

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE
ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON FEBRUARY 09, 2000, AT
11.00 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK - 8,
IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI - 110 068.

The following were present:

- (1) Prof. Abdul W. Khan, Vice-Chancellor - Chairman
- (2) Prof. V.S. Prasad
- (3) Prof. K.N. Tripathi
- (4) Dr. P.K. Mehta
- (5) Prof. Asha S. Kanwar
- (6) Shri D.C. Pant
- (7) Prof. A.K. Agarwal
- (8) Prof. V.R. Jagannathan
- (9) Prof. S.C. Garg
- (10) Prof. N.V. Narasimham
- (11) Prof. M. Aslam
- (12) Prof. Shobita Jain
- (13) Prof. Manohar Lal
- (14) Dr. R. Sreedher
- (15) Dr. Neela Jagannathan
- (16) Dr. A.R. Khan
- (17) Dr. R.R. Rausaria
- (18) Ms. Kameshwari Murthy
- (19) Prof. Prabha Chawla
- (20) Dr. Ruchika Kuba
- (21) Dr. M.V. Lakshmi Reddy
- (22) Dr. Anita Dighe
- (23) Dr. D.K. Choudhry
- (24) Dr. Subhasis Maji
- (25) Shri C.R. Prasad
- (26) Shri M.S. Verma
- (27) Prof. Madhulika Kaushik
- (28) Dr. George Mathew
- (29) Prof. M.C. Kapilashrami
- (30) Dr. Sarala Gopalan
- (31) Dr. George John
- (32) Prof. M. Khajapeer
- (33) Dr. J.M. Parakh
- (34) Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rao, Registrar - Member Secretary

Prof. M.B. Menon, Shri P.V. Suresh, Shri V. Suresh, Prof. Abad Ahmad, Dr. Ila Pathak, Mrs. Vibha Parthasarathi, Ms. Anuradha Mohit, Ms. Usha Rai, Shri N. Ram and Prof. B.S. Saraswat could not attend the meeting.

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

Before the Items of agenda were taken up, the Vice-Chancellor welcomed the new members whose names are given below:

- (1) Shri D.C. Pant
- (2) Prof. Madhulika Kaushik
- (3) Prof. B.S. Saraswat
- (4) Dr. J.M. Parakh
- (5) Shri C.R. Prasad
- (6) Shri V. Suresh
- (7) Shri M.S. Verma
- (8) Prof. Abad Ahmad
- (9) Dr. Ila Pathak
- (10) Mrs. Vibha Parthasarthy
- (11) Dr. George Mathew
- (12) Prof. M.C. Kapilashrami
- (13) Ms. Anuradha Mohit
- (14) Dr. Sarala Gopalan
- (15) Dr. George John
- (16) Prof. M. Khajapeer
- (17) Ms. Usha Rai
- (18) Shri N. Ram

After a brief introduction of the members, the Vice-Chancellor extended a special word of welcome to Shri C.R. Prasad, Shri M.S. Verma, Prof. M.C. Kapilashrami, Dr. George John, Prof. M.Kajapeer, Dr. George Mathews, Ms. Sarala Gopalan (all co-opted members of the Academic Council who are not employees of the University) for accepting the membership and attending the meeting. With a view to inform the new members of the Academic Council, the Vice-Chancellor spelt out certain salient features of the University as under:

- IGNOU was created in 1985 and had become operational since 1987.
- In just 14 years of its existence, the University has placed itself to be one of the largest Universities in distance learning in the world with an aggregate of 6 Lakhs students on rolls; about 530 Study Centres and 26 Regional Centres spread throughout the length and breadth of the country including the islands of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshdweep.
- IGNOU has reached a major milestone as nodal agency to run the education channel under Doordarshan's Gian Darshan and Gian Vani.

- The other unique feature of IGNOU is its role with regard to the promotion of the Open University and distance education systems and for the determination of standard in such systems. The Distance Education Council within the IGNOU system is responsible to look after this responsibility.
- The Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC) of IGNOU is not only a nerve centre of the University system so far as the production of quality audio and video programmes for the distant learners is concerned, it is also envisaged to play the role as a National Resource Centre.
- The IGNOU has also the mandate to take education abroad.

