

The following were present:

- Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rao — Secretary

Shri D. Deb, Assistant Registrar (Governance), was present to assist the Board.

The Vice-Chancellor informed the Board that the recently constituted Task Force for the disadvantaged groups, especially for women, rural sector and SC/STs, will pave the way in implementing the IGNOU programmes relevant to these groups and thus attempting to redeem its mandate as envisaged in the IGNOU Act. The Task Force will also give necessary advice for developing an appropriate delivery mechanism to ensure more

benefits to the disadvantaged groups. With these observations, the following Agenda Items were taken up for consideration:

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 59TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON JULY 1, 1998 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON.

BM 60.1.1 , Before the Minutes of the 59th Meeting of the Board of Management were confirmed, some comments of members on the Minutes were noted as under:

- (i) The Board noted that a formal resolution of the Board in placing on record its appreciation to the services rendered by Prof. R.G. Takwale, former Vice-Chancellor was not done after he left the University. The Board placed on record its deep appreciation for the valuable services rendered to the growth and development of Indira Gandhi National Open University by Prof. R.G. Takwale as Vice-Chancellor and Chairman of the Board of Management.
- (ii) One of the Members pointed out about the expression "must" in Resolution No. BM 59.2.2 "On the other hand the consensus of opinion that emerged was that the statutory provision of 'recommendation' gives the Vice-Chancellor the flexibility in exercising his discretionary power and, therefore, the Board must honour his recommendations." The point made was that, while the Board accepts the discretionary powers of the Vice-Chancellor, the recording of the Minutes should not have been so worded as to give an impression that the Board has no 'option but must' honour his recommendations. The Vice-Chancellor agreed with the views of the member and stated that the expression was unfortunate and that there was no intention in anyway to undermine the authority of the Board of Management.
- (iii) A reference was made to Resolution BM 59.7.1 where the Vice-Chancellor's action taken under Section 10(3) of the IGNOU Act ratified by the Board of Management. One of the members pointed out that after ratifying the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor under this item, a point was made that the Vice-Chancellor may exercise the provisions of Section 10(3) only in exceptional cases which was not recorded. The Board noted this observation.

(iv) It was suggested that the following words be added at the end of the Resolution BM 59.29.1:

"and that this relaxation should not be quoted as a precedent"

BM 60.1.2

Dr. A.R. Khan reiterated his stand that Item No. 2 to Item No. 14 in the Minutes of the 58th Meeting of the Board of Management were stand withdrawn and consequently the recording at Resolution BM 58.1.7 giving a reference to the note circulated by the Vice-Chancellor giving his recommendations on the appointment of Directors of School of Studies should not be mentioned as the concerned item stands withdrawn alongwith other items. The Board agreed with the member that the Resolution/Minutes pertaining to the agenda items of the 58th meeting of the Board of Management held on April 4, 1998, which were not taken up for consideration by the Chairman, be recorded as "the items stand withdrawn" in partial modification of the BM Resolution No.58.1.1. However, the agenda items circulated to the members for consideration would form a part of the official record. The note given by Dr. A.R. Khan dated 3-8-1998 is appended to these Minutes as **Appendix - 1**.

BM 60.1.3

On enquiry by one of the members, it is informed that the recommendations of the EMPC Management Committee held on March 18, 1998 would be taken up in the next Finance Committee which is likely to be held soon.

BM 60.1.4

The issue relating to the recording a note of dissent was discussed. The general consensus in the Board was that, as provided in the Regulation of the Board of Management, all decisions of the Board may be by consensus to the extent possible. In the event of any member preferring to record his note of dissent on any resolution, it may be considered and in such a case the member concerned has to record his note of dissent in writing and give it to the Secretary of the Board of Management for making it a part of the Minutes.

BM 60.1.5

With the above observations/corrections, the Board approved the Minutes of the 59th Meeting of the Board of Management held on July 1, 1998 and also noted the action taken on the Minutes.

ITEM NO. 2 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS TO THE AMENDMENTS TO STATUTE 3 OF THE STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY REGARDING PRO VICE-CHANCELLORS.

BM 60.2.1 The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained the issues involved and the reason for bringing a modification to the amendment to Statute 3 regarding Pro Vice-Chancellors. The matter was considered by the Board in detail concerning the merits and demerits of the appointment of two types of Pro Vice-Chancellors. The consensus emerged was that Statute 3 as exists now could be operated upon as it gives the flexibility to the Vice-Chancellor to reshuffle the Pro Vice-Chancellors between various functional areas of the University and the statutory provision for the senior most Pro Vice-Chancellor performing the functions of the Vice-Chancellor in the event of a vacancy of the Vice-Chancellorship takes care of continuity. Taking a holistic view, the Board decided not to press for the amendments of the Ordinance and continue with the existing provisions.

