sabikhi**, Principal Scientist & Head, Dairy Technology Division, NDRI, Karnal, and **Prof. Nehal A Farooquee**, Professor, SOEDS, IGNOU could not attend the meeting.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members to the 34th Meeting of the School Board. He placed his appreciation and gratitude on record to the members who have completed their tenure and welcomed the newly nominated members of the Board.

Referring to the meeting of the Directors of the Schools with the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor on the review of the status of enrollment held on 03 September 2019, he narrated his serious concern about the low enrollment in the School's programmes. He apprised the board that issues emerged in that meeting were discussed in the faculty meeting held on 03 September 2019 and it was unanimously resolved that heavy load of practicals and non-availability of study centres are the main reasons for low enrollment in the programmes. The Board was also apprised that approx. 3300 learners have enrolled in the SOA programmes in the current academic session (July 2019).

The agenda items were taken *in seriatim* for discussion and the recommendations of the School Board on each agenda are as follows:

Agenda No. SB.34.1 To confirm the Minutes of the 33rd School Board Meeting and the Action Taken Report

SB.34.1.1 The Chairman informed that the draft Minutes of the 33rd Meeting of the School Board were circulated to all the School Board Members and the comments/observations from the members have been incorporated in the final minutes. He proposed that the Minutes of the 33rd School Board meeting may be confirmed.

SB.34.1.2 The Action Taken Report on Minutes of the 33rd School Board Meeting are as follows:

Agenda No. SB.33.2: To consider and approve the list of Examiners for Evaluation of Thesis and conduct of *viva-voce* of Ms. Nanda Kumari Kamblae.

The list of Examiners has been communicated to the Research Unit.

Agenda No. SB.33.3: To consider and approve the list of Examiners for Evaluation of Thesis and conduct of *viva-voce* of Ms. Parul Thapar.

The list of Examiners has been communicated to the Research Unit.

Agenda No. SB.33.4: To consider and approve the list of Examiners for Evaluation of Thesis and conduct of *viva-voce* of Mr. Ashish Khare.

The list of Examiners has been communicated to the Research Unit.

Agenda No. SB.33.5: To consider and approve the Half-Yearly Progress Reports of the three students enrolled under PHDDR.

It has been communicated to the Research Unit.

Agenda No. SB.33.6: To report the Pre-Thesis Submission Seminar presentation by Mr. Ashish Khare, PHDDR .

The report and the thesis have been submitted to the Research Unit for further action.

Agenda No. SB.33.7: To consider the request of Mr. Ashish Khare, one of the Ph.D. students for Extension in Registration validity.

The approval has been granted by the competent authority and the thesis has been submitted by the student.

Agenda No. SB.33.8: To consider and approve the Programme Proposal Form (PPF) of Ph.D. in Food Technology.

The PPF of Ph. D. in Food Technology has been approved by the Academic Programme Committee. Programme Development Form is being placed in the 34th School Board meeting.

Agenda No. SB.33.9: To consider and approve the panel of evaluators for the Term End Examination (TEE) of the Diploma in Fish Products Technology (DFPT) programme of the School of Agriculture.

The panel of evaluators had been approved by the competent authority and sent to SED.

Agenda No. SB.33.10: To consider and approve the Moderation Board of different courses for Term End Examination question papers of Diploma in Watershed Management (DWM), Diploma in Value Added Products from Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds (DPVCPO) and Certificate in Water Harvesting and Management (CWHM).

The Moderation Board of different courses for Term End Examination question papers have been approved by the Competent Authority and are being used by the School for moderation.

Agenda No. SB.33.11: To consider and approve the revised Evaluation Methodology of PG Diploma in Plantation Management (PGDPM)

The revised Evaluation Methodology has been communicated to the SED.

Agenda No. SB.33.12: To apprise about the collaboration with the Food Industry Capacity and Skill Initiative (FICSI).

The collaboration with FICSI has been reported to the Board of Management. The further action on the activities are being taken.

Agenda No. SB.33.13: To consider and approve the offering of PG Certificate in Agriculture Policy through online mode.

The online offering of the programme has been approved by the ACSC.

Agenda No. SB.33.14: To consider and approve the names of the Evaluators, Moderators and Term End Exam Paper Setters for Certificate in Organic Farming and Certificate in Beekeeping.

The approved list has been communicated to the SED.

Agenda No. SB.33.15: To consider and approve the panel of Evaluators for the Term End Examination (TEE) of the DDT, DVAPFV and PGDFSQM programmes of the School of Agriculture at new PSC at NIFTEM (Kundli, Sonapat, Haryana).

The approved list has been communicated to the SED.

SB.34.1.3

The Board confirmed the Minutes of the 33rd Meeting of the School Board held on 15.03.2019 and also the Action Taken Report of it (Annexure-1).