The Vice-Chancellor in a reflective mood, called the attention of members to the burgeoning knowledge and expanding scientific society in India. The educational institutions today have to be competitive in order that the quality of education is comparable to the rest of the world.

The following items were considered:

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 22ND MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON OCTOBER 07, 1999.

AC 23.1.1 When the Item was considered, the Member Secretary informed that comments were received from two members on the Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Academic Council held on October 7, 1999. With the permission of the Chair he read out the comments. The Council considered the comments and the following corrections/modifications are made to the Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Academic Council:

- (i) Resolutions No.AC 22.13.1 and AC 22.14.2, after incorporating the modifications will read as below:

Modified Resolution No. AC 22.13.1

The Council considered the Item. Prof. M. B. Menon of the School of Education informed that the feedback study conducted by the School indicated that a large number of primary school teachers and parents between 18 and 21 years of age could not take

admission in CIG as the minimum age prescribed was 21 years. Therefore, there is a need for change in age criteria for Certificate Programme in Guidance (CIG) from 21 years to 18 years.

Modified Resolution No. AC 22.14.2

In a brief departure from the Item under consideration, the Vice-Chancellor observed that there is need to create opportunities for greater academic interaction in the University. It was pointed out that some Schools do organise regular Seminar Series for academic discussion to which staff members of other Schools/Division are invited. The Vice-Chancellor noted the existence of such initiatives at School level. However he desired that there should be some mechanism/forum at the University level in which the University community can engage in academic discussions on various areas of academic interest. This could be in the form of a presentation or a report on return from conferences/seminars inside the country as well as abroad. He further stressed that there should be regular meetings of the School Directors.

- (ii) With regard to the comments on AC 22.116.1, the Registrar clarified the point of technicality involved in the items of ratification and the member accepted the clarification given by the Member-Secretary.

AC 23.1.2

With the above modifications/observations, the Academic Council confirmed the minutes of the 22nd meeting of the Academic Council held on October 7, 1999.

ITEM NO. 2

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FOR REVISION OF THE COURSE, "GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IN INDIA" (EPS-02).

AC 23.2.1

The Item was considered. Dr. A.S. Narang of the School of Social Sciences gave a brief background and outline of the proposal for revision of the Course, "Government and Politics in India" (EPS-02). In this context, the members made the following observations/comments:

- (i) The proposals for any revision of any course should

reflect the background, the rationale and unit-wise justification and overall perspective necessitating the revision of the course.

- (ii) It was generally observed that there should be a comparative narration in the agenda note indicating the earlier syllabus with proposed revision in order that the directions of changes taking place in the academic programmes of the University is known. This should be followed by all Schools wherever a proposal on revision of courses is made.
- (iii) Members agreed that a new format should be evolved for proposals relating to the revision of courses taking into consideration the observations made by the members.
- (iv) It was also pointed out that the Course Codes of EPS-02 need also to be looked into.

AC 23.2.2

Dr. A.S. Narang of the School of Social Sciences in his clarifications, made the following points:

- (i) Care will be taken to reflect the objective, rationale/justification and overall perspectives and current needs in the proposal itself in all future revision proposals along with the structure of the Course. He also assured that some syllabus guidelines will also be enclosed.
- (ii) So far as the present proposal is concerned, the Unit writers will be advised to give emphasis with respect to issues concerning the Dalits/Rural Areas as raised by some members.
- (iii) It was also clarified that a Committee constituted by the University to look into the Course Codes, etc. is examining the issues relating to uniform policy for Programme Codes and Course Codes and its Report is awaited.

AC 23.2.3

With the above observations/clarifications, the Academic Council approved the proposal for revision of the Course, "Government and Politics in India" (EPS-02). A copy of the revised syllabus is placed at Appendix - 1.

ITEM NO. 3

TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL RELATING TO THE COURSE, "COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT & POLITICS" (EPS-09).

AC 23.3.1

The Item was considered. Dr. A.S. Narang of the School of Social Sciences gave a brief background and justification for bringing up this proposal for revision of the Course, "Comparative Government and Politics" (EPS-09). In this context, the following views/observations were made by some members:

- (i) It was pointed out that some issues like workers/peasants/women movements are common in both EPS-02 and EPS-09.
- (ii) Some members expressed concern that the revised course should, as far as possible, relate to the life of the learners of our programmes so that the revision reflects an interactive, informative and engaging exercise.