BM 60.2.2 The Vice-Chancellor, however, pointed out that the need for having Pro Vice-Chancellors for the three functional areas, namely, Distance Education Council, STRIDE and the Electronic Media Production Centre continue to exist.

BM 60.2.3 The Board, having regard to this aspect, decided that the Vice-Chancellor may, if he is of the opinion, appoint three more Pro Vice-Chancellors to take care of the functional needs of the University.

ITEM NO. 3 TO CONSIDER THE INQUIRY REPORT SUBMITTED BY JUSTICE S.B. WAD (RETD.).

BM 60.3.1 The Item was deferred as several members stated that they require time to go through the report of the Inquiry Officer as also the comments of the charged officer. A view was expressed whether the report of the Anand Sarup Committee and the Inquiry Report should be considered at the same time as both have linkages. It was, however, felt that the Inquiry Report and the Report of the Anand Sarup Committee could be considered by the Board separately each on its own merit and not in relation to each other.

BM 60.3.2 The Board decided that the consideration of the inquiry report be deferred for the next meeting of the Board of Management, which may be held on 16th or 19th November, 1998.

ITEM NO. 4 TO CONSIDER THE RESIGNATION OF PROF. RAKESH KHURANA OF THE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES.

BM 60.4.1 While considering the item, the members agreed that this item has linkages with Item No. 3, and that it is necessary to consider both the items together in the next meeting of the Board.

ITEM NO. 5 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR ON THE APPOINTMENT OF PRO VICE-CHANCELLORS.

BM 60.5.1 The Vice-Chancellor informed that he had written to several institutions to suggest names of suitable candidates for consideration to the posts of Pro Vice-Chancellor at IGNOU. Considering the qualifications and experience, he recommended the following persons for the post of Pro Vice-Chancellor in the first instance:

- (i) Prof. V.S. Prasad, Presently Rector of BRAOU, who had earlier worked with INGOU as Director, Distance Education Council.
- (ii) Prof. K.N. Tripathi, Professor and Head of Electronics Department, Delhi University.

BM 60.5.2 The Board considered and approved the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellor in the appointment of Prof. V.S. Prasad and Prof. K.N. Tripathi as Pro-Vice-Chancellors in the order indicated.

ITEM NO. 6 TO CONSIDER THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS.

BM 60.6.1 The Board noted that the Vice-Chancellor had appointed Prof. V.V. Mandke as Director of the School of Engineering and Technology for a period of three years with effect from 30-08-1998 and temporary charge of the post of Director (Academic Coordination) was given to Prof. A.K. Agarwal, Director of School of Health Sciences with effect from 1-9-1998 in addition to his own responsibilities consequent to the repatriation of Prof. R.P. Hooda to his parent organisation.

BM 60.6.2 The Board approved the temporary appointment of Prof. A.K. Aggarwal, to look after the duties of the Director (Academic Coordination) in addition to his own duties and responsibilities as the

Director, School of Health Sciences until further orders. The members were also informed that the process of advertising the post of Director (Acad. Coord.) is in progress.

BM 60.6.3 So far as the appointment of Prof. V.V. Mandke is concerned, the Board suggested that the University may obtain legal opinion as to the calculation of the terms of appointment and bring it before the Board.

BM 60.6.4 The Board considered and approved the appointment of Prof. P.K. Mehta as Director of Regional Services Division for a tenure of five years from the date he has assumed the charge of the Director of the Regional Services Division, IGNOU, i.e., 1-9-1998.

ITEM NO. 7 ' TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF REVISED PAY SCALES IN RESPECT OF TEACHERS AND OTHER GROUP 'A' OFFICERS.

BM 60.7.1 The Secretary, Department of Education, MHRD informed the Board that some modifications of the earlier notification dated 27th July, 1998 on revised pay scales are likely and that a notification in this respect will be issued soon.

BM 60.7.2 The Board suggested that the Vice-Chancellor may appoint a Committee to look into the anomalies, if any, arising in the implementation of the revised pay scales in respect of teachers and Group 'A' officers which may include the following members:

- (i) Prof. Suhash Chakravorty, Member of the Board of Management, Chairman.
- (ii) A representative of MHRD.
- (iii) A representative of Teachers.
- (iv) Director, Academic Coordination Division (Convenor).

BM 60.7.3 The Board approved the implementation of the revised pay scales as per the MHRD notification dated July 27, 1998 in respect of teachers and other Group 'A' officers and also to implement any modifications/improvement being incorporated by the MHRD, Government of India in future.

BM 60.7.4 While considering the matter of revision of pay scales, the notification concerning the payment of Rs.50,000/- as an advance of arrears of salary to