Agenda No. SB. 34.2: To consider and approve the development of Diploma in Agriculture.

SB.34.2.1

Prof. S.K. Yadav, Chairman presented the concept note of Diploma in Agriculture. He explained the relevance of the proposed programme, its objectives, relevance, medium of instruction, duration, target group, learning outcomes and proposed strategies for development and delivery. He also presented the tentative course curriculum with the tentative list of experts.

SB.34.2.2

The members appreciated the concept of the programme and informed that it is a timely intervention in agricultural education to be useful for various stakeholders of agriculture. The board authorized the Director of the School to modify the list of experts as per the need, later.

SB.34.2.3 The Board approved the Concept note of the Diploma in Agriculture programme and its list of experts (**Annexure-2**).

Agenda No. SB.34.3: **To consider and approve the Programme Proposal Form (PPF) of the "Post Graduate Diploma in Agribusiness Management".**

SB.34.3.1 Prof. S.K. Yadav, Chairman presented before the board that the School intends to develop Post Graduate Diploma in Agribusiness Management. The School has been developing Masters in Agribusiness Management (MABM) programme. The proposed programme shall be carved out from it to the possible extent. Its Programme Proposal Form (PPF) was presented before the board.

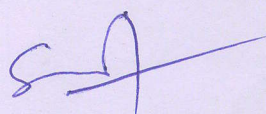
The mission and objectives, relevance of the programme, need survey report, medium of instruction, duration, eligibility for admission, nature of target group, appropriateness of the programme to be offered in ODL mode, budgetary provision for development and proposed launch year were presented before board. Dr. P.K. Jain, Programme proposer mentioned that there will be 6 courses of 6 credits each and the contents developed for the Master's programme will also be utilized for the proposed programme with suitable modifications. The existing contents under MABM programmes shall be discussed in the expert group meetings to design the curriculum and new courses of the proposed PG diploma programme. He presented the list of experts for the programme development.

SB.34.3.2 The Board authorized the Director to add few more names to the list of experts.

SB.34.3.3 The Board approved the Programme Proposal Form (PPF) of the "Post Graduate Diploma in Agribusiness Management" (**Annexure-3**).

Agenda No. SB. 34.4: **To consider and approve the Programme Development Form (PDF) of Ph.D. in Food Technology along with the Programme Project Report (PPR).**

SB. 34.4.1 The Chairman presented the Programme Development Form (PDF) of the "Ph.D. in Food Technology" along with the Programme Project Report (PPR). He mentioned that the Programme Proposal Form of the Ph. D. programme has already been approved by the Academic Programme Committee and the expert committee meeting was convened for designing of the syllabus of the Pre- thesis course work. The syllabus has been developed as per the UGC guidelines and the Research



guidelines of the University. He mentioned the eligibility criteria, medium of instruction, programme structure, syllabus, delivery details, evaluation strategy, and the proposed launch cycle and year.

SB.34.4.2 The members suggested for checking the University Research Guidelines for medium of instruction, if Hindi can be added as another medium of instruction.

SB.34.4.3 The Board approved the Programme Development Form (PDF) of the "Ph.D. in Food Technology" along with the Programme Project Report (PPR) (**Annexure-4**).

Agenda No. SB.34.5: **To consider and approve the Panel of External Experts for the Doctoral Research Committee of Ph.D. in Dairy Science & Technology (PHDDR)**


SB.34.5.1 Prof. S.K.Yadav presented the Panel of External Experts for the Doctoral Research Committee of Ph.D. in Dairy Science & Technology (PHDDR). Prof. M. K. Salooja, Programme Coordinator, PHDDR explained that the tenure of the previous experts have been completed and a new panel is required for the existing Ph. D. students.

SB.34.5.2 The Board approved the Panel of External Experts for the Doctoral Research Committee of Ph.D. in Dairy Science & Technology (PHDDR) (**Annexure-5**) and the proposal of approval of the minutes of the next Doctoral Research Committee meeting through circulation.

Agenda No. SB.34.6: **To consider and approve the revision of "Certificate in Organic Farming" (COF) and "Certificate in Poultry Farming" (CPF) Programmes.**

SB.34.6.1 The Chairman informed that the School has been offering "Certificate in Organic Farming" (COF) and "Certificate in Poultry Farming" (CPF) Programmes since 2008 and 2009, respectively. As many developments and rapid changes have taken place in the Organic and Poultry farming sectors, and skill development and capacity building have gone a long way since the inception of these programmes, the learners of these programmes need to be updated about the recent trends and changes in order to make them competitive.

He also presented the list of experts for conducting Expert Group Meeting for revision of these two programmes. Dr. P. Vijayakumar, Programme Coordinator of CPF mentioned that the programme will be enriched by modifying the pedagogy for practical components through texts, activities, assignments and audio/video and other digital interventions.



