

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
(Planning & Development Division)

MINUTES OF THE 44th MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD HELD ON 12th JULY, 2016 AT 11:00 AM. AT THE BOARD ROOM, NEW VCO BLOCK, IGNOU, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI – 110068.

The following were present:-

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| 1. | Prof. Ravindra Kumar, Vice Chancellor | Chairman |
| 2. | Prof. Santosh Mehrotra, Professor, JNU | Member |
| 3. | Prof. B.S. Saraswat, Professor, SOS | Member |
| 4. | Prof. Swaraj Basu, Professor, SOSS | Member |
| 5. | Prof. K. Ravi Sankar, Professor, SOMS | Member |
| 6. | Dr. C.K. Ghosh, Regional Director, RC- Delhi-3 | Member |
| 7. | Shri Sudhir Budakoti, Registrar, Admin. | Member |
| 8. | Prof. Pardeep Sahni, Registrar, MPDD | Special Invitee |
| 9. | Shri S.K. Sharma, Registrar, SRD | Special Invitee |
| 10. | Shri N.P. Singh, Registrar, SED | Special Invitee |
| 11. | Prof. T. U. Fulzele, Director, P&DD | Member Secretary |

Prof. Anupama Roy, Prof. J.B.G. Tilak, Dr. K. Srinath Reddy, Er. Milind Kamble, Prof. Pankaj Chandra, Shri Sashi Kumar and Prof. V.S. Prasad, Members of the Planning Board could not attend the meeting.

Dr. V.P. Rupam attended the meeting on behalf of Dr. V.V. Reddy, Director (RSD) who was on leave. Shri Pankaj Khanna and Dr. Sunil Kumar were present to assist the Member Secretary.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members and Special Invitees to the 44th Meeting of the Planning Board. He informed that the Planning Board was a crucial constituent wherein strategic policy matters were deliberated for the holistic development of the University. It was an important platform for ensuring sustainable and integrated growth of all the components of the University. He urged that the meeting of the Planning Board should be conducted at more frequent intervals at least four times in a year.

The Chairman tabled a letter dated 05th July 2016 received from the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) which had examined the structure, functioning and performance of School of Studies and Regional Centres. He requested for opinion of the Members and Special Invitees on the issues and concerns highlighted in it by MHRD. Members opined that most of the issues raised in the MHRD letter were already addressed in the past by various committees constituted by the University. The Administration Division and Governance section of the University was requested to look at the recommendations of these committees in order to resolve the issues raised by the MHRD.

The Member Secretary brought to the notice of the Board that Prof. M.V. Rao, Member, Planning Board has expired on 08th March, 2016. He was former special DG, ICAR & former Vice-Chancellor, Agricultural University, Hyderabad. The Planning Board placed on record its appreciation of the contributions of Prof. M.V. Rao. A two minute silence was observed in the memory of Late Prof. M.V. Rao. The Chairman on behalf of the Planning Board placed a condolence resolution on the demise of Prof. M.V. Rao. The resolution was approved by the Board. It was decided to convey deepest sympathy of the Planning Board to Late Prof. M.V. Rao's family.

The Member Secretary welcomed and introduced Prof. Santosh Mehrotra, JNU as Member and Visitor nominee on the Planning Board. Prof. Santosh Mehrotra is a human development economist, whose research and writings have had significant influence in the areas of labour, employment, skill development and the economics of education. He had spent 15 years (1991 to 2006) with two UN agencies – UNICEF and UNDP. From Sept. 2006 to Aug. 2009 he worked with Planning Commission as head, Development Policy Division. He also worked as Director-General, Institute of Applied Manpower Research, Planning Commission (*in the rank of Secretary, Government of India*) from 2009-2014.

The Member Secretary thereafter presented the Agenda Items with the permission of the Chair.

P.B.44.1 To Confirm the Minutes of the 43rd Meeting of the Planning Board held on 12th July, 2016 and the Action Taken Report(s)

P.B.44.1.1 The Member Secretary informed that the Minutes of the 43rd meeting of the Planning Board were circulated to the Members of the Board. As no comments were received, the Member Secretary proposed for confirmation of the same.

