

**MINUTES**

**of the**

**SIXTY SIXTH MEETING**

**of**

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

**Held on**

**8<sup>th</sup> September 2016**



**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY  
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068  
IGNOU**

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTY SIXTH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 11:30 AM IN THE RADHAKRISHNAN BLOCK, IGNOU, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068.**

The following were present in the meeting:

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|--|---|-------------|
| 1. Prof. Ravindra Kumar, Vice Chancellor (I/C)   | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Prof. Rajni Dhingra                           | - | Member      |
| 3. Prof. Mandava Venkata Basaveswar Rao          | - | Member      |
| 4. Prof. Makkhan Lal                             | - | Member      |
| 5. Prof. S.P. Bansal                             | - | Member      |
| 6. Prof. Mohammad Miyan                          | - | Member      |
| 7. Prof. A.N. Maurya                             | - | Member      |
| 8. Prof. M.M. Salunkhe                           | - | Member      |
| 9. Prof. Ramesh Chandra                          | - | Member      |
| 10. Prof. Swaraj Basu, Director, SOSS            | - | Member      |
| 11. Prof. Sunaina Kumar, Director, SOH           | - | Member      |
| 12. Prof. Madhu Tyagi, Director, SOMS            | - | Member      |
| 13. Prof. M S Nathawat, Director, SOS            | - | Member      |
| 14. Prof. Pity Kaul, Director, SOHS              | - | Member      |
| 15. Prof Neerja Chadha, Director, SOCE           | - | Member      |
| 16. Prof P. Srinivas Kumar, Director, SOET       | - | Member      |
| 17. Prof. Anju Sehgal Gupta, Director(I/C), SOFL | - | Member      |
| 18. Prof. Shambhu Nath Singh, Director, SOJNMS   | - | Member      |
| 19. Prof. K. Elumalai, Director, SOL             | - | Member      |
| 20. Prof. Saroj Pandey, Director, SOE            | - | Member      |
| 21. Prof. M.K. Salooja, Director, SOA            | - | Member      |
| 22. Prof. Anu Aneja, Director, SOGDS             | - | Member      |
| 23. Dr. P.V. Suresh, Director, SOCIS             | - | Member      |
| 24. Dr. R.S.P. Singh, Director, SOVET            | - | Member      |
| 25. Dr. Rose Nembiakkim, Director, SOSW          | - | Member      |
| 26. Dr. P.V.K. Sasidhar, Director, SOEDS         | - | Member      |
| 27. Dr. Seema Johri, Director, SOPVA             | - | Member      |
| 28. Dr. R.P. Pandey, Director, SOTST             | - | Member      |

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|---|---|------------------|
| 29. Dr. Boyina Rupini, Director, SOITS        | - | Member           |
| 30. Sh. S.K. Sharma, Registrar(I/C), SRD      | - | Member           |
| 31. Sh. N.P. Singh, Registrar (I/C), SED      | - | Member           |
| 32. Prof. Manjulika Srivastava, Director, ACD | - | Member Secretary |

Dr. V Venugopal Reddy, Director, RSD; Prof. Satyakam, Director, Research Unit; Prof. T.U. Fulzale, Director, P&DD; and Dr. Dev Kant Rao, Dy. Director, ACD attended the meeting as Special Invitees.

Prof. Kuldeep Agnihotri and Prof Furqan Qamar, external Members of Academic Council and Prof. Jaideep Sharma, Librarian, internal members of the Academic Council could not attend the Meeting.

Dr Shekhar Suman and Dr. Vandana Verma, Asst Directors, ACD were present to assist the Member Secretary.

Prof. Manjulika Srivastava, Director, Academic Coordination Division and the Member Secretary of the Academic Council greeted all the members and requested the Chairperson to make his opening remarks and to provide an overview of the initiatives taken by the University since last meeting of the Academic Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

