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## ITEM NO.10

TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE VISIT OF PROF. C.L. ANAND, PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR TO GULF REGION FOR SETTING UP OF STUDY CENTRES.

BM 35.10.1

The Vice-Chancellor stated that the subject of opening IGNOU study centres in the Gulf region had been under the consideration of the Board for quite some time. It was considered in the 17th meeting of the Board of Management on 16.8.1989. However, the view of the Board then was that IGNOU should first consolidate its activities within the country before venturing outside. But increasingly, Institutions concerned with distance education such as COL have been suggesting that IGNOU should reach out to other developing countries in offering its programmes. There were also several requests from the Indian community living in the Gulf region to provide them with facilities to enrol in the IGNOU programmes. The Ministry of External Affairs has also been supporting these requests. Universities from advanced countries are opening study centres in developing countries. It was in this context that a decision was taken at the last meeting of the Board to depute Prof. C.L. Anand to visit the Gulf region to examine the feasibility of opening IGNOU Study Centres there.

BM 35.10.2

On a request from the Chairman, Prof. C.L. Anand briefly explained the outcome of his visit to Gulf region. He stated that there was considerable enthusiasm among the Indian community in the Gulf region for IGNOU programmes and that it was feasible to start immediately 2 Study Centres, one each at Dubai and Abu Dhabi. The organisations which are willing to sponsor the Study Centres, have the capacity to provide the physical facilities for which the University would not have to make any investments. In fact, the whole scheme would be so designed as to generate some surplus income for the University. There are several universities of advanced countries which were trying to enter this area and if IGNOU did not take steps to provide educational facilities in the region now, it would have missed a big opportunity. In terms of cost, the IGNOU programmes would be less costly than those offered by the advanced countries. In fact, Prof. Anand informed that some Indian universities are already enrolling students from the region in their correspondence education programmes.

BM 35.10.3

The members welcomed the idea of opening Study Centres in the Gulf region. In fact, a strong

plea was made that the University should offer its programmes even to the local students besides the Indian community settled there. The Board approved the proposal for establishing at least two centres to begin with, one each in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, and authorised the Vice-Chancellor to take appropriate steps to finalise the terms and conditions after discussions with the representatives of institutions in the Gulf region. The University may seek any assistance that may be needed from the Ministry of External Affairs.

**ITEM NO.11**

**TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION OF THREE PERSONS TO THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF CLAUSE (1)(vi) OF STATUTE 6A OF THE STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY.**

**BM 35.11.1**

The Board considered the matter and coopted the following persons on the Board of Management:

**(a) Under Clause (1)(vi)(a)**

Prof. T.N. Bhardwaja  
Vice-Chancellor, Kota Open University

**(b) Under Clause (1)(vi)(b)**

Prof. S.K. Verma  
Vice-Chancellor, Central Institute of  
English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad

**(c) Under Clause (1)(vi)(c)**

Shri N.V.K. Murthy  
Hony. Secretary,  
Indian Institute of Education  
Pune

**ITEM NO.12**

**TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO ASSIGN A COMPREHENSIVE WORK STUDY TO AN EXTERNAL AGENCY FOR DETERMINING THE NON-ACADEMIC STAFF STRENGTH IN THE UNIVERSITY AND FOR DETERMINATION OF NORMS FOR CREATION OF SUCH POSITIONS IN FUTURE.**

**BM 35.12.1**

The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained that the University has already completed 8 years of existence and it is felt appropriate to look at the existing administrative structures of the University, the strength of the non-academic staff, and the norms for creation of such positions in the future taking also into account the need for computerising various operations. He also stated that it would be advisable that

competent outside agency conducts this review so that the required norms for creation of posts and improvements if any, in the administrative structure are worked out. The Board approved the proposal and authorised the Vice-Chancellor to select one of the Indian Institutes of Management or the Administrative Staff College, Hyderabad or the National Productivity Council, to undertake such a study.