P.B.44.1.2 The Board confirmed the Minutes of its 43rd meeting. Thereafter, the Planning Board took note of the Action Taken Report (ATR) on the recommendations of the Planning Board.

P.B.44.1.3 *Refer Item PB.43.1.5:* The Report of Committee constituted to revise Annexure of Phase –III (Programme Launch Approval Form) was placed in the Academic Council Meeting. The Academic Council in its 65th meeting held on 21st March 2016 decided to refer the report back to the Committee to re-examine the same in the context of CBCS.

The Planning Board noted that the University was in the process of streamlining CBCS scheme for Open and Distance Learning (ODL) system and advised to streamline the requisite Phase forms for development of academic programmes accordingly.

P.B.44.1.4 *Refer Item P.B.43.1.4:* Regarding revision of Manual for Programme Coordinators.

The Planning Board noted that the process of revision of the Manual for Programme Coordinators had been initiated by STRIDE. The Board decided that the Manual for Programme and Course Coordinators and the Manual for Regional Centres, Study Centres and Counsellors should be revised at the earliest and in a time-bound manner. The task of revising Manual for Regional Centre etc. was given to RSD.

P.B.44.1.5 *Refer Item PB 43.1.8:* Regarding directions of the Planning Board for getting feedback and opinion on the CSR Scheme of the University.

The Planning Board advised that the Planning and Development Division should circulate the CSR Scheme formulated by P&DD to all concerned to get the feedback on the CSR scheme.

P.B.44.1.6 *Refer Item PB 43.1.9:* Regarding School of Management Studies comments on development of Academic Programmes on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

The Planning Board suggested that CSR was an inter-disciplinary area, the University may invite and involve other School of Studies also for the design and development of academic programmes in this area.

P.B.44.1.7 *Refer Item PB 43.3.2:* Regarding the property (Plot of land along with Building) donated to IGNOU for Regional Centre – Raghunathganj in West Bengal.

The Planning Board was briefed that the Legal Cell had pointed out legal infirmities in the Raghunathganj donation made to IGNOU. The property had been donated to IGNOU without proper consultation with all the stake holders and therefore, the donation suffered from various legal infirmities. The IGNOU officials visited the site and found that the building was in highly dilapidated condition, inhospitable and suffered from severe water logging problem. The building therefore required major repair. Further, the building was located at a distance of about six kms from the National Highway No. 34 and thus not conveniently accessible. For the reasons stated above, the office of the Regional Centre was working from a rented building in Raghunathganj.

The Planning Board after deliberations suggested that it was not in the interest of the University to retain the said building and therefore, the same may be returned, following due legal procedure. Further, it was directed that the matter may be placed before the Board of Management (BOM) for its consideration along with the view of the Planning Board.

P.B.44.1.8 *Refer Item PB 43.4.2:* Regarding the land allotted to IGNOU at Trivandrum by the Government of Kerala.

The Planning Board directed that the lease agreement for registration of

one acre of land re-allotted in January 2016 may be expedited and signed without further delay.

P.B.44.1.9 The Planning Board took note of actions initiated on other recommendations made in 43rd meeting of the Planning Board

P.B.44.2 To report decisions taken in the 65th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 21st March 2016.

P.B.44.2.1 *Refer Item A.C.65.4.1:* Ratification of utilization of SCSP and TSP grant through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme through fee reimbursement in the Financial Year 2014-15 and fee exemption in the Financial Year 2015-16 to SC/ST students in select under-graduate programmes.

The Planning Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor for notifying the Scheme of reimbursement of programme fee of SC/ST students of IGNOU, who had taken admission in July 2015 and January 2016 cycles in specified undergraduate programmes which was ratified by the Academic Council. The Planning Board also took note of the notification to this effect issued by Director (P&DD) on 12th May / 21st June 2016.

P.B.44.2.2 The Director, Regional Services Division (RSD) made a request to extend the date for seeking requests for fee reimbursement from interested and eligible students for the Financial Year 2014-15 and 2015-16.

The Planning Board authorized the Vice Chancellor to give adequate relaxation to interested students so that maximum numbers of SC/ST students may be benefited through reimbursement of fee. On the observation of late reconciliation of accounts by Regional Centres, the Director, RSD assured the Planning Board for timely reconciliation of financial accounts of students' fee.