Prof Ravindra Kumar, Vice Chancellor (I/C), IGNOU and the Chairperson of the Academic Council welcomed all the Members of the Academic Council to its 66<sup>th</sup> Meeting and made a mention of the new Members of the Academic Council both external and internal. He stated that the Academic Council in its 65<sup>th</sup> had co-opted the external members, which included Prof. Rajni Dhingra, Dean, faculty of Science, University of Jammu, Jammu; Prof. Kuldeep Agnihotri, VC, Himachal Pradesh Central University, Kangra, Himachal Pradesh; Prof. Furqan Qamar, Secretary General, AIU, New Delhi; Prof. Mandava Venkata Basaveswar Rao, Faculty of Science, Krishna University, Andhra Pradesh; Prof Makhan Lal, Director, DIHRM, New Delhi; Prof S.P. Bansal, VC, Indira Gandhi University, Meerpur, Rewari, Haryana; Prof. Mohammad Miyan, former VC, MANUU & Member UGC, New Delhi; Prof A N Maurya, former Dean, IAS, BHU, Varanasi; Prof. M M Salunkhe, former VC, YCMOU, Nashik, Maharashtra, and Prof. Ramesh Chandra, Dept of Chemistry, University of Delhi, Delhi. The Chairperson also welcomed the newly appointed Directors of the Schools of Studies, as internal members of the Council, viz. Prof. Swaraj Basu, Director, SOSS; Prof. Saroj Pandey, Director, SOE; Prof. M S Nathawat, Director, SOS; Prof. Madhu Tyagi, Director, SOMS; Prof. M.K. Salooja, Director, SOA; Dr. R.S.P. Singh, Director, SOVET; Dr. Rose Nembiakkim, Director, SOSW; Dr. P.V.K. Sasidhar, Director, SOEDS; Dr. Seema Johari, Director, SOPVA; and Dr. Boyina Rupini, Director, SOITS.

The Chairperson expressed gratitude for the contribution made by the outgoing Chairperson of the Council, Prof. Nageshwar Rao, former Vice Chancellor (I/C), IGNOU. He also appreciated the contribution made by outgoing members of the Council, Prof. D. Gopal, former Director, SOS; Prof. C.R.K. Murthy, former Director, STRIDE; Prof. N. K. Dash, former Director, SOE; Prof. Vijayshri, former Director, SOS; Prof. S. Srilatha, former





Director, SOMS; Dr. S. K. Yadav, former Director, SOA; Dr. A. K. Gaba, former Director, SOVET; Prof. Gracious Thomas, former Director, SOSW; Dr. Nehal A Farooque, former Director, SOEDS; Dr. Govindraju Bhardwaja, former Director, SOPVA; Dr. Babu P. Ramesh, former Director, SOITS; Prof. Satyakam, SOH; Prof. Deeksha Kapur, SOCE; Prof. P K Biswas, STRIDE; Dr. Sanjay Gupta, SOS; Dr. Bharti Dogra, SOE; Dr. B. Kiranmayi, SOSS; Dr. Anupriya Pandey, SOMS; Dr. Nisha Verghese, SOEDS; Dr. Vijay Kumar, SOA; Dr. V Venugopal Reddy, Dir, RSD; Dr. P Sivaswaroop, Regional Director; and Dr. SK Prasad, NCDS. The Academic Council joined the Chairperson and placed on record a note of appreciation for the contribution made by the outgoing members.

The Chairperson made a presentation on the important activities since the last Meeting of the Academic Council, held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016. Some of the points of this presentation were as under:

- Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has currently 178 Academic programmes on offer through 56 Regional Centres and 11 Centres under Defence spread across the country ably supported by 2981 Learner Support Centres. University has currently cumulative student strength of over 3.0 million learners. For 2015-16, there is student enrolment of more than 7.96 lakh. The University Grants Commission has extended recognition to IGNOU for offering programmes through distance mode for another two years i.e. 2016-18.
- Digital repositories such as eGyan Kosh and the FlexiLearn portal have been reactivated by the University.
- An integrated system developed by Computer Division has facilitated Term End Examination (TEE) result declaration by Student Evaluation Division in less than a month for lakhs of students.
- The University has made important strides in developing a scheme of accreditation for Open and Distance Learning (ODL) Institutions. The Inter-University Consortium (IUC) of IGNOU had taken the initiative and organized the 5<sup>th</sup> Conference of Vice Chancellors of Open Universities on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016 which was attended by the Vice Chancellors of State Open Universities and Directors of select Directorates of Distance Education. Draft Framework for Assessment and Accreditation of ODL Institutions; NIRF Parameters in ODL; and modalities of Choice Based Credit Systems were discussed in this conference.
- The Students Registration Division (SRD) has initiated *on-line* admission in addition to the regular *off-line* admissions from May 2015 onwards. Online admission system covers admission to 148 programmes offered by IGNOU for July and January admission cycles and has enrolled about 43424 and 30993 learners in the July 2015 and January 2016 sessions, respectively. IGNOU has also launched online re-registration system for B.A., B.Com., B.Sc., BTS and BSW w.e.f. March 16, 2016.
- Planning and Development Division of the University has developed a database of IGNOU since inception, carrying out the work of Planning Board and Academic

Programme Committee efficiently and providing feedback and inputs to Schools in revision/development of programmes and courses.

