



MINUTES OF THE 154TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON FEBRUARY 27, 2023

The 154th meeting of the Board of Management of the University was held in blended mode on 27.02.2023 at 3.00 p.m. in the Board Room, VCO Block, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110068.

The following were present:

1.	Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice-Chancellor	- Chairman
2.	Prof. Satyakam, Pro-Vice Chancellor	- Member
3.	Shri Mrutyunjay Behera, JS (HE), MOE	- Nominee, Secretary, MOE
4.	Dr. Bansh Gopal Singh	- Member
5.	Prof. Ashok Sharma	- Member
6.	Prof. Shachi Shah	- Member
7.	Prof. Shubha Gokhale	- Member
8.	Dr. M. Shanmugam	- Member
	Dr. Alok Chaube, Registrar, Admn.	- Secretary

The Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and Prof. K K Aggarwal, Member could not attend the meeting.

Shri Kamal Kant Sahay, Deputy Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Board.

At the outset, Registrar, Administration Dr. Alok Choube welcomed all the Members to the Board. Thereafter, the Vice Chancellor and Chairman, Board of Management, IGNOU, Prof. Nageshwar Rao welcomed all the members of the BOM. He specially appreciated Shri Mrutyunjay Behera, JS & Economic Adviser, MOE for sparing his precious time. He also welcomed Prof. Bansh Gopal Singh, and Prof. Ashok Sharma. Thereafter, Vice-Chancellor welcomed Dr. M Shanmugam, Senior Regional Director and Prof. Shubha Gokhale as the members who were attending the regular Board meeting for the first time.

The Vice-Chancellor briefly narrated the significant developments in the university since the last BOM meeting, as under:

- i) STRIDE has designed a 2-Credit (4-weeks) Swayam course for professional development of administrators and general practitioners of higher education in the country (titled “National Education Policy-2020: Professional Development Programme”), which is offered through Swayam Vertical-II for administrators and general practitioners of higher education (including institutional heads, admin heads, finance heads, exam heads, deans, principals of colleges, functionaries of government education departments, principals of DIETs, among others). The national course was inaugurated and lunched by Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Hon’ble Minister of State for Education and External Affairs on February 1, 2023. The 2-credit course comprises of the following:

- 14 units/ modules in *English and Hindi* contributed by national experts.
- 22 videos contributed by national experts, including Dr K. Kasturirangan, members of drafting committee of NEP-2020, heads of regulators and national organizations, among others.
- Discussion Forum for interaction with experts.
- Course-end test comprising MCQs.

The 2-credit course is free of cost; and those who complete the test successfully will receive completion certificate, and those who do not sit through the test will receive an awareness certificate. The course will run each month with new batch of participants.

- ii) Fresh admissions are made to the tune of 1.57 lakh for January 2023 session. The number of re-registration has crossed 1.76 lakhs for the session.

Online registrations for January 2023 session are 3189.

The number of students under course wise registration scheme is 176. University has successfully conducted term end examination of December 2022 and it ended on 9th January 2023. As on date more than 85% results were declared for December 2022 term end examinations.

- iii) IGNOU has approached National Council for Vocational Education & Training (NCVET), a skill regulator of the country for dual recognition as an Awarding body and an Assessing body for the skill based programmes. The **MOU was signed on 4th February, 2023** between IGNOU and NCVET.
- iv) IGNOU has been identified as the Project Management Unit (PMU) for National Mission on Education through ICT (NMEICT) Phase III. The Phase III of NMEICT included major projects like SWAYAM, SWAYAM Prabha, NDLI, Virtual Labs, eSS etc.

It has become operational since 1st January, 2023.

- v) The University has taken initiative of creating awareness about NEP-2020 among 15 lakhs teachers engaged in the higher education system through professional development programme approved by MoE and UGC. So far 70,000 teachers has registered in the portal. The extensive use of technology through SMARTH, SWAYAM and Swayamprabha TV channels are used continuously for the programme delivery. 30 videos for the modules along with all NEP related guidelines have been made available through the SWAYAM platform for this awareness initiative of the University. Interactive live sessions were conducted through Swayamprabha. So far ten batches were completed and batch wise results are as follows:

Batch	Date	Total No. of Teachers Admitted	Total No. of Teachers Passed
Batch 1	09-17 September, 2022	6452	2008
Batch 2	21-29 September, 2022	9294	3086
Batch 3	07-15 October, 2022	8900	2925
Batch 4	17-25 October, 2022	10378	2784
Batch 5	Oct 27-Nov 05, 2022	7088	3253
Batch 6	07-16 November, 2022	3998	1306
Batch 7	18-26 November, 2022	4644	1492
Batch 8	05-13 December, 2022	5878	1373
Batch 9	21-31 December, 2022	4095	1545
Batch 10	20-29 January, 2023	4295	1309

- vi) Ministry has sanctioned HEFA loan of Rs.50 crore for the construction of campus building out of which Rs. 21 crore for campus surveillance, smart class room, ICT upgradation and campus networking.
- vii) Alumni portal was created for better connectivity with IGNOU alumni. More than 55,000 alumni have been registered in the portal.
- viii) The programmes of EMPC activities during last one year are briefed below:

**Transmission report of Gyan Darshan Channel from
January 2022 to February, 2023**

Sl. No.	Month	Total Hours of Transmission	Total number of Live teleconference sessions Held
1.	January 2022	643	101 Sessions
2.	February 2022	607	65 Sessions
3.	March 2022	672	72 Sessions
4.	April 2022	637	83 Sessions
5.	May 2022	664	80 Sessions
6.	June 2022	632	88 Sessions
7.	July 2022	654	90 Sessions
8.	August 2022	644	80 sessions
9.	September 2022	632	88 Sessions
10.	October 2022	668	76 sessions
11.	November 2022	632	88 Sessions
12.	December 2022	660	84 Sessions
13.	January 2023	665	79 Sessions
14.	February 2023	592	80 Sessions

Total = 9002 Hours 1,154 Sessions

**IRC sessions conducted during the Month
of January, 2022 to February 2023**

Sr. No.	Period	Total Hour of Broadcast	IRC conducted
1	January, 2022	403	60
2	February, 2022	364	59
3	March, 2022	403	71
4	April, 2022	390	45
5	May, 2022	403	64
6	June, 2022	390	62
7	July, 2022	403	69
8	August, 2022	403	64
9	September, 2022	390	64
10	October, 2022	403	55
11	November, 2022	390	57
12	December, 2022	403	57
13	January, 2023	403	66
14	February, 2023	364	47
Total		5512	840

- ix) The number of new programmes launched in January 2023 is 21. During July 2022 Session, their number was 32. The programmes initiated in January 2023 Session are as follows:

S.No	Programme	Level	Mode
1.	MA (Russian)	PG	ODL
2.	MA (Journalism and Electronic Media)	PG	ODL
3.	MA (Journalism and Digital Media)	PG	ODL
4.	MA (Development Journalism)	PG	ODL
5.	MA (Environmental Science)	PG	ODL
6.	MA (French)	PG	ODL
7.	MA (Migration and Diaspora)	PG	ODL
8.	BA (Gender Studies)	UG	ODL
9.	BA Applied (Hindi)	UG	ODL
10.	BA Applied (Urdu)	UG	ODL
11.	BA Applied (Sanskrit)	UG	ODL
12.	PG Diploma (Environmental Management and Law)	Diploma	ODL
13.	PG Diploma (Advertising and Integrated Communication)	Diploma	ODL
14.	PG Diploma (Geoinformatics)	Diploma	ODL
15.	PG Diploma (Financial Management)	Diploma	ODL
16.	PG Diploma (Marketing Management)	Diploma	ODL
17.	PG Diploma (HR Management)	Diploma	ODL
18.	PG Diploma (Operations Management)	Diploma	ODL
19.	Certificate (कालगणना)	Certificate	ODL
20.	Master of Arts (Sustainability Science)	PG	Online
21.	PG Diploma in Journalism and Mass Communication	Diploma	Online

- x) Counselling through SwayamPrabha channels also going on for MBA programmes. The recorded videos are further made available to learners through YouTube. 202 video sessions are developed and are being used for effective teaching learning process.
- xi) The number of sessions through Swayamprabha using mother tongue in counseling sessions are narrated below:

**Live Sessions in Regional Languages
on SWAYAM PRABHA**

Channel No.	Channel 17: Social Sciences and Humanities	Channel 19: Professional and Vocational Education	Channel 18: Basic and Applied Sciences	Channel 20: SOUs and Teacher Education	Total Time Language wise
Hindi	267	5	-	2	274
Tamil	257	3	1	-	261
Punjabi	251	4	-	1	256
Gujarati	252	4	1	-	257
Urdu	3	243	1	2	249
Malayalam	3	250	1	1	255
Odia	3	266	2	2	273
English	4	4	260	-	268
Telugu	4	5	254	2	265
Assamese	5	3	259	1	268
Marathi	4	3	2	252	261
Kannada	2	2	1	199	204
Bengali	4	4	2	252	262
Channel wise Total Timing	1059	796	784	714	3353

It is an ongoing activity for BA Social Science subjects.

The Board appreciated the above developments being made by the University.

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

- Item No. 1** **To confirm the minutes of 151st meeting of the Board of Management held on August 22, 2022 and to note the Action Taken Report thereon**
- BM 154.1.1** The Secretary informed the Board that the Minutes of 151st meeting of the Board of Management held on 22.08.2022 were circulated to the members of the Board on 02.09.2022. No comments were received on the same. The Action Taken Report on the decisions taken by the Board in its 151st meeting was also presented before the Board.
- BM 154.1.2** The Board confirmed the minutes of its 151st meeting held on 22.08.2022 and noted the action taken report thereon.