**ITEM NO.13**

**TO REPORT ON THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING BOARD MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 20, 1993.**

**BM 35.13.1**

The Vice-Chancellor informed the Board that the Planning Board had suggested the appointment of a Committee to review the performance of the University in the last 8 years and to recommend the directions for its future development. He also pointed out that the Planning Board had recommended the appointment of another Committee to review the programmes in Management Education offered by the University and to suggest a perspective plan for its development in the next 10-15 years, and that steps were under way to constitute both these Committees.

**BM 35.13.2**

The Board noted the minutes of the 15th meeting of the Planning Board held on October 20, 1993.

**ITEM NO.14**

**TO REPORT ON THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 16, 1993.**

**BM 35.14.1**

The Board noted the minutes of the 9th meeting of the Academic Council held on November 16, 1993.

**ITEM NO.15**

**TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL ON PURCHASE OF STEEL FURNITURE FOR REGIONAL/STUDY CENTRES FROM REPUTED FIRMS.**

**BM 35.15.1**

The Board considered the proposal for empanelling the following firms for purchase of steel furniture for regional/study centres on the rates agreed upon in the contract:

1. M/s Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co Ltd
2. M/s Chandan Metal Products Ltd.,
3. M/s Khira
4. M/s Hyderabad Allwyn
5. M/s Elefur

**BM 35.15.2**

While approving the above, Board felt that such routine matters need not be brought before the Board in future for consideration. The Board also suggested that the possibility of purchasing furniture from local manufacturers/agents for

centres located in remote areas may be explore.

ITEM NO.16

BM 35.16.1

TO REPORT ON THE TELE-CONFERENCING EXPERIMENT.

The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained the major features of the 10 day one-way video and two-way audio tele-conferencing experiment undertaken by the University in collaboration with the ISRO from October 4-13, 1993 in which the IGNOU Main Campus functioned as the "teaching end" and 10 Regional Centres as "learning ends." The Board appreciated the experiment conducted by the University and suggested that efforts be initiated to make teleconferencing a regular feature of the delivery of University's programmes to coordinators, counsellors and students scattered all over the country.

ITEM NO.17

BM 35.17.1

TO REPORT ON THE CREATION OF 100 SCHOLARSHIPS IN IGNOU FOR ENABLING CANDIDATES FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO REGISTER FOR IGNOU COURSES.

The Vice-Chancellor informed the Board that the COL has decided to institute a scheme for the award of 100 scholarships to students enrolling in IGNOU programmes from Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Mauritius, Bangladesh, Maldives, Gambia and Guyana. These scholarships, named after the former Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, will be funded by the Commonwealth of Learning in collaboration with the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation. The details are yet to be worked out by Commonwealth of Learning.

BM 35.17.2

The Board noted with appreciation the institution of 100 scholarships for the benefit of students from the above mentioned countries.

ITEM NO.18

BM 35.18.1

TO REPORT ON THE FIFTH CONVOCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY.

The Vice-Chancellor informed the Board that the 5th Convocation of the University is scheduled to be held on April 16, 1994. In this connection, he also informed the Board that he had extended an invitation to Prof. James A Maraj, President, Commonwealth of Learning, to be the Chief Guest and deliver the Convocation address. He also made a brief mention of the outstanding contributions made by Prof. Maraj to the cause of education in general, and distance education in particular, and the consistent support that he has been extending to the IGNOU. Taking all these into account, the Vice-Chancellor suggested that it would be appropriate for the University to honour Prof.

Maraj by conferring an Honorary Doctorate on him on the occasion of the 5th Convocation. He stated that the Academic Council at its meeting held on November 16, 1993 had unanimously endorsed the proposal.

BM 35.18.2 The Board welcomed the invitation extended to Prof. James Maraj to be the Chief Guest on the occasion the 5th Convocation and unanimously endorsed the proposal to confer an Honorary Doctorate on him on the occasion.

ITEM NO.19 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE CONSULTING AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BY IGNOU WITH M/S YAMASHITA SEKKEI INC., JAPAN, UNDER THE JAPANESE GRANT AID PROGRAMME.