SB.34.6.2

The Board approved the proposal of revision of "Certificate in Organic Farming" (COF) and "Certificate in Poultry Farming" (CPF) Programmes and the lists of the experts for conducting Expert Group Meeting for revision of these two programmes. The Board also authorized the Director of the School to update the list as per the need of the programmes (Annexure-6).

Agenda No. SB.34.7:

To consider and approve the Concept Note of "Certificate in Dairy Farming" Programme.

SB.34.7.1

The Chairman presented the concept note of "Certificate in Dairy Farming" Programme. He explained the need of the proposed programme, programme objectives, academic and social relevance, medium of instruction, duration, target group, proposed strategies to develop and deliver the programme and estimated budget for development of the programme. Dr. P. Vijayakumar, Programme Proposer mentioned that availability of short duration educational (Certificate/diploma) programme in Dairy Farming at National level is meager and educating farmers about its practices on scientific lines is the need of the hour.

SB.34.7.2

The Board approved the Concept note of the "Certificate in Dairy Farming" Programme (Annexure-7).

Agenda No. SB.34.8:

To consider and approve two Generic Elective courses on "Poultry Farming" and "Fruits and Vegetables Technology" for inclusion in the Bachelor's Degree Programme under CBCS framework

SB.34.8.1

The Chairman proposed to include two courses viz. "Poultry Farming" and "Fruits and Vegetables Technology" of 6 credits each in the basket of Generic Elective Courses of the Bachelor's Degree Programme offered by IGNOU based on the CBCS framework. Such intervention shall improve the skills of the learners.

SB.34.8.2

The Board approved two Generic Elective courses on "Poultry Farming" and "Fruits and Vegetables Technology" for inclusion in the Bachelor's Degree Programme under CBCS framework. The syllabus of proposed courses are presented at Annexure-8.

Agenda No. SB.34.9:

To consider and approve the launching of Diploma in Horticulture (DHORT) programme.

SB.34.9.1

The agenda was withdrawn by the Programme Coordinator.

Agenda No. SB.34.10: To consider and approve the Evaluation Methodology of “Awareness Programme on Solar Water Pumping System”.

SB.34.10.1

Dr. Mukesh Kumar, Course Coordinator, apprised the Board about offering of MOOCs Course on “Awareness Programme on Solar Water Pumping System” (APSWP) through SWAYAM portal and presented the evaluation methodology for evaluation of learner’s performance.

SB. 34.10.2

The Board approved the evaluation methodology of “Awareness Programme on Solar Water Pumping System” (**Annexure-9**).

AgendaNo. SB.34.11: To consider and approve the closure of low enrollment programmes of the School.

SB.34.11.1

The Chairman stated that there has been consistent low enrollment (<200) in few of the Certificate and Diploma programmes of the School. Due to low enrolment, the operational difficulties surmount. The expenditure and consistent engagement of faculty for various maneuverings such as preparation of assignment, moderation of question papers, evaluation of answer scripts etc. increase burden on the School. These low enrollment programme are Awareness Programme in Value Added Products from Fruits and Vegetables (APVPFV), Certificate in Beekeeping(CIB), Diploma in Production of Value Added Products from Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds (DPVCPO), Diploma in Fish Products Technology (DFPT), Diploma in Meat Technology (DMT) and Post Graduate Diploma in Plantation Management (PGDPM). He also mentioned that the main reasons for low enrollment include: lack of awareness among the target group; non-availability of Study Centers (SCs); high programme fees for rural masses and medium of instruction being mostly English and Hindi.

In spite of remedial steps taken by the School like popularization of programmes, translation of few programmes in vernacular languages, participation in *Krishi Mela*, seminars, conferences etc., the enrolment is still languishing. He also mentioned that the School presented the agenda of closure of low enrolling programmes in the 64th Academic Council meeting held during 2015 but the Council decided not to accept the proposal of SOA to discontinue the programmes as they are skill based programmes.

He further elaborated that in order to curtail the expenditure, the theory counseling will be carried out by internal faculty using Digital Technologies and practical will be conducted only at selected Study Centres.