- Item No. 2** **(A) To note the confirmation of the minutes of 152nd meeting (Emergent) of the Board of Management held on November 04, 2022 and to note the Action Taken Report thereon**
- (B) To note the confirmation of the minutes of 153rd meeting (Emergent) meeting of the Board of Management held on January 09, 2023 and the Action Taken Report thereon**

BM 154.2.1 The Board noted the confirmation of the minutes and action taken report on the minutes of the following meetings (as the minutes had already been confirmed by it):

- (A) 152nd (Emergent) meeting of the BOM held on 01.11.2022
- (B) 153rd (Emergent) meeting of the BOM held on 09.01.2023

Item No. 3 **To ratify the signing of Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Overseas Institutions/Organisations for offering/promoting of IGNOU programmes**

BM 154.3.1 The Board ratified the signing of Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) with the following Overseas Institutions/Organisations for offering/promoting of IGNOU programmes:

1. Wisdom Educational Consultant, Abu Dhabi, UAE
2. Unigrad Education Center W.L.L, Suqayyah -Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
3. Clascma International Education & Research Centre, PMC Academy Private Limited, Singapore
4. ATEICO/ECGS (Educational Consulting & Guidance Services), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
5. ATEICO/ECGS (Educational Consulting & Guidance Services), Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
6. Bridge Academy, Sultanate of Oman
7. Indian academy, Kingdom of Bahrain
8. Unigrad Education Center W.L.L, Kingdom of Bahrain
9. Kuwait Educational Centre, Kuwait
10. Gulf Centre for University Education, Kuwait
11. PMC Academy Pvt. Ltd., Singapore
12. St. Mary's University, Ethiopia
13. Al Hikma Education Institute, Sharjah, UAE
14. Wisdom Educational Consultant, Abu Dhabi, UAE
15. Glory Institute, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman
16. Polyglot Institute, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

17. EPTI, Sharjah, UAE
18. Tripartite Agreement amongst ICCR, IGNOU and CHD for three months basis Hindi Awareness course for International Students

Item No. 4 To ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in appointing/ giving charge of Directors of School/Division

BM 154.4.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in appointment/giving charge of Directorship of Schools/Division to the following Teachers as per details given below:

#	Name of Teacher/ Academic & their designation	School/Division/Centre/ Unit/Cell	Period of Appointment/ Charge given
01	Prof. Kaushalya, Professor of Sanskrit, SOH	School of Humanities (SOH)	01.10.2022 to 30.09.2025
02	Prof. Madhu Parhar, Professor of Distance Education, STRIDE	Centre for Online Education (COE)	05.12.2022 till further orders
03	Prof. Alka Dhameja, Professor of Public Admin, SOSS	National ODL Centre for Local Governance (NOCLG)	26.09.2022 till further orders
04	Prof. Swati Patra Professor of Psychology, SOSS	School of Law (SOL)	23.02.2023 till further orders

BM 154.4.2 The Board was informed regarding the status of certificate and diploma programmes run by the School of Law. The Board suggested that more sincere efforts are required to strengthen the academic activities of the School.

Item No. 5 To ratify the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in granting the Extra Ordinary Leave of One year to Prof. Sanjay Agrawal, SOET for enabling him to join as Pro-VC at CSVTU, Bhilai on deputation basis

BM 154.5.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in granting the Extra Ordinary Leave of one year to Prof. Sanjay Agrawal, SOET for enabling him to join as Pro-VC at CSVTU, Bhillai on deputation basis.

The Board also approved extension of the EOL granted to him till 04.10.2024 or co-terminus with the term of the Vice Chancellor, CSVTU, Bhilai, whichever is earlier as requested by CSVTU, Bhilai.

Item No. 6 **To ratify the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in accepting the recommendations of the Suspension Review Committee and extend the period of suspension of Dr Saurabh Jain, Assistant Professor, Discipline of Management Studies, School of Management Studies for another period of six months in respect of a criminal offence under section 376 & 506 (FIR No. 443/2022)**

BM 154.6.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in accepting the recommendations of the Suspension Review Committee and extending the period of suspension of Dr Saurabh Jain, Assistant Professor, Discipline of Management Studies, School of Management Studies for another period of six months in respect of a criminal offence under section 376 & 506 (FIR No.443/2022). He will receive the subsistence allowance as per rules. He would continue to be on probation till the final disposal of case.

Item No. 7 **To ratify the decision taken by the Vice Chancellor in granting Extra Ordinary Leave (on personal grounds) to Ms. Sruthi Samuel, Assistant Professor, SOET w.e.f 27.09.2021 and its extension till 27.01.2023**

BM 154.7.1 The Board ratified the decision taken by the Vice Chancellor in granting Extra Ordinary Leave (on personal grounds) to Ms. Sruthi Samuel, Assistant Professor, SOET w.e.f 27.09.2021 till 27.01.2023.

Item No. 08 **To apprise the status report on the following:**
(i) Grievances received and disposed off on PG Portal and iGRAM Portal
(ii) Vigilance cases pending in the University; and
(iii) Parliamentary Assurances pending in the University

BM 154.08.1 The Board noted the status report on the grievances received and disposed off on PG Portal and iGRAM Portal. The Board also noted the status of the vigilance cases closed after 151st BOM held on 22.08.2022 and that there are only two pending vigilance cases which are under process in the University. The Board was informed that there was no parliamentary assurance pending in the University.

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 151.9.1 The Board was informed that the University had conducted “Screening-cum-Evaluation Committees/Selection Committee” for Career Advancement of Teachers and Academics of the University as per Ordinance on Career Advancement Scheme of Teachers and Academics as per “UGC (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the maintenance of standards in higher education) Regulations, 2010” alongwith subsequent amendment thereto under 6th CPC, and Ordinance on Career Advancement Scheme of Teachers and Academics as per “UGC 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” under 7th CPC duly approved by the Visitor. The recommendations of the Screening cum Evaluation Committee/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	Due date of eligibility
1	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) in Regional Service Division (RSD)	Dr. Ashwini Kumar REC, Lucknow	25.03.2009
2	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) in Regional Service Division (RSD)	Dr. Ranjan Kumar RC, Dehradun	01.01.2011
3	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) in Regional Service Division (RSD)	Dr. Anil Kumar Mishra RC, Lucknow	09.09.2012

4	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) in National Centre for Disability Studies (NCDS)	Dr. Hemlata	14.05.2014
5	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) in National Centre for Disability Studies (NCDS)	Dr. Sanjay Kant Prasad	14.05.2014
6	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) in Regional Service Division (RSD)	Dr. Bhanu Pratap Singh RSD	26.04.2022
7	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Stage 3/Academic Level 12) to Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) in Regional Service Division (RSD)	Dr. Sarah Nasreen RC, Bhagalpur	15.05.2013
8	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Stage 3/Academic Level 12) to Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) in Regional Service Division (RSD)	Dr. Santosh K. Panigrahi RC, Bhubaneswar	23.11.2018
9	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Stage 3/Academic Level 12) to Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) in Regional Service Division (RSD)	Dr. Mohan Sharma RC, Shimla	02.05.2020
10	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Selection Grade /Stage 3/Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Stage 4/Academic level 13A) in the Discipline of Vocational Education & Training in the	Dr. Rachna Agarwal	31.05.2021

		School of Vocational Education & Training (SOVET)		
11	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Stage 2/Academic Level 11/ Senior Scale) to Assistant Regional Director (Stage 3/Academic Level 12/ Selection Grade) in Regional Service Division (RSD)	Dr. Malik Rashid Faisal RC, Delhi III	27.04.2021
12	12 th January, 2023	Promotion from Producer (Stage 2/Academic Level 11/ Senior Scale) to Producer (Stage 3/Academic Level 12/ Selection Grade) in Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC)	Dr. Mohd. Kausar	02.07.2021
13	29 th December 2021	Promotion from Deputy Director (Stage 4/Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Stage 5/Academic Level 14) in Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC)*	Dr. Sangameswar Rao	01.02.2012

*Results were deferred by 147th BOM dated 24.2.2022 (BM 147.4.2). On receipt of satisfactory Legal opinion, the Board decided to open the envelope containing Selection Committee recommendations and declare the result.

BM 154.9.2 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 request of Prof. Ajit Kumar, Professor of Civil Engineering, SOET for Remission of his earlier request to grant him voluntary retirement from the services of the University**

BM 154.10.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. The Board was informed that Prof Ajit Kumar, Professor of Civil Engineering had joined the services of the University as Reader in Civil Engineering w.e.f 07.08.1998 and subsequently promoted to the post of Professor w.e.f. 7.08.2006. Vide his letter of request dated 16.08.2022, Prof Ajit Kumar informed the University that he has been suffering from chronic kidney disease and non-malignant brain tumor. Further, he had informed that his son, who has been supporting him for food, travel, routine check up and emergencies, has joined service in Bhubaneswar. Accordingly, Prof Ajit

Kumar requested to (i) either transfer his post to Regional Centre Bhubaneswar, Odisha from where he would perform his academic duties or (ii) give permission for Voluntary retirement under VRS.

