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MINUTES OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF THE  
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD IN THE UNIVERSITY  
OFFICE AT MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068 ON MONDAY, MARCH 28,  
1994 AT 1100 HOURS.

The following were present :

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|---|------------------|
| 1. Prof. V.C. Kulandai Swamy, Vice-Chancellor | Chairman         |
| 2. Prof. H.P. Dikshit                         |                  |
| 3. Dr S.K. Gandhe                             |                  |
| 4. Prof. G.S. Rao                             |                  |
| 5. Prof. R.K. Grover                          |                  |
| 6. Prof. V.V. Mandke                          |                  |
| 7. Prof. R.K. Bose                            |                  |
| 8. Prof. Pandav Nayak                         |                  |
| 9. Prof. M.M. Pant                            |                  |
| 10. Prof. A.B. Bose                           |                  |
| 11. Prof. (Col.) P.K. Dutta                   |                  |
| 12. Dr R. Satyanarayana                       |                  |
| 13. Dr V.D. Madan                             |                  |
| 14. Dr (Mrs) Shobhita Jain                    |                  |
| 15. Dr S.P. Parashar                          |                  |
| 16. Prof. B.N. Koul                           |                  |
| 17. Dr (Mrs) Sushila Kaushik                  |                  |
| 18. Dr K. Gopalan                             |                  |
| 19. Dr Harcharan Singh                        |                  |
| 20. Prof. M.V. Pylee                          |                  |
| 21. Dr M. Shanmugham                          |                  |
| 22. Prof. D.K. Sharma                         |                  |
| 23. Prof. T.N. Dhar                           |                  |
| 24. Shri K. Narayanan, Registrar              | Member-Secretary |

Prof. C.L. Anand, Prof. M.B. Menon, Shri. S. Peppin, Shri  
I.P. Anand, Shri Tarun Das and Prof. S. Bashiruddin could not  
attend the meeting.

Shri D.C. Pant, Director (Evaluation), Shri C.R. Pillai,  
Director (Planning & Teachers Affairs), Prof. Devesh Kishore,  
Director, (Communication Division), and Shri K. Anjanappa,  
Registrar (Admissions) were present by special invitation.

Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rao, Deputy Registrar (Governance) was  
present to assist the Member-Secretary.

the following items were considered:

EM NO.1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON NOVEMBER 16, 1993.

10.1.1 The Member-Secretary informed that no comments on the minutes have been received from any member. The minutes of the Ninth Meeting held on November 16, 1993 were confirmed.

EM NO.2 TO INCORPORATE THE PROVISION OF AWARD OF UNIVERSITY MEDALS IN THE REGULATIONS RELATING TO CONVOCATION PROGRAMME.

10.2.1 The Academic Council considered the proposed amendment to clauses 13 and 14 of the Regulations for Convocations to provide for the award of medals to eligible students. The Council approved the amendments proposed. The amended clauses, namely, clauses 13 and 14 of the Regulations are placed at Appendix-1.

EM NO.3 TO CONSIDER THE AWARD OF DEGREES/DIPLOMAS AT THE FIFTH CONVOCATION TO BE HELD ON APRIL 16, 1994.

10.3.1 The Academic Council considered and approved the proposal regarding the award of degrees/diplomas to 6119 eligible students who have qualified in December 1992 and January/June 1993 examinations. A list indicating the number of students who have qualified in various programmes is at Appendix-2. The Council authorised the Vice-Chancellor to include such students as qualify for the award of Degrees/Diplomas upto the date of the Convocation and report such additions at the next meeting of the Academic Council.

10.3.2 The Academic Council also noted that 1,461 candidates have qualified for the Certificate in Food & Nutrition.

EM NO.4 TO CONSIDER A SYSTEM OF PROVIDING GUIDANCE FOR THE STUDENTS TO CONDUCT THEIR PROJECT WORK WHICH IS THE FIFTH COURSE OF POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HIGHER EDUCATION.

10.4.1 After considerable discussion, the Academic Council approved the proposal in principle. However, it was felt desirable that issues involved in operationalising the system should be carefully examined by a Committee and brought before the next meeting of the Academic Council. The Vice-Chancellor was authorised to constitute a

Committee for the purpose.

ITEM NO.5 TO CONSIDER MODIFICATION TO THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HIGHER EDUCATION.

AC 10.5.1 The Academic Council considered the suggested modification to the eligibility criteria for admission to the Post Graduate Diploma in Higher Education. The Council approved the suggested modification which is given below:

"Teachers in institutions of higher learning or Post Graduate Degree holders in any discipline with a second class or graduates in professional areas, namely, Engineering, Medicine, Veterinary Sciences, Agricultural Sciences and members of professional bodies like the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Institute of Cost & Works Accounts, Institute of Company Secretaries of India etc, which are recognised as equivalent to a professional degree."