AC 23.3.2

Dr. A.S. Narang of the School of Social Sciences in his clarification made the following points:

- (i) It was clarified that EPS-02 was in the context of Indian Government and Politics whereas EPS-09 relates to Comparative Government and Politics. Therefore, the issues are to be dealt with separately, one in the Indian context and the other in the global perspective.
- (ii) It was also clarified that the proposals which are placed before the Academic Council for consideration have to go through different levels of discussions/deliberations and decision making. These exercises take place normally in the faculty, in the meetings of the Experts and at the School Board Meeting. The Academic Council inter alia normally exercises general supervision on overall academic policies of the University and gives directions regarding methods of instructions/evaluation, etc.

AC 23.3.3

With the above observations/clarifications, the Council approved the proposal for revision of the Course,

"Comparative Government and Politics" (EPS-09). A copy of the revised syllabus is placed at Appendix - 2.

ITEM NO. 4

TO CONSIDER THE REPORT RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE OF STUDIES IN WOMEN'S STUDIES AND OTHER INTER-DISCIPLINARY AREAS.

AC 23.4.1

The Item was considered. Prof. M. Aslam, Director, School of Continuing Education gave a brief account of the background and objective concerning the proposal for establishment of the Centre of Studies in Women's Studies and other interdisciplinary areas. In this context, the members made the following observations:

- (i) There is a growing concern with respect to issues of women's development and studies. Therefore, it calls for a wider discussion of the gender issues cutting across all disciplines.
- (ii) It is also mentioned that the issues relating to gender is not to be treated as subject specific to women studies and development because of its growing concern it has become interdisciplinary involving various Schools of Studies.
- (iii) There is a need for discussion on the role to be played by Schools/Centres/Units in order to avoid overlapping and duplication of role and structure.
- (iv) It is also necessary to frame an appropriate structure involving the constitution of School/Centre/Cell, etc.
- (v) It was also pointed out whether it was necessary, in the existing scenario of programmes offered by the School of Continuing Education, to go for creating another structure as that of a Centre.

AC 23.4.2

Prof. (Mrs.) Prabha Chawla of the School of Continuing Education in her presentation in support of the proposal gave a brief account of the genesis of the proposal for establishing a distinct structure for women's development and studies and stressed that the need is more overwhelming in the context of growing concern on issues relating to women's development.

AC 23.4.3

The Vice-Chancellor in his observations noted that any study on gender issues need to be :

- (i) Interdisciplinary in approach.
- (ii) There should be specific distinction between the role of Centre in comparison to that of School.
- (iii) There is a need for a Committee to examine as to how to handle the interdisciplinary programmes and that Committee should look into the structure, role and other requirements concerning these programmes and bring out specific suggestions.

AC 23.4.4

With the above observations, the members authorised the Vice-Chancellor to constitute a Committee to examine the issues raised in the Council Meeting.

ITEM NO. 5

TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR REVISION OF COURSE "SOCIETY AND STRATIFICATION" (ESO-10).

AC 23.5.1

The Item was considered. Prof. Shobita Jain, Director, School of Social Sciences gave a brief background and justification for the proposed revision of the Course, "Society and Stratification" (ESO-10).

AC 23.5.2

The Council approved the proposal for revision of the Course, "Society and Stratification" (ESO-10). A copy of the revised syllabus is placed at Appendix - 3.

ITEM NO. 6

TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSALS FOR

- (a) CHANGE IN THE CODE RELATING TO B.SC.(NURSING);
- (b) ADDITION OF COURSES, ETC.
- (c) CHANGE OF TITLE RELATING TO B.SC. NURSING PROGRAMME TO POST BASIC B.SC. NURSING PROGRAMME.
- (d) ENHANCEMENT OF FEE.