The matter was placed before the Board of Management in its 151st meeting held on 22.08.2022. The Board accepted the request of Prof Ajit Kumar for voluntary retirement from services of the University. The Board further waived off the shortfall in notice period and decided to relieve him on VRS w.e.f. 31.08.2022 (A/N). It was also decided that he would be eligible for retirement benefits as per Rules. Accordingly, the 'No Dues certificate' was sought from the School and different Divisions/Centres/Units including Vigilance Cell of the University so that he could be relieved from the services of the University w.e.f. 31.08.2022 on VRS.

Vide his letter dated 29.08.2022, Prof. Ajit Kumar has requested that he has not informed the date for VRS and that the date of his VRS has been fixed without his consent and he doesn't want VRS presently. The request for remission of earlier request of VRS was accepted by the Vice-Chancellor and Prof. Ajit Kumar was asked to communicate the date on which he would like to take VRS.

Further, since Prof. Ajit Kumar, had been on intermittent leave as well as in order to ascertain the Activities handled by him, vide letter dated 13.09.2022 he was asked to provide "details of work done (course development, course launched, exam work, University responsibilities and publications) for the last four years and future work assigned". Vide letter dated 15.09.2022, Prof. Ajit Kumar responded to the same.

The Board was informed that in the meanwhile, while discussing the matter in the Academic Programme Committee related to BSc (Applied Science) programme which has been pending for long, vide mail dated 7.12.2022, Prof Ajit Kumar was requested to inform the status of the programme development, including likely date of launch. The response of Prof Ajit Kumar was placed before the Board.

BM 154.10.2 After detailed deliberations, the Board accepted Prof. Ajit Kumar's view point regarding VRS. Further, the Board showed its displeasure on the delay in development of the programme and decided that Prof. Ajit Kumar be asked to speed up development of the programme and launch

the same at the earliest from July 2023 session. The status of development of the programme be submitted on monthly basis to Director, Academic Coordination Division. The matter with full details be placed before the Board for its review after six months.

Item No. 11 To consider the matter related to continued and unauthorized absence as well as non performing of duties by Dr. Seema Johri, Associate Professor, SOPVA

BM 154.11.1 The Board was informed that Dr. Seema Johri, Associate Professor, SOPVA was on EOL on personal grounds for 02 years w.e.f. 15.10.2019. She joined back the University before completion of EOL on 07.06.2021. Subsequently, as informed by the Director, SOPVA Dr. Seema Johari is in habit of taking leave on one pretext or other and has availed various leaves without permission as well as has been absent from duty unauthorizedly without any information. The details of her leave/absence without permission was placed before the Board of Management at its 151st meeting held on 22.08.2022. The Board took her unauthorized absence seriously. Accordingly, as per the recommendations of the Board, Dr. Seema Johari vide letter No.IG/TA/1/704/09/192 dated 30.01.2023 was directed as under:

1. Dr. Seema Johri will mark her daily presence of arrival at and departure from the office in the office of Director, SOITS. A record of the same will be maintained by SOITS and SOPVA.
2. Dr. Seema Johri will submit the details of academic activities of courses, different courses revised, student support, and organization of workshops etc., undertaken by her during last three years (excluding period of EOL). She will also submit the monthly report of academic activities undertaken by her to the Director, SOPVA.
3. Dr. Seema Johri, Associate Professor will submit a medical fitness certificate of mental health from any of the University Panel Doctor in the first instance.

The Board was apprised of the response dated 17.2.2023 received from Dr. Seema Johri in this regard. As per records up to 31.12.2022, the balance of Earned Leave was Nil (Unauthorised leave/EOL of 121 days in excess of balances have already been availed by Dr. Seema Johri that needed to be adjusted) and Half Pay leave balance was 116.

Further, SOPVA has also informed that since then, and in addition to

already reported leave as above, Dr Johri has been absent from the office without permission as per following details:

1st, 3rd to 15th, 17th to 21st, 23rd to 28th, 30th to 31st of August 2022: 27 Days
 1st to 4th, 6th, 8th to 11th, 14th to 18th, 21st to 28th, 30th Sept, 2022 : 23 Days
 3rd, 6th to 16th, 19th to 23rd, 25th and 27th to 31st of Oct., 2022 : 23 Days
 1st to 3rd, 7th to 14th, 16th to 23rd and 25th to 30th of Nov. 2022 : 25 days
 1st to 4th, 6th to 8th, 12th, 14th to 18th, 20th to 28th and 30th Dec. 2022 : 23 days
 1st to 12th, 14th to 22nd and 24th to 30th of January, 2023 : 28 days
 Total leave in excess of leave to her credit = 121 +149= 270 days

The School also informed that the employee is absent without prior approval and has not submitted any leave in the required portal. Dr. Seema Johari neither attending any faculty meetings/Doctoral Meetings/School Board Meeting of the School nor attending any kind of work in the School. Also, she is not coordinating any Academic Programme of the School.

BM 154.11.2 The matter was discussed in detail. The Board took the unauthorized absence and conduct of Dr Seema Johri seriously. The academic activities undertaken by her for the period are not upto the satisfaction. The Board decided as under:

1. The conduct including absence of Dr. Seema Johri from Office be monitored for further three months and reviewed further;
2. Dr Seema Johri be assigned the responsibility of Coordinator of atleast two Academic Programmes of the School. Dr. Seema Johri will attend all the meetings of the School.
3. She would submit the status report of the new/existing programmes coordinated by her including the academic activities undertaken by her regularly during first week of every month.

BM 154.11.3 Further, in view of the 270 days' excess leave availed by her, the Board decided to treat the absence as Extra Ordinary Leave on Personal grounds and directed to recover the amount equivalent to the excess leave availed by her, from her salary every month in 30 equal monthly installments as per rules.

Item No. 12 To consider the status of recruitment to Teaching and Academic posts in the University alongwith status of backlog vacancies for SC/ST/ OBC/EWS etc.

BM 154.12.1 The Board noted the status of recruitment to teaching and academic posts in the University alongwith filling up of backlog vacancies for SC/ST/OBC/EWS etc. The Board noted that in addition to recruitment already conducted, the University has advertised 117 more posts of teachers and academics as per requirement and financial position of the University. Noting the difficulty faced in advertising certain vacant posts especially in some disciplines where concerned Statutory bodies have not given permission to offer degree level programmes such as Engineering, Architecture, Law etc., the Board directed to explore the possibility of advertising some more posts and also expedite the process of recruitment.

Item No. 13 **To consider the reply received from Sh. K. Venkataraman, Producer, EMPC against the chargesheet Memorandum dated 25.08.2022 issued to him under Rule 14 of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1965 for his misconduct and unauthorised absence from duty**

BM 154.13.1 The Board was informed that an Inquiry Committee had been constituted to closely examine the matter in totality regarding unauthorized absence of Shri K. Venkataraman, Producer, EMPC. The Report of the Committee was placed before the Board of Management at its 149th meeting held on 26.05.2022. Amongst others, the Board had decided to initiate disciplinary proceedings against Sh. K. Venkataraman and issue a Chargesheet to him. Accordingly, a Chargesheet Memorandum was issued to him under Rule 14 of CCS (CCA) Rules 1965, vide No.F.IG/TA/1/504/2005/1213 dt. 25.08.2022. He was asked to submit his comments before 10.09.2022. He submitted an evasive reply on 08.09.2022. Since the reply was incomplete and not related to the Chargesheet Memorandum Shri K Venkataraman was again requested to submit a pointwise reply vide reminder dated 21.9.2022. However, he again sent the similar deficient reply which was received on 29.9.2022. Vide letter dated 13.2.2023 he was again asked to submit the reply, however, vide his reply dated 15.2.2023 he has reiterated almost the same points as earlier and not submitted the reply specific to the Chargesheet Memorandum.

BM 154.13.2 After detailed deliberations, the Board did not agree with the reply of Shri K Venkataraman, Producer, EMPC and directed to appoint the Inquiry Officer and Presenting Officer to enquire into the case. The Board further directed that the IO may be requested to submit his report in a time bound manner and authorized the Vice Chancellor to take a

decision on the report of the Committee expeditiously.

BM 154.13.3 Further, with regard to the period of unauthorized absence, the Board decided to treat the absence as Extra Ordinary Leave on Personal ground and directed to recover the amount equivalent to the excess leave availed by him, from his salary every month in 25 equal monthly installments as per rules.

Item No. 14 **To appraise the status of the compliance on the orders dated 12.10.2022 of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) 37684 of 2018 in respect of administering the terminal benefits including pensionary benefits etc. to Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai, the former Vice-Chancellor of Indira Gandhi National Open University**

BM 154.14.1 The Board was informed that the University received a copy of the Judgment by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in Writ Petition (C) No.37684 of 2018 dated 12.10.2022 in the matter titled "Dr. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai Vs. Mahatma Gandhi University and 3 Others and also a representation from Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai to grant him the pensionary benefits as per the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in the above referred writ petition.

BM 154.14.2 The Board noted the status of the matter.

Item No. 15 **To consider the matter related to initiation of Disciplinary Proceedings/action against Sh. S. Srinivas, the then Regional Director, RC Portblair on the charge of misappropriation of University funds and misuse of authority at IGNOU Regional Centre Port Blair**

BM 154.15.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Board was informed that the University had received a complaint dated 20th December, 2011 from Sh. Murugasen, Port Blair alleging misuse of Regional Centre funds as well as authority by Sh. S. Saunand, Former Regional Director (I/c) and Dr. S. Srinivas, Regional Director.