ITEM NO.6 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN MODERATING THE RESULT OF THE STUDENTS SHORT OF ONE OR TWO MARKS TO QUALIFY FOR THE COURSE.

AC 10.6.1 On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, the Director (Evaluation) explained the circumstances in which the results of the Bachelors Degree Programme have had to be moderated. There were some students who fell short of just one or two marks to qualify in a course. He explained that the situation arose because the examiners who evaluated the answer scripts, mostly drawn from the conventional system, awarded in some cases 17 out of 50 or 33 out of 100 marks under the impression that pass percentage for IGNOU programmes was 33% as is normally the case in many conventional Universities. However, since pass percentage for IGNOU programmes is 35%, some candidates fell short of 1 or 2 marks to qualify in the examinations. The Evaluation Division identified such cases and submitted them to the Vice-Chancellor for moderating the result of those candidates by giving one or two marks, as the case may be. The Director Evaluation explained that comprehensive and clear guidelines have since been issued to the examiners so that such situations do not arise in future.

AC 10.6.2 Taking into account the clarifications given, the Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in moderating the result of the students who were short of one or two marks to

qualify in the examination.

ITEM NO.7 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN DELETING MARKS OF EXCESS COURSE(S) OFFERED BY THE CANDIDATES IN BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMME.

AC 10.7.1 On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, the Director (Evaluation) briefly explained that for successful completion of a Bachelors Degree Programme, a student has to obtain 96 credits. However, in certain cases students have attained more than 96 credits necessitating exclusion of extra courses and identifying those that would go to make the 96 credits required for the Bachelor's degree. The students were asked to indicate their choice of courses which need to be retained and those which could be excluded so as to maintain the number of credits to 96. Where response from the students was received, necessary adjustments have been made. In cases where students have not responded, a decision was taken to compute 96 credits taking into account the courses in which the students performance was better.

AC 10.7.2 The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor. The Academic Council further decided that procedures may be evolved so that extra credits, in excess of the prescribed 96 credits, obtained by a student may be reflected in the credit card.

ITEM NO.8 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR REGARDING MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF DEGREES/DIPLOMAS.

AC 10.8.1 The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor regarding the granting of mutual recognition for the degrees/diplomas of the 10 Universities listed in Appendix 3.

ITEM NO.9 TO REPORT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN APPROVING THE PROFORMA OF CERTIFICATE AND GOLD MEDAL TO BE AWARDED TO THE TOPPER IN EACH PROGRAMME.

AC 10.9.1 The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the proforma of certificate and the design of gold medals to be awarded to the toppers in various programmes (Appendices 4 & 5).

AC 10.9.2 While on the subject, a suggestion was made that a system be evolved for scrutiny of the results before they are finalised. It was pointed out that an Examination Committee has already been constituted which may look into this aspect.

ITEM NO.10 TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT ORDINANCE ON THE PH.D PROGRAMME

AC 10.10.1 The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained that the Academic Council had, earlier, considered and approved an ordinance on M.Phil Programme. As a follow-up, it was considered necessary to frame an ordinance for Ph.D Programme. He said that a committee was appointed for the purpose with Prof. H.P. Dikshit as Chairman.

AC 10.10.2 On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. H.P. Dikshit briefly explained the salient features of the ordinance. He said that the Ph.D Programme will be organised in the Schools of Studies and that it would be open to full time and part-time students. Subject to the general guidance of the Academic Council, the programme shall be organised by the School Boards, who shall identify the thrust areas for research and constitute the Research Sub-Committees and the Research Committee. The research will be encouraged only in the areas which are relevant and that a high degree of standard shall be maintained. Prof. Dikshit also explained in sequence the operational provisions of the ordinance.

AC 10.10.3 Thereafter, the Vice-Chancellor requested the members to offer their comments on the draft ordinance. In the course of discussion, the following views were expressed:

- (1) Under the eligibility criteria for admission, persons holding M.Tech Degree may also be considered for admission.
- (2) The provisions of admission to students "in exceptional cases" needs to be specified as to who will decide such cases. (Ref. Clause 4(i)).
- (3) The minimum duration of 2 years may be enhanced at least to three years (Ref: Clause 11.1).
- (4) The expression "comprehensive examination" under clause 13 (ii) needs clarification.
- (5) The statement under clause 15 (i) that "the main theses is not expected to be more than 350 pages excluding the references" needs to be clearly specified.