AC 23.6.1

The Item was considered. Ms. Bimla Kapoor of the School of Health Sciences introduced the proposals concerning the B.Sc. (Nursing) Course. In this context certain points were

raised by members relating to Course code, contents and fee, etc. Ms. Kapoor clarified these queries. These clarifications are given as under:

- (i) It was clarified that as per the Indian Nursing Council guidelines, the B.Sc. Nursing Programme which is a basic degree programme is required to be changed to Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing Programme. The Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing Programme will be after the General Nursing and Midwifery which is a basic diploma programme in nursing.
- (ii) It was clarified that the change of code from HS (Health Sciences) to BSCN (B.Sc. Nursing) is necessary to reflect the programme as similar codes are being followed for other programmes in School of Health Sciences.
- (iii) Regarding change of Physics and Chemistry to Bio-Physics and Bio-Chemistry respectively, it was clarified that contents will be suitably changed as per INC guidelines so as to reflect pure and applied sciences.
- (iv) Regarding the proposal for addition of a new course in Maternal Nursing, it was clarified that the course of first year will be launched by the year 2002 and there will be provision for the students with earlier registration to do the new course.
- (v) It was also clarified that B.Sc. Nursing Programme is 80 credit programme. For 3 year degree programme there should be 96 credits as per IGNOU norms. Therefore, only 1st year courses are being now revised so as to have 34 credits instead of 24 credits. The addition of Nursing Foundation (2 credits in theory and 2 Credits in practical) and Maternal Nursing (2 credits in theory and 6 credits in practical) are the requirement of Indian Nursing Council.
- (vi) It was clarified that 56-60% of the course in Nursing courses is practical and the rest is theory component.
- (vii) It was informed that gender sensitivity is a part of the Nursing Foundation Course.

(viii) It was further informed that an Advisory and Course Writers Meeting will be called to work out the credit structure and curriculum outline of the proposed course, namely, Nursing Foundation and Maternal Nursing Course.

(ix) With regard to the enhancement of fees, it was observed that the fee proposed at Rs.5000 per year for the Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing Programme is a nominal fee.

AC 23.6.2

With the above observations, the Council approved the following:

- (a) Change in the code relating to B.Sc.(Nursing) be as decided by the Committee on course codes;
- (b) Addition of courses, etc. as proposed in the agenda note.
- (c) Change of title relating to B.Sc. Nursing Programme to Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing Programme.
- (d) The proposed enhancement of fee to Rs.5000 per year.

ITEM NO. 7

TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN APPROVING THE FEE STRUCTURE FOR MODULE II (CERTIFICATE IN PRIMARY TEACHING) AND MODULE III (DIPLOMA IN PRIMARY EDUCATION).

AC 23.7.1

The Council considered the item and ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the Fee Structure of Rs.1500/- and Rs.2000/- for Module II (Certificate in Primary Teaching) and Module III (Diploma in Primary Education) respectively.

ITEM NO. 8

TO REPORT REGARDING THE CONFERMENT OF DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LETTERS (HONORIS CAUSA) ON PROF. V.C. KULANDAI SWAMY, SECOND VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE IGNOU.

AC 23.8.1

It was stated that the matter concerning the award of the degree of Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa) was circulated to members of the Academic Council and that overwhelming majority of members have approved the proposal. The Council considered the Report regarding the

conferment of Degree of Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa) on Prof. V.C. Kulandai Swamy, Second Vice-Chancellor in IGNOU and unanimously confirmed the conferment.

ITEM NO. 9 **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE NORMS FOR POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMME.**

AC 23.9.1 The Item was considered. Prof. A.K. Aggarwal, Director, School of Health Sciences gave para-wise background and justification on the proposals relating to norms for Post Graduate Diploma in Maternal and Child Health (PGDMCH). In this context, certain points relating to allotment of skill development centres and merit list for different categories were raised. The following clarifications were made:

- (i) There will be no problem due to change of skill development centres (SDCs) as the respective Regional Centres will take care of the processes involved in such changes.
- (ii) For the merit list the guidelines given by the Government of India on reservations will be followed.
- (iii) On the issues of domicile of students, it was clarified that IGNOU being a national University cannot restrict its admission and related issues to domicile aspect.

AC 23.9.2 With the above observations/clarifications, the Council approved the norms for Post Graduate Diploma in Maternal and Child Health Programme.