Dr. S. Srinivas submitted his clarifications to ACD. The matter was referred to Vigilance Cell for detailed inquiry. The CVO submitted the following observation to the Vice-Chancellor:

"there are sufficient evidences against Dr. S. Srinivas for initiating

disciplinary action on the basis of the recommendations of two Inquiry Committee constituted by the Competent Authority and the reply of Dr. Srinivas which is very vague and he used abusive language against the then VC and some investigating officers.....”

With regard to the recoveries, an amount of Rs 2,13,522/- has been recovered from Dr S Srinivas and recoveries have been completed.

BM 154.15.2 As regards Sh. S. Saunand, he had not replied/clarified the communications sent from the ACD, ACD sought suggestions from RSD which recommended the following :

- 1) Disciplinary action may be initiated against Sh. S. Saunand, ARD(I/c) for non-compliance
- 2) Recovery of unadjusted amount/advance drawn from RC, Port Blair with Penal Interest.
- 3) The Committee constituted by VC had suggested that the Inquiry Report has a vigilance angle due to misappropriation of University funds and misuse of authority. The Committee had recommended to forward the report of the Inquiry Committee to Vigilance Cell.

The action has been initiated for Sl. No. 2 and 3 above. A recovery of Rs 17,27,263/- has been initiated against Shri S Saunand since August 2019 and would be completed in February 2024. As on August 2022, an amount of Rs 11,76,600 has been recovered

BM 154.15.3 The Board after detailed deliberations decided as under:

- (i) to initiate disciplinary proceedings against Dr. S. Srinivas, the then Regional Director, RC Portblair and Sh. S. Saunand, the then RD (I/c), Portblair and decided to issue Chargesheet Memorandum to them under Rule 14 of CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965. It further authorised the Vice Chancellor to take further decision on the reply received from these officials on the Chargesheet Memorandum.
- (ii) The Board also directed to ascertain, if all the advances etc pending against these officials have been recovered, and directed to recover the amount pending, if any.

Item No. 16 To consider the matter related to initiation of Disciplinary Proceedings/action against Sh. S. Suanand, the then Assistant Regional Director, RC Portblair on the charge of misappropriation of University funds and misuse of authority at IGNOU Regional Centre Port Blair

BM 154.16.1 The matter was considered alongwith Item No.15 above. The Board decided to initiate disciplinary proceeding against Sh. S. Saunand, Assistant Regional Director, and the then Regional Director, RC Portblair and decided to issue Chargesheet Memorandum to him under Rule 14 of CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965. It further authorised the Vice Chancellor to take further decision on the reply received from these officials in response to the Chargesheet Memorandum.

The Board also directed to ascertain, if all the advances etc pending against the officials have been recovered, and directed to recover the amount pending, if any.

Item No. 17 **To consider the matter related to the Memorandum issued to Dr. B Rajagopal, Regional Director, IGNOU**

BM 154.17.1 It was informed that the matter of behaviour and conduct of Dr. B. Rajagopal in dealing with the office fellow staff in the office and in dealing with office procedures and norms was placed before the Board of Management at its 137th & 139th meetings held on 16.10.2019 & 17.3.2020, respectively. As per the decision of the 139th meeting of Board, a Chargesheet Memorandum vide F. No.IG/TA/1/368/98/7639 dt. 10.02.2021 was issued to Dr. B. Rajagopal, Regional Director, Regional Centre – Koraput. Subsequently, in response to Memorandum Dr. B. Rajagopal requested for supply of documents relied upon alongwith other additional documents. A reply has been sent to him on 08.08.2022 forwarding the documents requested by him. In response to the letter, he again requested that he has not received the complete documents. Again on 27.09.2022 the papers requested by him alongwith all the documents were sent again. In response vide letter dated 07.10.2022, he again requested for the other documents stating that he has not received the complete documents. Vide University's letter dated 27.09.2022 he was provided with the documents. Vide his letter dated 7.10.2022 he has again sought more clarification and documents and that he has been deflecting the matter on one or other pretext.

BM 154.17.2 The matter was discussed in detail. The Board opined that adequate opportunities and enough time had been given to the erring official to submit his comments on the Chargesheet Memorandum and that Dr Rajagopal had not submitted his reply. Thus, the Board decided to appoint the Inquiry Officer and Presenting Officer to enquire into the

case. The Board further directed that the IO may be requested to submit his report in a time bound manner and authorized the Vice Chancellor to take a decision on the report of the Committee expeditiously.

Item No. 18 **To consider the matter related to representations of Dr Suman Adhikari, ARD (on deputation) to protect his pay consequent upon enhancement of pay and pay scale in his parent department on his promotion subsequent to joining IGNOU**

BM 154.18.1 The item was taken up for consideration. It was explained that Dr Suman Adhikari was appointed to the position of Assistant Regional Director (on Deputation basis) for Regional Centre – Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh for a period of two years. His appointment is on deputation basis in the Academic Level 10 (Rs.57,700-1,82,400/-) of the 7thCPC pay matrix. During the period of deputation, he had the option either to get his pay fixed in the deputation post under the operation of the normal rules or to draw pay of the post held by him in his parent department *plus* a Deputation (Duty) Allowance in accordance with and, subject to the conditions, as modified from time to time and such other general or special orders issued by the Govt. of India. Dr Suman Adhikari accepted the offer of appointment and joined the post on 20.4.2022 (F/N).

Dr Adhikari applied for pay protection plus deputation duty allowance. At the time of his joining, he was working in the pay scale of Rs.57700-182400, AGP 7000, with basic pay of Rs 95400/- as per the Salary certificate dated 4.4.2022. Subsequently he submitted the revised pay certificate dt. 25.4.2022 of scale 68900-2,05,500 with same basic pay of Rs 95400/- .

Meanwhile, the Government of Tripura vide notification No-1(13-1)-DHE/Estt (G)/2020/231 dt. 13-01-2023 has promoted him under CAS and he has been awarded pay level-11- to pay Level-12 w.e.f. 21.04.2017 and from pay level-12 to Pay level-13A w.e.f. 21.04.2020. Now he has been seeking protection of his pay in PBIV AGP 9000/- at IGNOU as well.

However, since the pay scale of the post of ARD was advertised in Academic level 10, his pay has been protected with the deputation duty allowance vide Office Order No.37 dt. 23.1.2023. Also as per Fundamental Rules governing deputation within India with regard to Restrictions on treating an appointment as on deputation within India vide Para 3.3 provide that “A person in a higher Grade Pay/scale of pay shall not be appointed on deputation to a post in lower Grade Pay/scale of pay

if the deputation is from Central government to Central Government and also in cases where the scale of pay and dearness allowance in the parent cadre post and *ex-cadre* post are similar.” As such his pay as he was drawing prior to his joining IGNOU has been protected, and this University cannot pay him the higher pay of an Regional Director’s scale i.e. Academic level 13A, on account of his pay revision in his parent institution, after his joining the post at IGNOU.

Also vide pay fixation order No.37 dt. 23.01.2023, the University has already informed Dr Suman Adhikari that he will not be entitled for any further Protection of pay if his pay gets revised in his parent department under CAS (Level-12 & Level-13A) under any circumstance. No communication in this regard will be entertained whatsoever”.

Now he has sent a representation dated 16.01.2023 for the protection of pay consequent upon revision of his pay by Government of Tripura. There is also a grievance filed at the PG Portal in this regard. The Board was further informed that vide his letter dated 27.2.202. Dr Suman Adhikari has requested to repatriate him to his parent employer w.e.f. 31.3.2023.

BM 154.18.2 The Board agreed with the decision of the University on his pay fixation and decided that Dr Suman Adhikari will not be entitled for any further Protection of pay on its revision in his parent department under CAS (Level-12 & Level-13A). The Board also decided to accept the request of Dr Suman Adhikari to repatriate him to his parent organization w.e.f. 31.3.2023 (A/N).

Item No. 19 **To consider the minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance Committee held on 06 February, 2023 - CIQA**

BM 154.19.1 The Board noted the minutes of the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance Committee made in its 3rd meeting held on 06.02.2023.

Item No. 20 **To consider the report of the Inquiry Officer regarding inquiry initiated under Rule 14 of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1965 related to misconduct and manipulating the ticket amount by Dr. S. Neethirajan, Regional Director, RC Imphal (since superannuated) in TTA adjustment bills on transfer from RC – Vatakara to RC- Bhagalpur and his reply thereon**

BM 154.20.1 The Board was informed that the matter of Dr.S. Neethirajan, Regional Director, RC Imphal for his wrong claim by forging the ticket amount and misusing the public money was placed before the Board in its 141st meeting held on 24-03-2021 and the Board had decided to initiate disciplinary proceedings and serve a charge sheet to Dr SJ Neethirajan for financial and administrative mismanagement including fraudulently claiming TTA bills. Accordingly, as per the decision of BOM, a Memorandum dated 09.02.2022 has been issued to the petitioner regarding the wrong claim of TTA bills by forging the documents. The reply received from Dr SJ Neethirajan in this regard was placed before the Board at its 149th meeting held on 26th May 2022 and the Board did not agree with the clarifications/submissions/comments of Dr S J Neethirajan in response to the Chargesheet issued to him, and directed to conduct disciplinary proceedings and appoint Inquiry Officer and Presenting Officer.