- SB.34.11.2** The Board Members discussed the agenda in length and advised the School to popularize the programmes, establish more PSCs, offer the programmes through selected study centres only, reduce the practical sessions and programme fees.
- SB.34.11.3** The Board did not consider the proposal of closure of the low enrollment programmes as these are skill based and required in the society.
- Agenda No. SB.34.12:** **To consider and approve the list of external examiners for Practical Examination of “Diploma in Fish Products Technology” (DFPT) programme of School of Agriculture.**
- SB.34.12.1** The item was withdrawn.
- AgendaNo. SB.34.13:** **To consider and approve the list of Term End Examination answer sheet evaluators in Odia language for “Certificate in Poultry Farming” (CPF) programme of School of Agriculture.**
- SB. 34.13.1** The Chairman presented the list of Term End Examination answer sheet evaluators in Odia language for “Certificate in Poultry Farming” (CPF) and mentioned that the programme has recently been translated in Odia and offered in Odia medium in the July, 2019 session.
- SB. 34.13.2** The Board approved the list of Term End Examination answer sheet evaluators in Odia language for “Certificate in Poultry Farming” (CPF)(Annexure-10).
- AgendaNo. SB.34.14:** **To consider and approve the list of Term-End Examination (TEE) evaluators of “Certificate in Sericulture” (CIS) Programme in Telugu language.**
- SB.34.14.1** The Chairman presented the list of Term-End Examination (TEE) evaluators of “Certificate in Sericulture” (CIS) Programme in Telugu language.
- SB. 34.14.2** The Board approved the list of Term-End Examination (TEE) evaluators of “Certificate in Sericulture” (CIS) Programme in Telugu language. (Annexure-11).
- Agenda No. SB.34.15:** **To consider and approve the changes in the Eligibility Criteria for admission to all the Diploma programmes of the School.**
- SB.34.15.1** Prof. M.K. Salooja presented that Existing Eligibility Criteria for

admission to all Diploma programmes of the School are:

- 1) 10+2 pass-outs.
- 2) Bachelor Preparatory Programme (BPP) from IGNOU.
- 3) 10th pass can enroll simultaneously for BPP and Diploma Programmes.

He proposed to add the word “Equivalent “with 10+2 pass-outs and 10th pass-outs as the first criterion. It will widen the clientele group seeking admission in the Diploma programmes. The proposed new Eligibility Criteria are:

- 1) 10+2 pass-outs or its equivalent.
- 2) Bachelor Preparatory Programme (BPP) from IGNOU.
- 3) 10th pass-outs or its equivalent can enroll simultaneously for BPP and Diploma Programmes

SB.34.15.2

The Board approved the changes in the Eligibility Criteria for admission to all the Diploma programmes of the School.

Agenda No. SB.34.16: To consider and approve the Skill Assessment and Certification of IGNOU students by the Food Processing Skill Council (Food Industry Capacity & Skill Initiative -FICSI).

SB.34.16.1

Prof. M.K. Salooja presented that the University has signed an MOU with the Food Industry Capacity & Skill Initiative (FICSI) and FICSI has done the mapping of the IGNOU syllabus with the Qualification Packs which would be available for Assessment of IGNOU students for Skill Certification by FICSI. The salient features of the FICSI proposal were presented. The essential training component required for assessment by FICSI through Third Party Assessment would be exempted for IGNOU students. IGNOU students will also be aligned with the industry for Apprenticeship training under the National Apprenticeship programme as a special case. He also stated that FICSI has sought the student data for the Third Party Assessment. FICSI will also be sharing their learning materials and multi-media resources with IGNOU for preparing the students for Skill Assessment and Certification. The students will be paying the assessment fee to the assessment agency as per the norms of FICSI. There will be no financial liability on the part of the University. Prof. M.K. Salooja informed the members that the skill certification, apprenticeship training and enhanced employability may enhance the popularity and enrollment in the IGNOU programmes

SB.34.16.2

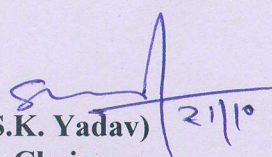
The Board appreciated and approved the proposal of FICSI for additional Skill Assessment and Certification of IGNOU students by FICSI and sharing of enrolment data of the students of Diploma programmes of the School in the areas of Food Processing and Food Safety.

Agenda No. SB.34.17 Any Other Item

Table ItemNo. 1: To consider and approve Dr. Mita Sinhamahapatra as Co-Supervisor of one Ph. D. student of Amity University.

The Chairman apprised that Dr. Mita Sinhamahapatra, Assistant Professor, SOA has been requested by a Ph. D. Scholar, Ms. DivyaPuri, Assistant Professor, Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies, Faridabad who is doing Ph. D. at Amity University, Noida for being Co-Supervisor for her Ph. D. research work. Ms. Divya Puri has planned a research work in the area of food packaging which is the area of specialization of Dr. Mita Sinhamahapatra. As per the UGC Research Guidelines, Co-supervisor can be allowed in inter-disciplinary areas from other departments of the same Institute or from other related institutions. The School approached the Research Unit for consideration of this proposal but the Research Unit advised the School to get the approval of School Board for the same. Dr. Mita Sinhamahapatra is an approved Research Supervisor in IGNOU and not having any Ph. D. student presently.

The Board approved/recommended Dr. Mita Sinhamahapatra as Co-Supervisor of Ms. DivyaPuri for her Ph. D. research work.


(S.K. Yadav) 21/10
Chairman