ITEM NO. 10 **TO CONSIDER THE DOCUMENT PREPARED FOR THE CREATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "IGNOU CONSULTANCY SERVICES" PROJECT.**

AC 23.10.1 The Item was considered. The Vice-Chancellor, in his observations on the proposal, referred to specific areas in which the University has the potential resources. He mentioned that the number of quality audio-video programmes/CD ROMs, print material of different subjects

of studies, the services available with Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC) and the number of projects funded by the Government of India and other governmental agencies have created tremendous scope and justification and how the University could to utilise these facilities/resources to generate additional resources to the advantage of the University.

AC 23.10.2

The Vice-Chancellor also informed the members that the operational details of the utilisation of surplus fund, percentage of consultancy fee, accountability, academic consultancies will be taken care of by the Standing Committee, a structure within the IGNOU Consultancy Services, as and when it is constituted.

AC 23.10.3

He also clarified that the University may take the help of number of outside experts/consultants in the proposed project.

AC 23.10.4

With regard to the structure of the Standing Committee of the IGNOU Consultancy Services, it was agreed that the following persons be added to in the Committee"

- (i) Two Lecturers/Other Academic Staff
- (ii) Director, EMPC - Ex Officio Member
- (iii) One representative of Group 'A' Officers

AC 23.10.5

With the above observations, the Council approved the document prepared for the creation of the 'IGNOU Consultancy Services'.

ITEM NO. 11

TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL RELATING TO TWO ELECTIVE (4 CREDITS EACH) ON MATHEMATICAL METHODS IN PHYSICS-III (PHE-14) AND PHYSICS OF SOLIDS (PHE-13).

AC 23.11.1

The Council considered and approved the proposal relating to Two Elective (4 Credits each) on Mathematical Methods in Physics-III (PHE-14) and Physics of Solids (PHE-13). A copy of the proposal is placed at Appendix - 4.

- ITEM NO. 12 **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE SYLLABUS OF FOUNDATION COURSE IN HINDI (FHD-2).**
- AC 23.12.1 The Council considered and approved the syllabus of Foundation Course in Hindi (FHD-2). A copy of the Syllabus is placed at **Appendix - 5.**
- ITEM NO. 13 **TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR REVISION OF THE COURSE "EAST ASIA AND ASIA-PACIFIC" (EPS-06).**
- AC 23.13.1 The Item was considered. In this context, Prof. Shobita Jain, Director, School of Social Sciences, outlined the background and justification for the revision of the Course, "East Asia and Asia-Pacific" (EPS 06).
- AC 23.13.2 The Academic Council approved the proposal for revision of the Course, "East Asia and Asia-Pacific" (EPS-06). A copy of the proposal is placed at **Appendix - 6.**
- ITEM NO. 14 **TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR REVISION OF THE COURSE "POLITICAL IDEAS AND IDEOLOGIES" (EPS-01).**
- AC 23.14.1 The Item was considered. Prof. Shobita Jain gave a brief background of the Course, "Political Ideas and Ideologies" (EPS-01).
- AC 23.14.2 The Academic Council approved the proposal for revision of the Course, "Political Ideas and Ideologies" (EPS-01). A copy of the proposal is placed at **Appendix - 7.**
- ITEM NO. 15 **TO INFORM THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL ABOUT THE HOLDING OF THE 11TH CONVOCATION ON 4TH MARCH, 2000.**
- AC 23.15.1 The Item was considered. Shri D.C. Pant, Pro Vice-Chancellor informed the members that 53,207 students had qualified in degrees/diplomas/certificate and that 27,950

students are eligible to receive degrees/diplomas at the ensuing Convocation, and 25,257 having qualified for Certificate level programmes. Convocation will be telecast through tele-conferencing mode at 19 Regional Centres where 11th Convocation will be held simultaneously. He further informed that the University has proposed to confer the Degree of Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa) on Prof. V.C. Kulandai Swamy, an eminent educationist, scientist and poet and a former Vice-Chancellor of Indira Gandhi National Open University.

AC 23.15.2

A Statement giving details of students qualified at various programmes of study is at **Appendix - 8**. This was approved. It was stated that if any more students become eligible to receive degrees/diplomas, these will be reported at the next meeting.

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



(ABDUL W. KHAN)
Vice-Chancellor