Accordingly, vide Notification dt. 7.7.2022 and 21.10.2022, the Inquiry Officer and Presenting Officers were appointed. The Inquiry officer submitted his report on 23.12.2022. The report was shared with Dr SJ Neethirajan vide letter IG/TA/1/615/2007/71 dt. 11.1.2023. The comments of Dr SJ Neethirajan had been received vide email dated 31.1.2023. A comparative statement of the charges, findings of the inquiry officer and comments of Dr SJ Neethirajan were placed before the Board.

BM 154.20.2 The Board was apprised that Dr SJ Neethirajan has also filed a Writ petition before the Hon'ble High Court of Manipur at Imphal challenging the Memorandum issued to him, however, orders are yet to be passed by Hon'ble High Court.

BM 154.20.3 The Board considered the report of the Inquiry Officer regarding inquiry initiated under Rule 14 of the CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965 related to misconduct and manipulating the ticket amount by Dr. S. Neethirajan, Regional Director, RC Imphal (since superannuated) in TTA adjustment bills on transfer from RC, Vatakara to RC, Bhagalpur and reply of Dr SJ Neethirajan thereon. The Board decided to award the major penalty to Dr. S. Neethirajan by withholding 2 increments for one year for the period prior to his superannuation. The amount so arrived at would be recovered from his dues on account of his promotion available with the University.

Item No. 21 **To consider the report of the Inquiry Officer in respect of delay in submitting the inquiry report by Sh. Aseem Kumar, Inquiry Officer & Assistant Registrar, EMPC and presently Deputy Registrar, F&A Division in the disciplinary proceedings initiated against Shri Rakesh Dhaniya, Assistant, School of Engineering and Technology**

BM 154.21.1 The matter was deferred.

Item No. 22 **To consider the request of Dr Suneet Kashyap, Associate Professor of Law, School of Law for transfer to Regional Centre Lucknow**

BM 154.22.1 After detailed deliberations, the Board did not accept the request of Dr Suneet Kashyap, Associate Professor of Law, School of Law for transfer to Regional Centre Lucknow.

Item No. 23 **To consider the matter related to complaint against Dr. Ram Chandra, Assistant Professor, STRIDE**

BM 154.23.1 The Board was informed that Dr. Ram Chandra was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Discipline of Distance Education in STRIDE w.e.f. 27.10.2021 and his services. Dr. Ram Chandra got enrolled in the IGNOU programme of MADE and informed the same to the University vide his letter dt. 17.11.2021, through Director, STRIDE. A complaint has been received against Dr. Ram Chandra from the Coordinator, IGNOU Study Centre, Jodhpur through Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre, Jaipur vide mail dated 13.01.2023. As per the complaint, “during the TEE December, 2022 held on 9th January, 2023 in the evening session at Examination Centre: LSC-88008, Mahila P.G. Mahavidyalaya, Jodhpur, one of the examinees for the Course MDE-413, bearing enrollment number 2109324625, Name Ram Chandra, was designated a seat in Room 304 according to the room chart. Dr. Ram Chandra introduced himself as the Assistant Professor in IGNOU to the invigilators of the exam room and asked for Water. In spite of the fulfillment of the request and polite behavior of the invigilator and the peons, Dr. Ramchandra misbehaved with them in the exam room and disrupted the decorum of the examination.

It has been alleged that after completion of the paper, Dr. Ram Chandra barged into the control room without taking permission from the centre superintendent and called upon him. He asked the CS to stand up on the account of him being an Assistant Professor, Headquarter, IGNOU. He

also misbehaved with the staff members present in the control room.

It has also been alleged that Dr. Ram Chandra asked the Centre superintendent for not addressing him properly and said that the standard of the study centre is low and he will get this study and exam centre closed”.

It was further informed that a Committee was constituted at the Regional Centre, Jodhpur by the Regional Director to examine the complaint and the Committee found the allegations made by the Exam Centre as true. The report of the Committee dated 13.01.2023 submitted to Registrar, SED was placed before the Board. The University vide its note dated 15.2.2023 sought comments from Dr Ram Chandra on each of the issue raised in the complaint. He was also called upon to provide the copy of NOC received from the University for undertaking the course and the copy of the station leaving permission and duly approved leave for taking up the examination. The reply of Dr. Ram Chandra has been received vide his mail dated 17.2.2023.

- BM 154.23.2** After detailed discussions, the Board decided to conduct an enquiry into the matter and directed that the report of the inquiry be placed before the Board.
- Item No. 24** **To consider the matter related to CAS of Dr. Biswajit Bhowmik, Deputy Director, RC- Kolkata in view of his representation for retaining him at RC Kolkata**
- BM 154.24.1** The matter was deferred.
- Item No. 25** **To consider the matter related to change in retention period of answer scripts and OMR sheets and change in the time period for submission of application form for applying for re-evaluation and photocopy of answer scripts**
- BM 154.25.1** The item was taken up for consideration. It was informed that the Board of Management at its 149th Meeting held on 26.05.2022 approved the Records Retention Policy for the Student Evaluation Division. The Board noted the provision under Sl. No. 8 of the Policy is as under:

#	Document	Custodian	Retention Period	Disposal method
8.	Evaluated answer scripts	Regional Evaluation Centres	Next two term end examinations	SED will finalize the tender for this purpose.
	Evaluated OMR sheets	Student Evaluation Division	May be retained till final verdict of the case, if the matter is sub-judice	Approved Vendors and the rates will be communicated to all RECs

The Board was apprised that the University has been receiving around 65,00,000 answer scripts/OMR sheets in two Term-end-Examinations, but due to space constraints, it is very difficult to retain this large number of answer scripts/OMR sheets.

BM 154.25.2 After detailed discussion, the Board considered and approved the following:

- The evaluated answer scripts and OMR sheets be retained for one term-end-examination only. This will facilitate the RECs and SED to maintain the answer scripts/OMR sheets intact. However, answer scripts/OMR sheets involved in RTI Cases/Court Cases/Re-evaluation cases must be retained till the final disposal of the matter.
- The time period allowed for submission of application form for Re-Evaluation of Answer Scripts will be 40 days (from earlier 30 days) from the date of declaration of TEE Result. Further, the time period allowed for submission of application form for photocopy of answer scripts will be 30 days (from earlier 45 days) from the declaration of TEE Result.

The other Rules & Regulations for the above activities will remain unchanged.

BM 154.25.3 The Board confirmed the above item and directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard for implementation

Item No. 26 **To consider the proposal for award of Degrees/Diplomas/ Certificates to eligible students who have completed their programme during December 2021 and June 2022 Term End Examinations in 36th Convocation of the University**

- BM 154.26.1** The Board noted that the 36th Convocation of the University is proposed to be held on 3rd April 2023 at IGNOU Headquarters, New Delhi. The Board approved the proposal for award of Degrees/Diplomas/Certificates to eligible students who have completed their programme during December 2021 and June 2022 Term End Examinations in 36th Convocation.

The Board also noted the total number of students eligible to be awarded Degree/ Diploma/Certificate, as given below:

Programme	Total
Bachelors Degree	103599
Masters Degree	105943
MPHIL	2
Diplomas	49187
Certificates	12010
PHD	78
Total	270819

This number will be updated as per the results declared upto 25th March 2023.

- Item No. 27** **To consider the nominations of members to the Academic Council under Clause (1) (iv), (vi) and (ix) of Statute 9 of the University**

- BM 154.27.1** The Board authorized the Vice Chancellor/Chairman, BOM to nominate members to the Academic Council under Clause (1) (iv) (vi) & (ix) of Statute 9 of the University.

The Board confirmed the above item and directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard for implementation

- Item No. 28** **To consider the Legal Opinion in respect the representation received from Dr. R. Sudarsan, Former Deputy Director, Planning & Development Division against Compulsory retirement as per decision of the 149th BOM**

- BM 154.28.1** The item was deferred since the legal opinion has not yet been received. The Board directed the Legal Cell to expedite the matter.

Item No. 29 To consider the direction of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi dt.16.12.2022 in LPA 339/2020 filed by Prof. P.R. Ramanujam

BM 154.29.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Board was informed that Prof. P.R. Ramanujam had overstayed in the accommodation provided to him by IGNOU. Even after repeated reminders he did not vacate the premises. Prof. P.R. Ramanujam filed Letter Patent Appeal against the verdict of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi's Order in WP(C) 3505/2020 dt. 27.8.2020 wherein the Hon'ble Court stated that:-

“Compassion beyond law is not permissible. The Allotment Rules and the binding Notification make it quite clear that any person who overstays would have to pay the damages as applicable. The Petitioner having held such a high position – stated to be the second highest position in IGNOU, ought to be equally bound by the Rules that apply”.

“The IGNOU has given sufficient time to the petitioner for vacating the premises, but he has overstayed. No further leniency can be extended. Accordingly, it is directed that for the month of June and July, 2020, the Petitioner would be liable to pay the entire incense fee at market rent i.e. 65 times of the license fee. For the month of August, 2020 the Petitioner would be liable to pay 1/3rd i.e. the proportionate market rent as he had vacated the premise on 10th August, 2020. The Petitioner is directed to pay the amounts as determined, within 8 weeks, failing which the same would be entitled to be recovered, in accordance with law”.