BM 35.19.1 The Board considered the proposal and approved the consulting agreement entered into by IGNOU with M/s Yamashita Sekkei Inc., Japan. It was noted that as per this agreement M/s Yamashita Sekkei Inc., Japan would have to be paid 153,371,000 Japanese Yen from out of the grant aid for their services to be provided under the agreement. It was further noted that M/s Yamashita Sekkei Inc., Japan has been recommended by the Japan International Cooperation Agency, an agency of the Government of Japan. for appointment as Consultant for this project.

ITEM NO.20 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF LEARNING FOR THEIR ACQUISITION OF IGNOU VIDEO PROGRAMMES.

BM 35.20.1 The Board noted the agreement entered into between IGNOU and the Commonwealth of Learning under which the COL would be acquiring selected video programmes produced by the IGNOU and that the agreement (signed on 29.10.1993) would be valid for a period of 5 years. According to the agreement for each video programme selected and acquired, the Commonwealth of Learning would pay IGNOU the equivalent of Rs.30,000 in US dollars.

ITEM NO.21 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE EXTENSION OF THE VALIDITY OF PANELS OF SELECTED CANDIDATES FOR THE POSTS OF ASSISTANTS AND JUNIOR ASSISTANT-CUM-TYPISTS.

BM 35.21.1 The Board considered the proposal and resolved to extend the validity period of panels of candidates selected for the posts of Assistants and Junior Assistant-cum-Typists by six months from November 24, 1993.

**ITEM NO.22** TO CONSIDER RESERVATION OF SEATS FOR THE WARDS OF DEFENCE PERSONNEL.

**BM 35.22.1** The proposal was considered and the Board approved the reservation of 11 seats, one each in the following programmes of the university, for the wards of Central para-military forces personnel as well as those defence services personnel who got killed or were seriously injured in action:

1. Diploma in Management
2. Master of Business Administration
3. PG Diploma in Human Resource Management
4. PG Diploma in Operations Management
5. PG Diploma in Financial Management
6. PG Diploma in Marketing Management
7. Diploma in Computers in Office Management
8. Bachelor of Library & Information Science
9. PG Diploma in Computer Applications
10. Advanced Diploma in Water Resources Engineering
11. Advanced Diploma in Construction Management

**ITEM NO.23** TO CONSIDER AND AUTHORISE SHRI K. NARAYANAN, REGISTRAR, TO REPRESENT THE UNIVERSITY AT THE TENDER OPENING IN JAPAN AND SIGN THE LETTERS OF INTENT/CONTRACT UNDER THE GRANT-IN-AID PROJECT OF THE GOVT. OF JAPAN.

**BM 35.23.1** The Board considered the proposal to authorise the Registrar, Shri K. Narayanan to represent the University at the tender opening meetings in Japan on 13.12.93 and to sign the letters of intent/contract under the grant-in-aid project of the Government of Japan. The Board was also apprised that it was necessary that Dr S.K. Gandhe, PVC, who was associated with the project proposal from the beginning and Prof. Devesh Kishore who has been providing technical and professional guidance in formulating the proposals are also present in Japan during the finalisation of the tenders and signing of the contract. It was noted that M/s Yamashita Sekkei Inc., Japan will meet the entire travel expenditure and hospitality of two persons from IGNOU, namely, Shri K. Narayanan and Dr S.K. Gandhe and that the expenditure on the visit of Prof. Devesh Kishore will be met by the University.

**BM 35 23.2** The Board passed the following resolution:

"RESOLVED that Shri K. Narayanan, Registrar IGNOU be and is hereby authorised to represent the Indira Gandhi National Open University at the



tender meetings to be held in Tokyo, Japan, scheduled from December 13, 1993 onwards for the purpose of witnessing and confirming that the tender is properly handled on behalf of the University, to make additional requests on behalf of the University in the event that a surplus occurs and to issue a Letter of Intent or to sign the Contract after receiving a tender evaluation report from the Consultants."

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

V.C. KULANDAI SWAMY  
Vice-Chancellor