- (6) Whether some relaxation could be thought of for the teachers of the IGNOU regarding the condition of publication of 5 papers in five years to become eligible for supervision since such a stipulation may exclude several teachers of IGNOU from supervising research as they were deeply involved in course development and preparation work.
- (7) The language of the ordinance needs editing.
- (8) Whether open defence of the thesis be considered in the place of viva-voce suggested in the ordinance.
- (9) Whether there should be a provision for grading a thesis.

IC 10.10.4

The Vice-Chancellor summed up that the quality of the Ph. D research programme should be maintained and to begin with effort should be made to create a research environment in the University. He said that the observations and suggestions made in the meeting will be passed on to the Committee which drafted the ordinance and that the Committee will consider the views expressed in the meeting. The finalised draft ordinance would be brought before the Academic Council in the next meeting.

ITEM NO.11

**TO CONSIDER THE PROCEDURE AND MECHANISM FOR DETERMINING OVERALL GRADE IN MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES OF THE UNIVERSITY.**

3C 10.11.1

On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. R.K. Grover briefly explained the procedures and mechanisms proposed to be followed for determining over all grade in management programmes of the University. He explained that the University follows grading system and the students grade card reflects the grades obtained by candidates only in individual courses and there is no provision for an overall grade for the Diploma/Degree. He mentioned that a number of students represented to the University asking for the award of an overall grade which would help them while seeking admission to other programmes including Ph.D.

AC 10.11.2

The proposed procedure for determining the over-all grade for management programmes was approved by the Academic Council (vide Appendix-6).



ITEM NO.12 TO CONSIDER MINIMUM GRADE REQUIRED FOR A CANDIDATE FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF ANY PROGRAMME OF THE UNIVERSITY.

AC 10.12.1 The proposal regarding minimum grade required for a candidate for successful completion of any programme of the University was considered. The Academic Council decided that a committee be appointed which could examine all the issues involved.

ITEM NO.13 TO CONSIDER THE NUMBER OF COURSES TO BE ALLOWED FOR A PARTICULAR TERM-END EXAMINATION IN RESPECT OF MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES OF THE UNIVERSITY.

AC 10.13.1 The Vice-Chancellor explained that some students carried too many courses (as many as 16 courses at a time) for appearing at a term-end examination. He said that though the proposal placed before the Academic Council refers specifically to the courses offered by the students of Management Programmes, the problem is general in nature and equally relevant to other programmes of the University. It is felt that it is neither feasible from the point of view of conducting the examinations, nor desirable from academic considerations to allow a student to carry forward such a heavy backlog.

AC 10.13.2 The matter was considered by the Academic Council and it was decided that a committee be appointed for the purpose to examine all the issues involved and make recommendation to the Academic Council. It was further decided that Prof. M.V. Pylee may be the chairman of that committee and that the Vice-Chancellor was authorised to nominate other members to the committee.

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

V. Kulandai Swamy  
11.7.94.  
(V.C. Kulandai Swamy)  
Chairman

APPENDIX -1  
(to Resolution No. AC 10.2.1)

AMENDMENT TO CLAUSES 13 & 14 OF REGULATION NO.1 FOR  
CONVOCACTIONS AT HEADQUARTERS

ting Clause 13

The Vice-Chancellor will then say: "Let the candidates for the award of degrees/diplomas be presented."

se 13 after amendment

The Vice-Chancellor will then say: "Let the candidates for the award of University Medals, Degrees/Diplomas be presented."

ing Clause 14

The person appointed for the purpose of presenting the candidates for each degree/diploma shall present them in the following words :

"Sir, I present to you \_\_\_\_\_ students, whose names are given in the list, who have successfully completed the programme and have been found qualified for the award of the Degree/Diploma in \_\_\_\_\_. I request that the Degree/Diploma be awarded to them."

The candidates receiving the degrees/diplomas shall stand in their seats while they are being presented and remain standing until the Vice-Chancellor admits them to the respective degrees/diplomas.

14 after amendment

The person appointed for the purpose of presenting the candidates for University Medals, Degrees/Diplomas shall present them in the following words :

Sir, I present to you \_\_\_\_\_ students, whose names are given in the list, who have successfully completed the programme and have been found qualified for the award of the University Medal, Degree/Diploma in \_\_\_\_\_. I request that the University Medal, Degree/Diploma be awarded to them.

The candidates receiving the University Medals, Degrees/Diplomas shall stand in their seats while they are being presented and remain standing until the Vice-Chancellor admits them to the respective University Medals, Degrees/Diplomas.