Further while referring a judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the Hon'ble Court stated *“in Wazir Chand Vs Union of India & Ors. (2006)6 SCC 596 the Supreme Court was considering a case where an employee of the Railways continued to occupy the government quarters. The Supreme Court in its order upheld the principle that unauthorised occupants have to pay penal rent. The Supreme Court went to the extent of holding that the government was entitled to even withhold gratuity amount, payable to the employees, towards the penal to even withhold gratuity amount, payable to employee, towards the penal rent”.*

In the orders dt.16.12.2022 in LPA 339/2020 stated, *“Considering the fact that the petitioner has been a founding member of the IGNOU and has served more than 33 years, this court is hopeful that the Board of Management would take a sympathetic view in the given facts of this case and it would not warrant any further interference in this case.”*

BM 154.29.2 The Board was apprised that the University had calculated the amount to be recovered from Prof. Ramanujam is Rs.1,93,923/- (Rupees One Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Three only) for his overstay beyond the permissible/already condoned period.

BM 154.29.3 The matter was discussed at length. The Board was of the view that if a senior official (of the stature of Prof. Ramanujam) violates the rules of the University, it will set a wrong precedence for others. The Board also took a serious view about his non-responsiveness towards adjustment of advances taken by him.

BM 154.29.4 Keeping in view the above and the observations of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in LPA 339/2020, the Board decided to consider the case sympathetically and directed to recover the amount in 10 equal monthly installments from his pension. No penal interest would be levied for the amount recoverable.

Item No. 30 **To consider the representation of Prof. E. Vayunandan, School of Social Sciences regarding facility of retaining the house by paying only license fee**

BM 154.30.1 The Secretary informed the Board that Prof. E. Vayunandan, Professor of Public Administration was appointed as the Vice Chancellor of Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University (YCMOU) and acting Vice Chancellor of Kavayitri Bahinabai Chaudhari North Maharashtra University. He was accordingly granted EOL w.e.f. 08.03.2017 to take over the charge of Vice Chancellor, YCMOU. However, Prof. Vayunandan retained the Flat No.23, Type V, AGVC, New Delhi for five years. He has given a representation to retain the said flat by agreeing to pay the license fee till the end of EOL.

In this regard, it was observed that as per House Allotment Rules, the IGNOU's claim from the allottee (Prof. E. Vayunandan) for Flat No.23/V/AGVC i.e. HRD + License fee is of Rs.29,07,178/- (Rupees twenty nine lakhs seven thousand one hundred seventy eight only) tentative, calculated upto 28th February, 2022). The same has been concurred by the F&A Division as per 7th Pay Commission rates.

BM 154.30.2 The Board after detailed deliberations decided to recover the amount due from Prof. E. Vayunandan on account of retaining the official

accommodation for five years at AGVC, New Delhi allotted to him.

Item No. 31 To confirm the minutes of the 80th meeting of the Establishment Committee, a Standing Committee of the Board of Management held on 23.02.2023

BM 154.31.1 The Board considered and confirmed the Minutes of 80th meeting of the Establishment Committee held on 23.02.2023 (**Appendix-1**). As regards Item Nos.3,7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 17, the Board deferred the proposals and referred back the same to the Establishment Committee for re-examination.

Further, with regard to the recommendations of the EC vide Item 80.2.1, the Board decided to extend the period of probation in respect of Dr Anika Sulania, SOHS and Dr Ankita Gupta, SOCE and directed that their proposals of lifting of probation be placed before the Establishment Committee after completion of their 12 months residency period (excluding leave) in the University in consonance with DoPT OM No.28020/3/2018-Estt.(C) dt.2.7.2018.

Item No. 32 (A) To confirm the minutes of the 69th meeting of the Purchase Committee, a Standing Committee of the Board of Management held on 12.12.2022

(B) To confirm the minutes of 70th meeting of the Purchase Committee, a Standing Committee of the Board of Management held on 23.02.203

BM 154.32.1 The Board confirmed the minutes of 69th and 70th meetings of the Purchase Committee held on 12.12.2022 & 23.2.2023, respectively.

The Board also directed to issue the Part-Minutes of the above item for implementation.

Item No. 33 To report the preliminary investigation report in the case of delay in release of final payment to M/s B.M. Sons

BM 154.33.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Board was informed that a complaint dated 3rd May, 2012 of Sh. Mukesh Sharma, Govt. Contractors & Engineers of M/s. B.M. Sons was received in Vigilance Cell for delay in releasing of final payment of eight works by CMD out of which he

went for arbitration for the six works amounting to Rs.49,80,000/-.

The matter was placed in the 151st meeting of the Board of Management held on 22.8.2022. The Board observed as under:

“as there are contradictions and CMD could not defend the cases properly in arbitration, the role of CPO and concerned officials be ascertained and placed before the Board in its next meeting. The status of other arbitration matters including PEB building matter and the role of CPO and concerned officials in delaying the process and arbitration be also placed with full facts and records in the next meeting”.

The Board was apprised that after detailed enquiry by CVO, IGNOU, it was found that the total balance amount claimed by M/s B.M. Sons in his complaint was Rs. 49,80,000/- and as per CMD, the balance amount was Rs.6,19,809/-. After final judgment of arbitration the total amount awarded in the favour of M/s. B.M. Sons was Rs. 56,48,712/- out of which Rs. 45,68,614 was awarded towards balance payments, cost escalation, release of security deposit & overheads etc. and Rs.10,80,098/- was also awarded against the University towards penalty/interest. The award of the arbitration indicates that there was lot of variation in the amount payable as informed by the CMD and the final amount paid to M/s B.M. Sons.

The Board observed that CMD could not defend the deductions made by them in all the six cases for which the complainant went into arbitration resulted in award of additional amount of Rs. 10,80,098/- towards penalty/interest against the University and there might also be cost towards arbitration fee and other legal expenses which was additional financial burden to the University.

The Board also noted other arbitration cases for which complaints received in Vigilance Cell, as under:

- Vigilance Cell received a complaint dated 15th April, 2019 from Sh. D.K. Vashistha of M/s Sushant Engineers & Contractors in the matter of construction of 05 new blocks between existing blocks at temporary campus regarding falling of Chajja due to faulty structure/design/drawings provided by CMD. As the said case is in Arbitration since 12th October, 2012 and still continuing, any further

action by Vigilance Cell will depend on the outcome of the arbitration judgment. Now, the matter is to be listed for hearing on 20.03.2023.

- A complaint dated 20th November, 2012 was received from M/s Roshan Real Estates Pvt Ltd in the matter of delay in release of payments towards construction of VIP Guest House and Vice-Chancellor's office. CMD vide note dated 21st September, 2021 informed that the complainant has sought for Arbitration and Ld. Arbitrator has published the award and same has been challenged by the University in High Court of Delhi. The Hon'ble High Court has accorded stay with respect to the award published by Ld. Arbitrator with certain conditions.

Further, Legal Cell of the University vide note dated 6th December, 2022 informed the present status of the case i.e. OMP (Comm) 416/2018 titled "IGNOU Vs Roshan Real Estates Pvt Ltd" is pending before the Hon'ble Delhi High Court. In light of the same, it is submitted that the University is contesting the present matter. The matter is pending before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. The matter came up for hearing on 29.11.2022 and the same was adjourned. Now, the matter is to be listed for hearing on 23.03.2023.

BM 154.33.2 After detailed discussions, the Board took a serious view in the matter and directed to constitute an Inquiry Committee to ascertain the role of the officials responsible in the matter and place it before the Board in its next meeting.

Item No. 34 **To consider the matter related to Shri M Rajamannar, Deputy Director, EMPC regarding his overstay at his Home Town (on medical grounds) while availing LTC (Home Town)**

BM 154.34.1 The Board was informed that Shri M Rajamannar, Deputy Director, EMPC had applied for Earned leave w.e.f. 19.12.2022 to 23.12.2022 for availing LTC (Home Town) to visit Sivagiri, Tamil Nadu alongwith 10 days Leave encashment vide his letter dated 23.11.2022. After availing LTC, he joined the University on 27.01.2023. At the time of his joining, he requested for Medical Leave for the period 24.12.2022 to 26.01.2023 and submitted two medical certificates for extending his leave, one dated 24.12.2022 of Doctor serving in Puliangudi Government Hospital showing that he was suffering from 'low back ache' during 24.12.2022 to 02.01.2023 and another certificate dated 02.01.2023 of Doctor serving in

Government Hospital, Rajapalayam showing that he was suffering from 'peripheral Neuropathy' during 03.01.2023 to 26.01.2023. He had also submitted Fitness certificate dated 26.01.2023 mentioning that he is fit to resume duties from 27.01.2023.

Dr M Rajamannar is due to retire on 30.4.2023 and his retirement benefits including leave encashment are to be calculated for the same.

- BM 154.34.2** The matter was discussed at length. The Board opined that Sh. M. Rajamannar has misused his official position as well LTC provision and leave provision and decided to initiate disciplinary proceedings against him. It also directed to investigate any such case of misuse of leave by him in the past when he had proceeded on EL/CL to hometown and extended his leave on medical grounds. The Board directed to issue a Chargesheet Memorandum to him under Rule 14 of CCS (CCA) Rules 1965. The Board also authorized the Vice Chancellor to take a decision on the reply received from Dr Rajamannar to the Chargesheet Memorandum.

Since, Dr M Rajamannar is due to retire on 30.4.2023, the Board directed that the aforementioned leave be treated as Earned Leave for calculating leave encashment on retirement, if otherwise eligible.

- Item No. 35** **To consider the Report of the Committee Constituted to Examine the Matter Related to Release of Final Terminal Benefits and Pension to Few EMPC Officials**

- BM 154.35.1** The matter was deferred.