- The National Digital Library (NDL), a one-stop search facility to digital resources of different institutions across the country provides access to learning materials relevant to users of different levels from school to post graduate and research level. It is a project of MHRD under its NMEICT Project. IGNOU was involved as a member of the Sub-Committee of National Steering Committee of E-ShodhSindhu constituted by MHRD. IGNOU is a member of NDL. IGNOU plans to share its digital repository with NDL. Staff of IGNOU has been provided login id to access the NDL.
- With the efforts of the University and Government Gyanvani and Gyandarshan channels have been reactivated and the University is in the process of entering into an agreement with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for operationalising these channels.
- The University has received proposals from the Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Skilling, Ministry of Tourism, and Ministry of Ayurveda for initiating programmes in respective areas. The concerned Schools are working towards offering programmes in related areas.
- The University has been pursuing the matter for recognition of its research degree programmes. The UGC has finally accorded permission to IGNOU for offering M.Phil/PhD programmes through regular/ part time mode.

The Members of the Academic Council appreciated the measures taken by the Chairperson to support the academic development of the University and the learners. The Members assured full cooperation in steering the proceedings of the Academic Council in a purposeful direction. The Chairperson asked the Member Secretary to present the Agenda for the meeting.

The Member-Secretary, Academic Council informed that in all there were 26 Agenda Items, including the confirmation of the Minutes of the 65<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Academic Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016; approval of Minutes of 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016.

The Academic Council transacted the following business:

**ITEM NO. 1 To confirm the Minutes of the 65<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Academic Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2016 and to note the Action Taken thereon.**

- AC 66.1.1 The member secretary informed that the Minutes of the 65<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Academic Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 were circulated to all members for their comments/observations. The comments/observations have been received from Director, SOS and Director, Research Unit vide their letter/Note dated 11.4.2016 and 6.6.2016, respectively. While, the



Comments of Director, SOS relates to Item Nos. AC 65.5.2 and AC 65.17.1, the Director, Research Unit has given comments related to Item No. AC 65.25.

The Academic Council considered the observations/comments received from the above members and decided as under:

- (i) AC 65.5.2: The Council agreed to revise the sentence after adding the word '*subjects*' in the second last line of paragraph, as follows:

Previous sentence: "...subject to fulfilling eligibility conditions as fixed by the University i.e. having Science at the 10+2 level."

Revised sentence: "...subject to fulfilling eligibility conditions as fixed by the University i.e. having Science subjects at the 10+2 level."

The remaining AC 65.5 would remain the same.

- (ii) AC 65.17.1: The Council noted that the Minutes are as per the decision of the Council made in its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting and accordingly, it did not agree to modify the Minutes.
- (iii) AC 65.25: The Director, Research Unit mentioned that on some previous occasion, the Minutes of the Research Council had been approved by the Academic Council and since as per Statute 9A on Powers of the Academic Council, all the matters relating to research shall under the overall guidance and supervision of the Academic Council, be the responsibility of the Research Council.... Therefore the Academic Council should have approved the Minutes of the Research Council instead of just noting them. He affirmed that all the decisions taken by the Research Council are as per rules and regulations and therefore, the Minutes may be approved by the Council.

The Academic Council was of the opinion that since the research falls under the overall supervision of the Academic Council, the Minutes of the Research Council can be considered for approval rather than merely noting them providing the Research Council had ensured full compliance of the IGNOU rules and UGC Regulations on Research degrees as. It would be the responsibility of the Research Council as per Statute 9A to ensure necessary compliance since Research Council has been declared as an authority of the IGNOU under Section 16 of the IGNOU Act.

With the above recommendations, the Academic Council decided to revise the Minutes and replace the word "noted" with "approved" in AC 65.25.1.

AC 66.1.2 The Action Taken Report on the decisions taken by the Academic Council in its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting was presented by the Member secretary, which was noted by the Council.

AC 66.1.3 With above amendments and observations, the Academic Council confirmed the Minutes of the 65<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Academic Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2016 as given in **Annexure - 1** and noted the action taken thereon.

**ITEM NO. 2 To approve the minutes of the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee held on 01<sup>st</sup> August, 2016.**

AC 66.2.1 The Member Secretary informed that the minutes of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Academic Council Standing Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 were circulated to all members of the Standing Committee for their comments/observations. She further informed that no observations have been received from the members on the minutes.