P.B.44.2.3 *Refer Item A.C.65.8:* The Report of Committee constituted to revise Annexure of Phase –III form ‘Programme Launch Approval Form’ for approval of new academic programmes – P&DD. In the light of observations, the Council decided to refer the report back to the Committee to re-examine the same in context of CBCS.

The Planning Board had already deliberated on it at Item no. 44.1.3. The Board noted the recommendations of the Academic Council.

P.B.44.2.4 *Refer Item A.C.65.9:* Academic Council considered guidelines for design and delivery of appreciation/awareness/non-credit or similar kind of other academic and training programmes for approval. The

Council recommended for re-examination of the guidelines in the present context and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to reconstitute the Committee for this purpose.

The Planning Board noted the recommendations of the Academic Council.

P.B.44.3 To consider and approve the recommendations of the 47th, 48th and 49th meetings of the Academic Programme Committee (APC) held on 13th July, 2015 and 17th, November 2015 and 13th April 2016, respectively.

P.B.44.3.1 The Member Secretary reported that in the 47th, 48th and 49th meetings of the Academic Programme Committee, the following recommendations were made:

1. 47th Academic Programme Committee:-

A) List of programmes recommended for approval at the 47th Meeting of Academic Programme Committee:

1. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Post Graduate Certificate in Inventory Planning and Warehouse System for Engineers.
2. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Post Graduate Diploma in Forensic Anthropology.
3. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Post Graduate Certificate in Industrial Safety.
4. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Post Graduate Diploma in Geospatial Analysis and Modelling.
5. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Diploma in Drawing and Painting.
6. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of B.A. in Journalism and New Media.

B) List of programmes deferred at the 47th Meeting of Academic Programme Committee:

1. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Diploma in Early Childhood Development and Education – Programme Coordinator has informed that Academic Council's Standing Committee in its 40th Meeting held on 10th July 2015 had directed to place the proposed programme for approval of

School Board.

C) List of other items / programmes at the 47th Meeting of Academic Programme Committee:

1. Committee on Low enrollment in academic programmes.
2. Reporting of action on the recommendations of APC is a mandatory requirement and the concerned School / Programme coordinators should intimate action taken report at the earliest to the APC.

2. 48th Academic Programme Committee:-

A) List of programmes recommended for approval at the 48th Meeting of Academic Programme Committee:

1. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Bachelor of Vocation.
2. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Post Graduate Diploma in Mental Health.
3. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Advanced Diploma in Early Childhood Development and Education.
4. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of B.Sc. (Footwear Fashion Design).
5. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of B.Sc. (Business & Entrepreneurship).
6. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of M.Sc. (Business & Entrepreneurship).
7. Phase -3 (Programme Launch Approval Form) of Certificate in Library & Information Science.
8. Phase -3 (Programme Launch Approval Form) of Post Graduate Diploma in Social Work Counselling.
9. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Post Graduate Diploma in Animal Welfare.
10. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Certificate in First Aid.

B) List of programmes deferred at the 48th Meeting of Academic Programme Committee:

1. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of M.A. in International Rural Development and Post Graduate Diploma in International Rural Development – The proposal be reviewed by the School in terms of its feasibility.
2. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Certificate in ICT Enabled Professional Skills for Police and Security Personnel – The School may place a fresh proposal for approval of a new programme to meet knowledge and skill requirements of bigger cliental group as suggested by the APC.

C) List of other items / programmes at the 48th Meeting of Academic Programme Committee:

1. Phase -1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Bachelor's in Development Studies – The School may take approval for adding courses in 'Development Studies' discipline as an elective course in the Bachelor Degree Programme (BDP) through Phase-0 form.
2. The Strategy for development of a bridge programme for Ayurvedic doctors to create mid-level health professionals – The APC recommended for constituting a committee to examine the strategy proposed by the School.

3. 49th Academic Programme Committee:-

A) List of programmes recommended for approval at the 49th Meeting of Academic Programme Committee:

1. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of M.Sc. in Environmental Science.
2. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Post Graduate Certificate in Climate Change and Sustainable Development.
3. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Bachelor of Performing Arts (Dance).
4. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Certificate in Community Health for Nurses.
5. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Certificate on Life and Thought of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.
6. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Certificate in Tribal Studies.

7. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Post Graduate Diploma in Environmental and Occupational Health.
8. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Certificate in Solar Photovoltaic Installer.

B) List of programmes deferred at the 49th Meeting of Academic Programme Committee:

1. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Certificate in Infrastructure Development and Environmental Planning.

C) List of other items / programmes at the 49th Meeting of Academic Programme Committee:

1. The Strategy for development of a bridge programme for Ayurvedic doctors to create mid-level health professionals – The APC revoked the decision of formation of the Committee and recommended that School may nominate Prof. S.B. Arora as Programme Coordinator to coordinate the design of this programme and expedite the development.
2. Phase-1 (Programme Proposal Form) of Certificate in Russian Language – Conditional approval subject to the approval by the Academic Council.
3. Monitoring Mechanism for revision of the academic programmes (B.Com. – School of Management Studies) – Revision of Courses is to be done within a period five years. The monitoring of course revision process is to be done by the respective School Board of the University.

P.B.44.3.2 The Planning Board recommended that the School of Engineering and Technology may consult Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and Entrepreneurship Development Institute-Gujarat (EDI) while designing and developing the curriculum of B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Business & Entrepreneurship programmes.

P.B.44.3.3 The Planning Board opined that the nomenclature “Bachelor in Vocation (B.Voc.)” should reflect the true spirit of this academic programme. It was agreed that the University had limited scope to propose any alternative nomenclature since B.Voc. nomenclature had been recommended by the University Grants Commission (UGC).

After deliberations, the Planning Board suggested that in order to reflect objectives of the B.Voc. programme appropriately, the School of Vocational Education and Training (SOVET) may invite Prof. Santosh Mehrotra, Member, Planning Board in its next School Board meeting in

order to explore an alternative nomenclature and put forward its recommendations to the UGC, New Delhi.

P.B.44.3.4 The Planning Board considered recommendations of the Academic Programme Committee made at 47th, 48th, and 49th Meetings and accorded its approval.

P.B.44.4 To nominate one member to Academic Programme Committee (a Standing Committee of the Planning Board)

P.B.44.4.1 The Member Secretary informed that in terms of the provision of Statute 16, the Planning Board has constituted a Standing Committee and under clause-II and in the composition of Academic Programme Committee (APC), two members of the Planning Board are to be nominated by it. Presently, Prof. J.B.G. Tilak, NUEPA is one of the members and the term of Prof. A.R. Khan expired on 15.07.2015. In view of this, one member among the Planning Board members needs to be nominated to the Academic Programme Committee.


P.B.44.4.2 The members authorized the Chairman to nominate a member from the Planning Board to the Academic Programme Committee.

The Chairman informed the Members that Dr. C. K. Ghosh, Member, Planning Board would be superannuating in August, 2016. Dr. C.K. Ghosh in his long career with IGNOU had made versatile and innovative contributions as a Teacher in the Physics discipline and as Regional Director and Director, Regional Services Division in the administration of Learner Support Services. The Committee placed on record its appreciation of the valuable contributions made in various capacities by Dr. C.K. Ghosh

The Member Secretary with the permission of the Chair invited Dr. Neelam Chaudhary, Analyst (Sr. Scale) and Mr. Girija Shankar, Research Officer (Sr. Scale) to present the two Statistical reports namely; **Three decades of Distance Education (A statistical Report on Enrollment trends in IGNOU programmes from 1986-87 to 2014-15)** and **Nurturing Social Equity through Distance Education (A Social category wise statistical Report of IGNOU Programmes from 1999 to 2015)**. Prof. Santosh Mehrotra suggested that both these reports may be sent to NUEPA for uploading on the U-DISE portal. The Planning Board endorsed Prof. Mehrotra's opinion and placed on record the appreciation of the hard work done by the Planning and Development Division.

The Planning Board decided to defer the deliberations on the items tabled during the meeting and suggested that these items may be placed in forthcoming meeting of the respective School Board and Planning Board.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.


(Prof. Ravindra Kumar)
Chairman