- Item No. 36** **To consider and approve the Institutional OER Policy 2020 of IGNOU**

- BM 154.36.1** The Board considered and approved the Institutional OER Policy 2020 of IGNOU.

- Item No. 37** **To consider the complaint against Mr. Khumukcham Sushil Kumar Singh, Assistant Registrar(Group A Officer), Regional Centre, Imphal**

- BM 154.37.1** The Board was informed that the Regional Director, RC Imphal vide his letter dated 13.09.2022 informed the Director, RSD that Sh.

Khumukcham Sushil Kumar Singh, Assistant Registrar, Regional Centre, Imphal was issued two Office Memorandum dated 16.08.2022 and 12.09.2022 that the official was found intoxicated during the office hours and using socially offensive languages in local dialect which hampers the working environment of the Regional Centre. The Regional Director informed that after taking the charge of Regional Director, he observed on several occasions his unprofessionalism for which he was given verbal warning and even after repeated warnings he has not changed his behaviour hence Office Memorandum issued.

- BM 154.37.2** After detailed deliberations, the Board directed to initiate the disciplinary proceedings and to appoint the Inquiry Officer & Presenting Officer to enquire into the matter after immediately transferring him from the present place of posting.
- Item No. 38** **(A) To report the signing of MoUs with the Indian Army, the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force for offering specially designed Skill-based Bachelor Degree Programme to AGNIVEERS**
(B) To report the signing of MoUs with the National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) and recognition of IGNOU as an Awarding Body (AB-Dual)
- BM 154.38.1** The Board noted the following:
 (A) Signing of MoU with the Indian Army, the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force for offering Specially Designed Skill-Based Bachelor Degree Programme to Agniveers
 (B) Signing of MoU with the National Council for Vocation Education and Training (NCVET) and Recognition of IGNOU as an Awarding Body (AB-DUAL)
- Item No. 39** **To ratify the recommendations of the Student Services Committee (SSC), a Standing Committee of Board of Management, made at its 52nd Meeting held on 6th February 2023**
- BM 154.39.1** The Board confirmed the recommendations of the Student Services Committee (SSC), a Standing Committee of the Board of Management made in its 52nd meeting held on 06.02.2023.

Item No. 40 **To consider and approve the notice of termination served by NCHMCT for termination of MoUs between IGNOU and NCHMCT for offering B.Sc.- Hospitality and Hotel Administration (BHM) and M.Sc.- Hospitality Administration (MHA) programmes**

BM 154.40.1 The Board noted the termination of MoUs between IGNOU and NCHMCT for offering B.Sc.- Hospitality and Hotel Administration (BHM) and M.Sc.- Hospitality Administration (MHA) programmes.

Item No. 41 **To consider the issue of release of pending payments of M/s AEE Engineers and Contractors**

BM 154.41.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Board was informed that the work for maintenance of five Electric sub-stations ESS-1,2,4,5 &10 at IGNOU Campus, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi was awarded to M/s AEE Engineers and Contractors initially for a period of 45 days i.e. from 19th November, 2015 to 02nd January, 2016 on the basis of the e-tender. The brief report in respect of release of pending payments of M/s AEE Engineers and Contractors was placed before the Board. The agency was given extension 11 times for the total period from 03rd January, 2016 to 31st May, 2017 with the approval of the then Vice-Chancellor as per the proposal submitted by the CMD. The payments were accordingly released to agency.

It was further informed that a proposal was submitted to the Finance & Accounts Division for financial concurrence towards extension of the work to the agency for the period from 01st June, 2017 to 31st December, 2017, on which the Finance & Accounts Division gave its observation for placing the matter before the Works Committee. The matter was placed before the 71st Works Committee held on 07th September, 2018 vide Item No. 71.39 which could not be taken up due to paucity of time. M/s AEE Engineers & Contractors followed up for their pending payments with the CMD and other concerned offices of the University. The agency also requested the University for Appointment of arbitrator in the matter. Further, the agency filed a petition in the Delhi High Court for appointment of arbitrator in this matter.

The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi appointed Shri P.C. Ranga (ADJ Retd.), as the sole arbitrator in this matter. M/s AEE Engineers and Contractors (claimant) filed statement of claims (petition) against the University

before the arbitrator on 20th April, 2022. The claimant has prayed for an amount of Rs.63,10,232/- along with interest @18% towards the pending payments, Rs.5,00,000/- towards loss of profit, cost of litigation and any other order or direction which this Hon'ble tribunal may deem fit in the fact and circumstances of the case.

BM 154.41.2 The Board noted the observations of Vigilance Cell of the University in the matter, as given below:

- i. Officer of the CMD who was heading this work was Shri U. P. Sharma, the then Head-maintenance (C&E).
- ii. Fresh online tender for the clubbed electrical maintenance work was opened on 17th March, 2016 (technical bid) & 16th June, 2016 (financial bid) and also concurred by the F&A Division but the same could not be awarded due to non clearance from Works Committee.
- iii. The work was awarded initially for a period of 45 days on the basis of e-tender, which was extended for another period of 880 additional days (534 days with the approval of the then Vice-Chancellors and 366 days without financial concurrence/approval of the Competent Authority). This does not seem to be justified and may raise questions towards giving undue favour to the agency by the University. Suitable measures shall be taken to avoid re-occurrence of such practice in future.
- iv. A copy of arbitration award was awaited from the Legal Cell of the University.

BM 154.41.3 While the matter was under discussion, the Chairman apprised the Board that three more fresh bills have been received from the Contactor for payment.

BM 154.41.4 After detailed deliberations, the Board took a serious note on the matter of pending payments of M/s AEE Engineers & Contractors and directed to issue Charge-sheet to official responsible for the long pending payments.

Item No. 42 **To consider and adopt the University Grants Commission “Guidelines for Engaging Professor of Practice in Universities and Colleges” for implementation in the Indira Gandhi National Open University**

BM 154.42.1 The Board adopted the University Grants Commission Guidelines for Engaging Professor of Practice in Universities and Colleges as

communicated by the UGC vide their letter D.O. No.9-1/2010 (PS/Misc.)PT-I, dated 30th September 2022.

BM 154.42.2 *(Revised by the Board in its 156th Meeting, as per the comment received from Prof. Shubha Gokhale, Member)* The Board decided to engage a maximum of 10 persons of which 05 will be Funded by Industry, 02 will be from University's own Resources and 03 will be on Honorary Basis, in the areas as per the requirement of the University. The Board also decided to fix a monthly remuneration at the starting of the Pay Scale of Professor in Academic level 14 i.e. Rs.1,44,000 per month (consolidated) and they would not be eligible for any other service benefit/allowance like Medical, University accommodation/HRA/office car/conveyance etc. For those on honorary basis, a maximum honorarium of Rs.1.00 lac per month (consolidated) may be paid and they will not be eligible for any other service benefit/allowance like Medical, University accommodation /HRA/office car/conveyance etc.

Item No. 43 **To consider and approve the proposed MoU between IGNOU and All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) for translating MBA courses in different Indian languages under E-Kumbh portal Scheme**

BM 154.43.1 The Board considered and approved the MoU between IGNOU and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for translating MBA courses in different Indian languages under E-Kumbh portal Scheme.

The Board confirmed the above item and directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard for implementation.

Item No. 44 **To consider and approve the agreement with NAAC for acting as a Data Validation and Verification Agency for HEIs**

BM 154.44.1 The Board was informed that the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is an autonomous body established by the University Grants Commission (UGC) to assess and accredit institutions of Higher Education in the country and an outcome of the recommendations of the National Policy on Education (1986) which laid special emphasis on upholding the Quality of Higher Education in India. NAAC is entrusted with the primary function of assessing and accrediting Higher Education Institutions of the country. NAAC employed a computer-assisted system Data Validation Verification (DW) process that helps in creating a common system of validating data points and arriving unified score for each participating institution.

It was further informed that NAAC desires to offer the process of Data Validation and Verification in Project consultancy mode to Universities. For this purpose, NAAC proposed to collaborate with IGNOU for the larger cause of improving Quality in Higher Education that gives a common ground for social relevance. DVV, Data Validation and Verification agency in NAAC are referred to a body that verifies and validates the data submitted to the NAAC entity during the accreditation process of the institute. The appointed agency after due process verifies the data submitted or uploaded on the portal during the NAAC accreditation process. It is a software-based automated system that makes the entire NAAC evaluation more transparent. DVV is a critical and stringent process with no scope for errors wherein the HEI has to be very careful, consider all the factors, double-check the documents, and then go for the final submission. Since NAAC accreditation is important for all HEIs thus to collaborate with NAAC for DVV.

There is a Penalty Clause where in Two Strata arrangement of DVV is provisioned with a DVV partner as marker and checker and a Business Continuity Plan wherein at NAAC's request DVV agency will prepare, maintain and comply at no additional cost to the NAAC, to ensure that it can continue to provide the services as per the agreement. Planning and Development Division will be the nodal agency for the activity.

The Board was apprised that there are approx. 1000 Universities and 40,000 colleges where the work-related DVV (Data Validation and verification) will be required. The fee for DVV services shall be ₹15,000/- per University and ₹10,000/- per other HEIs (+Taxes.) to be paid to the University (IGNOU). The DVV collaborative project shall be funded by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bengaluru, Karnataka.

BM 154.44.2 The Board approved the Agreement with NAAC for acting as a Data Validation and Verification Agency for HEIs along with the terms & conditions and approved the same (**Appendix-2**). The Board also approved that Planning and Development Division will be the Nodal Agency for the activity.