With regard to decision taken by the ACSC on Item No. ACSC 42.18.3, Director, SOET wanted that the names of all the 9 programmes be included in place of 6 since all the 9 Phase 2 forms were placed before the ACSC. The Chairperson informed that even though 9 Phase 2 forms under IGNOU-FDDI project were placed before the ACSC in its 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting, however only 6 of these were approved the names of which is correctly recorded in the Minutes. The School may again place the Phase 2 forms of remaining 3 programmes for consideration of ACSC.

With regard to decision taken by the ACSC on Item ACSC 42.7.2, the Director, SOA requested to continue with the original nomenclature of the two programmes i.e. (i) Certificate in Fruits & Vegetable Technology in place of revised Certificate in Fruits & Vegetable Processing, and (ii) Diploma in Fruits & Vegetable Technology in place of revised Diploma in Fruits & Vegetable Processing. He mentioned that even though he himself had suggested the revision in nomenclature as above, however the School Board of School of Agriculture was in favour of continuing with the earlier nomenclatures. The matter was discussed in detail and the Academic Council decided that since the ACSC had taken a decision after discussing and deliberating on the matter therefore, School if desires, may place the proposal again before ACSC for any modification/change in its decision.

AC 66.2.2 With above observations, the Academic Council approved the Minutes of the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 as given in **Annexure - 2**.



**ITEM NO. 3 To consider and approve the minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Research Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 – Research Unit.**

AC 66.3.1 The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that the Research Unit has submitted the Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Research Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.

On the issue of whether the decisions taken by the Research Council are in conformity with the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for the award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016, the Director Research Unit informed that the decisions taken by the Research Council are in strict conformity with the UGC Regulations on MPhil/PhD, 2009 as well as IGNOU's Research Ordinance. Since the UGC regulations on M.Phil./Ph.D. have been issued in July 2016 only, they would be effective prospectively for which a separate agenda Item is placed before the Council in this Meeting.

AC 66.3.2 With above observations, the Academic Council approved the Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Research Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

**ITEM NO. 4 Item Referred by the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Academic Council's Standing Committee:**

**To consider and approve (a) decentralization of activity for conduct of verbal exam/practical exam of course BPOI – 006 at the selected Regional Centers, and (b) Norms/Guidelines and rate to conduct verbal examination/practical examination for course BPOI-006 (English Communication) under the Diploma in BPO Finance & Accounting (DBPOFA) and Certificate in Communication & IT Skills (CCITSK) programme – SOVET**

AC 66.4.1 The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that the School of Vocational Education and Training (SOVET) has been offering the "Diploma in BPO Finance and Accounting" programme (DBPOFA) since 2009 onwards. One of the courses which is common in both the programmes is the English Communication course (BPOI – 006), which is being evaluated on the basis of Term End examination, Assignment and Verbal Exam (Practical exam), to test the communication skills and speaking ability of the candidate along with other parameters like vocabulary, accent, fluency, intonation etc. Initially, subject matter experts from Accenture, with whom the programme was designed and developed, used to conduct/evaluate the verbal examination along with the Programme Coordinator. Since the MoU with Accenture expired in July 2011, subject matter expert from IGNOU along with the Programme Coordinator have been conducting the verbal exam/ practical exam at



HQs (telephonically and with direct interaction with students).

The School Board of SOVET in its 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016 approved and suggested that

- Activity for conduct of verbal exam/ practical exam to be decentralized at the selected Regional Centers on pilot basis.
- Norms/ Guidelines and rate to conduct verbal examination for course BPOI-006 (English Communication) under the Diploma in BPO Finance & Accounting (DBPOFA) programme and Certificate in Communication & IT Skills (CCITSK) programme to be placed in the Academic Council.

In view of the above, the following guidelines were placed before the Academic Council's Standing Committee (ACSC) in its 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016:

- The Regional Director may decide the Date & Venue of the Term End Verbal exam which can be conducted at the Regional Centre/ Study Centre.
- The verbal/practical exam for course BPOI – 006 shall be conducted in July for June TEE and in January for December TEE.
- The information regarding the verbal exam may be given to the students by displaying the notice on the notice board or through letter or SMS or any other mode by Regional Centre.
- The Academic Counsellors recommended by the School under the DBPOFA and CCITSK programme for course BPOI-006 (English Communication) will be Examiners for the verbal (practical/viva) exam. They would have the same set of Qualifications as that of Paper Setters/Evaluators and moderators for the course BPOI-006 which would be approved separately by the School Board.
- These Examiners may be appointed by the Regional Directors for a batch of maximum 20 students for the course. They would be paid remuneration @ Rs. 200/- per student as per the approved norms for payment towards conduct of viva-voce notified vide order number IG/SRE/Exam-1/F&A/07 dated 01<sup>st</sup> May, 2007.
- The students will be strictly evaluated on the basis of the Assessment Grid prepared by the School and marks out of 40 would be given to them.
- The marks obtained out of 40 by the students would be scaled down to 15 as the verbal exam would carry 15% weightage (Example:  $x \text{ marks}/40 \text{ multiplied by } 15 = \text{Marks out of } 15$ ) as per the approved

evaluation methodology for three components as under:  
{TEE – 65% Verbal exam-15%, Assignment – 20%}

