

the agenda note should specifically indicate the items on which Board's approval is required. Otherwise, the Minutes could be placed before the Board of Management for the purpose of noting them. This practice may be followed in future.

BM 56.4.2

With the above observations, the Board noted the Minutes of the 14th Meeting of the Distance Education Council held on January 14, 1998.

ITEM NO. 5

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 35TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON FEBRUARY 14 AND FEBRUARY 20, 1998.

BM 56.5.1

The comments received from the Education Secretary, a member of the Board of Management, were read out, which specifically relate to Item No.6 of the Finance Committee proceedings concerning proposal on the OPENET. The Board noted that the following Items, considered by the Finance Committee, require the specific approval of the Board of Management:

- (i) Proposal on enhancement of Grant-in-Aid to the IGNOU Staff Children Development Society by Rs.20,000/-. The total Grant-in-Aid after enhancement would be Rs.80,000/- per annum.

- (ii) Further, it was decided to provide a one time grant of Rs.20,000/- in addition, to meet the expenditure on procurement of toys, dolls, kitchen equipments, bedsheets, blankets, utensils, etc. The proposal was approved by the Board.

BM 56.5.2

The Board considered and approved the proposal for purchase of flats from Rajasthan Housing Board for both the office of the Regional Centre, Jaipur and the residences of staff members at a cost of Rs.1.03 Crores from the Rajasthan Housing Board.

BM 56.5.3

The Board also considered the proposal on OPENET Programme. After a detailed discussion arising out of the Minutes of the Finance Committee on the subject and also taking into account the views expressed by the Education Secretary, a member of the Board of Management, the Board made the following observations:

- (i) The allocation of Rs.28 Crores made in the Annual Plan 1997-98 on the basis of the 9th Plan proposal submitted by the University envisages some provision for the OPENET.
- (ii) The Board of Management had, at its meeting held on November 29, 1997, approved an allocation of Rs.10 Crores for the OPENET Programme.

(iii) Based on the above decision of the Board, the University had finalised all the technical requirements for inviting tenders for the OPENET.

BM 56.5.4 Keeping the above observations in view and also taking into account the recommendations made by the Finance Committee, the Board took the following decisions:

- (i) The amount of Rs.10 Crores as suggested may be earmarked for OPENET.
- (ii) The University may take up the matter with the MHRD for placing the proposal on OPENET before the Expenditure Finance Committee.
- (iii) The OPENET Project be made operational only after getting the clearance from the Government, i.e., Expenditure Finance Committee.

BM 56.5.5 Responding to the suggestion received from one of the members, the Vice-Chancellor said that he would circulate the document of OPENET within the University for information of the academic community.

BM 56.5.6 With the above observations, the Board of Management approved the Minutes of the 35th

Meeting of the Finance Committee held on February 14 and February 20, 1998 (placed at Appendix-3).

ITEM NO. 6 **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE GUIDELINES FOR SHARING OF IGNOU LEARNING PACKAGES WITH STATE OPEN UNIVERSITIES AND DISTANCE EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS.**

BM 56.6.1 The Board considered and approved the Guidelines for sharing of IGNOU learning packages with State Open Universities and Distance Education Institutions.

ITEM NO. 7 **TO CONSIDER THE POLICY REGARDING DECENTRALISATION OF PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION OF SOME COURSE MATERIAL.**

BM 56.7.1 Please see decision on Item No. 18.

ITEM NO. 8 **TO CONSIDER THE AUDIT REPORT FOR 1995-96 AS PER RESOLUTION NO. BM 55.6.1(6).**

BM 56.8.1 The Board considered and approved the Statutory Audit Report for the year 1995-96.

ITEM NO. 9 **TO CONSIDER LIFTING OF PROBATION OF LECTURERS IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA PRODUCTION CENTRE (EMPC).**

BM 56.9.1 The Board considered and approved the lifting of probation of following Lecturers in Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC):

Sl. No.	Name	Date of Appointment	Date of Lifting Probation	Date of Confirmation
1.	Dr. Hara Prasad Padhy	01-07-1996	30-06-1996	01-07-1997
2.	Dr. Kiron Bansal	18-11-1996	17-11-1996	18-11-1997

- ITEM NO. 10** **TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN ALLOWING EXTENSION OF TERM OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER FOR TWO YEARS UNDER THE EXISTING TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**
- BM 56.10.1 The Board considered the proposed extension of term of the Chief Engineer for two years. The Vice-Chancellor explained the need for having the Chief Engineer continue as the construction of academic complex is to be taken up soon. A view was expressed that procedural aspect should be kept in mind while giving extension to retired people so that Statutes are not violated. It was clarified that the post of Chief Engineer is not a statutory post and that the present arrangement is a response to the exigencies of work.
- BM 56.10.2 Taking a pragmatic view, the Board decided that the Chief Engineer may continue on existing terms and conditions till he attains the age of 60 years and thereafter he may be taken on contract as per the terms of contractual appointment.
- BM 56.10.3 With the above observations, the Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in allowing the extension of term to Chief Engineer for two years.
- ITEM NO. 11** **TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR REGARDING APPROVING QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PROGRAMME/PRODUCTION) IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA PRODUCTION CENTRE (EMPC).**
- BM 56.11.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the following qualifications