The Board confirmed the above item and directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard for implementation.

Item No. 45 To consider and approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be signed between Research for Resurgence Foundation, Nagpur (RFRF) and IGNOU

BM 154.45.1 The Board considered and approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Research For Resurgence Foundation, Nagpur (RFRF) considering the long-term benefits of sharing the knowledge and resources between the Institute and the University and establish a strong academic collaboration by undertaking joint responsibilities and activities in their respective field of excellence, research, knowledge and human resources as areas of collaboration.

Item No. 46 To consider and approve the proposal of recruitment of 200 posts of Junior-Assistant-Typist (JAT) instead of 100 posts earlier

BM 154.46.1 The Secretary informed that the Board in its 145th meeting held on 25.10.2021 had approved the proposal of recruitment of one hundred (100) posts of Junior Assistant-cum-Typist (JAT) through the recruitment test to be conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA). The University has written several letters to NTA in this regard and now NTA has agreed and planning to conduct the examination in the ensuing months. In the meantime, the University has also decided to advertise 200 vacancies for the above said post and accordingly roster for 200 (UR-83, SC-29, ST-12, OBC-55, EWS-21) vacancies has been prepared.

It was further informed that a Committee was also constituted to finalize the various details to be submitted to the NTA regarding recruitment to the post of JAT (pay level-2 in the 7th CPC) in the University. The Committee had recommended the following:

- i) No. of vacancies 200 (UR-83, SC-29, ST-12, OBC-55, EWS-21, Total=200). The roster of 200 posts as provided by the Establishment Section has been verified by the SC/ST and NCDS.
- ii) Educational Qualification : 10+2
- iii) Skill Test: Typing Speed of 40 w.p.m in English or 35 w.p.m. in Hindi on computer.
- iv) Age Limit: 18 - 27 Years with relaxation to SC/ST/OBC (NCL)/EWS/ PwBD etc. as per GOI norms, cut off date for eligibility in terms of age will be the closing date of online application.

- v) Caste/Category Certificate: The standard format of SC/ST, OBC (NCL), EWS and PwBD categories are attached. The crucial date of caste/category certificate (SC/ST/OBC/EWS/PwBD) will be the closing date of online application.
- vi) Scheme of Exam: Tier I MCQ Test (CBT) to be conducted bilingually (English/Hindi) by NTA. Tier II Typing Test in English or in Hindi of candidates shortlisted in written test (10 times the number of vacancies) by NTA.
- vii) Syllabus of Exam: Attached (**Appendix-3**)
- viii) Examination Fees: Rs.1,000/- for UR, OBC(NCL) candidates, Rs.600/- for SC/ST/EWS/Woman candidates, Nil for PwBD candidates.
- ix) The detailed advertisement to be issued had also been finalized.
- x) Advertisement will be published by the NTA.

BM 154.46.2 The Board approved the proposal for advertising 200 vacancies of Junior Assistant-cum-Typist (JAT) through National Testing Agency (NTA) and as per the above recommendations of the aforesaid Committee.

The Board confirmed the above item and directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard for implementation.

Item No. 47 **To consider the issuance of fresh advertisement for recruitment to the posts of Technical Manager and Technical Assistant**

BM 154.47.1 The Board was informed that the posts of Technical Assistant 05 (UR-03, OBC-NCL-01 and SC-01) and Technical Manager 02 (UR-01 and OBC-NCL-01) were published vide Advertisement No.62/2021/Admn in the Employment News dated 18th September, 2021. In response, total 215 applications were received for the post of Technical Assistant and 212 applications received for the post of Technical Manager through SAMARTH portal. A committee was constituted to short-list the applications. The Committee in its meeting held on 16.12.2022 recommended that the said advertisement be cancelled and a fresh advertisement be floated for recruitment of Technical Managers and Technical Assistants. The Committee also suggested that fresh advertisement be published after encompassing all requirements of Technical Managers and Technical Assistants. The Committee further suggested to refund the application fees to the candidates who had

applied for these posts in response to the said advertisement.

BM 154.47.2 The Board noted the following steps taken by the University in this regard:

- (i) A line of cancellation of advertisement No. 62/2021/Admn. dt. 18.09.2021 had been uploaded on IGNOU website.
- (ii) Latest vacancy position of Technical Manager & Technical Assistant had been ascertained i.e. Technical Manager-4: 3UR+1OBC and Technical Assistant-8: 06 UR+1OBC+1SC and accordingly fresh advertisement was being prepared for the above posts.
- (iii) A separate note had already been sent to F&A Division on 20.01.2023 for refund of application fees to the respective candidates who had applied for the post of Technical Manager & Technical Assistant in response to the said advertisement dt. 18.09.2021.

BM 154.47.3 The Board approved the proposal of issuance of fresh advertisement for the latest vacancy positions i.e. 08 Technical Assistant and 04 Technical Manager on the basis of Notification dated 09.09.2021.

The Board confirmed this item and directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard for implementation.

Item No. 48 **To ratify the action taken by Vice Chancellor in nominating Prof. Shachi Shah, Member BOM to House Allotment Committee for two years**

BM 154.48.1 The Board ratified action taken by the Vice Chancellor in nominating Prof. Shachi Shah, Member BOM to the House Allotment Committee under the provision of Clause 7.1 of House Allotment Committee Rules for a term of two years.

The Board confirmed this item and directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard for implementation.

Item No. 49 **To report the identification of the buildings in IGNOU campus to name them after the great personalities**

BM 154.49.1 The Board approved the recommendation of the Committee constituted to identify the buildings in the IGNOU campus to name them after the great personalities, as per details below:

1. Block 15 be named as “*Swami Vivekanand Bhawan*”.
2. Research Unit be named as “*Savitribai Phule Bhawan*”
3. International Guest House Building be named as
“*Prof. V.C. Kulandaiswamy Bhawan*”

ITEM NO. 50 To consider and approve the estimate amounting to Rs.8,42,71,000/- for construction of Regional Centre building for RC Vijayawada near Raipudi Village, Amaravati

(The Item was tabled with the permission of the Chairman)

BM 154.50.1 The Board was informed that the University had purchased 0.8 acres of land on lease basis from Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) at a cost of Rs.80.00 Lakhs. The registration of lease deed has also been done. The CPWD was approached for estimates to build the Regional Centre building on the land. The CPWD has provided its preliminary estimate of Rs.8,42,71,000/- which includes 18% cost index over DPAR 2021, additional provision of increase in GST from 12% to 18% and 3% contingencies.

BM 154.50.2 It was further informed that the matter was placed in the 80th Works Committee meeting held on 23.01.2023. The Works Committee recommended the proposal for the approval of the Board for construction of the Regional Centre building for RC Vijayawada near Raipudi Village, Amaravati at a cost of Rs.8,42,71,000/- to be executed by the CPWD as deposit work.

BM 154.50.3 After detailed deliberations, the Board approved the proposal.

ITEM NO. 51 To consider and approve the recommendations of the Vice Chancellor in the appointment of Pro-Vice Chancellor in the University

BM 154.51.1 (The Item was tabled by the Vice-Chancellor/Chairman)

The Chairman recommended the proposal before the Board for appointment of Pro-Vice Chancellor in the University under the provision of Statute 3 of the IGNOU Act. The Chairman proposed the name of Dr. Kiran Hazarika, former Member, University Grants Commission (UGC) and Principal of Tengakhath College, Dibrugarh.

The Chairman presented the details of Dr. Kiran Hazarika to the Board. The brief resume of Dr. Hazarika was also placed before the Board (Appendix-4).

The Board considered and approved the recommendation of the Vice Chancellor for appointment of Dr. Kiran Hazarika as the Pro-Vice Chancellor.

The Board confirmed the above Item and directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard.

Item No. 52 To consider the Appeal under Rule 23 of the CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965 preferred by Shri Sapan Kumar Ram, Ex. Assistant Registrar

(The Item was tabled with the permission of the Chairman)

BM 154.52.1 The Board was informed that Shri Sapan Kumar Ram, Ex. Assistant Registrar preferred Appeal under Rule 23 of the CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965 before the Appellate Authority c/o the Chairman (Vice Chancellor), Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi against the Order No.1786 vide F.No.AD/2/NA/5495 dt. 31.08.2022 issued by the Registrar (Administration), IGNOU thereby imposing the penalty of compulsory retirement from the services of the University with all retirement benefits. Sh. Sapan Kumar prayed as under:

- (a) To quash and set aside the Memorandum vide F.No.AD/2/NA/3647/10/2332 dt. 14.03.2017 and the so called biased departmental proceedings and exonerate him from all the false vague and fabricated charges as alleged in the Memorandum F.No.AD/2/NA/3647/10/2332 dt.14.03.2017.
- (b) To withdraw and/or cancel and/or set aside the impugned orders of compulsory retirement issued vide F.No.AD/2/NA/5495 dt.31.08.2022 issued by Registrar (Admn.) of Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi with immediate effect and he may be reinstated in the services along with salary arrears at once and all the consequential benefits treating to be in continuous service.

BM 154.52.2 The Board after deliberating upon the appeal of Sh. Sapan Kumar, Ex-Assistant Registrar, decided to stand by its earlier decision taken in its 151st meeting held on 22.08.2022 vide Res. No.BM151.13.2 to award Compulsory Retirement.

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

Sd/-
(Nageshwar Rao)
Chairman