- The minimum pass marks in all the three components individually would be 40%.
- The attendance sheet signed by the candidate taking the examination would be required to be submitted by the Examiner while claiming remuneration for the exam as actual number of students taking the exam and not on the basis of registered candidates.
- The Final Award list out of 15 Marks would be submitted by the Study Centers to the Regional Director for onward transmission to SED.

The Academic Council's Standing Committee in its 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting accorded in-principle approval to the above proposal of the school to conduct verbal exam/practical exam of course BPOI -006 at the selected Regional Centers on pilot basis and decided to refer the proposal to the Academic Council for its consideration. The Standing Committee also decided that the concerned School will provide all academic support and monitor the activity.

AC 66.4.2 After detailed discussions, Academic Council endorsed the decision of the ACSC and accorded approval to the above proposal alongwith the Guidelines as above to conduct verbal exam/practical exam of course BPOI – 006 at the selected Regional Centers on pilot basis. The concerned School will provide all academic support and monitor the activity.

**ITEM NO. 5 Item Referred by the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Academic Council's Standing Committee:**

**To consider and approve the offering of BPP for the existing non 10+2 candidates enrolled upto January 2012 (awarded Associate Degree (Advanced Diploma) in Science under Akashdeep)) for their Vertical Mobility into 3<sup>rd</sup> year of BTS & BSW programme – RSD .**

AC 66.5.1 The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that as per inputs received from the Defense Unit, RSD, there were students who had been awarded Associate Degree (Advanced Diploma) in Science, but were ineligible for vertical mobility into 3<sup>rd</sup> Year of B.Sc. due to having 10+2 without Science. To facilitate such as well as other students under Gyandeep and Akashdeep, the Academic Council of the University in its 65<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2016 vide item No. 65.13.2 had approved the Vertical Mobility of existing Gyandeep and Akashdeep students enrolled upto January 2012 and having Associate Degree



(Advanced Diploma) in Arts/Commerce/Science under Gyandeep and Akashdeep and Possessing 10+2 or its equivalent into the final year of Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) programme and 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Bachelor of Arts in Tourism Studies (BTS) programme.

As per the consent received from the Indian Air Force and Indian Army, registrations into the final year of BTS & BSW programme for Akashdeep and BTS for Gyandeep under Vertical Mobility scheme for the students fulfilling the eligibility criteria of 10+2 or its equivalent & Associate Degree (Advanced Diploma) in Arts/Commerce/Science have commenced from July 2016.

Vide letters dated 15<sup>th</sup> July and 29<sup>th</sup> July from Akashdeep, the Indian Air Force has intimated that approximately 4000 (four thousand) students under Akashdeep, who have been awarded Associate Degree (Advanced Diploma) in Science are left stranded with no option for Vertical Mobility/Lateral entry as they are non 10-2. The Akashdeep has requested that bachelor Preparatory Programme (BPP) may be permitted for these candidates as a one-time waiver so that they can opt for BTS & BSW courses. Accordingly, with the approval of the Competent Authority, the non 10+2 students of Akashdeep were allowed to register for the BPP and 3<sup>rd</sup> year of BA/B.Com programme jointly through a combined registration form from January, 2016 session under Vertical Mobility with a concessional fee of Rs. 500/- on request from the IAF. It has been decided that only after completion of BPP, the candidates will be eligible to appear for examination of 3<sup>rd</sup> year courses of vertical mobility of BA/B.Com. This decision was also ratified by the Academic Council in its 65<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2016 vide Item No. 65.13.2 (3). The Academic Council also ratified the decision taken by the University in implementation of the Scheme in respect of Akashdeep/Gyandeep having awarded Associate degree to provide a way out and make the students of Akashdeep/Gyandeep reach a logical end by enabling them to register for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year of BA/B.Com as recommended by the Army IGNOU Academic Committee (AIAC) and Air Force IGNOU Academic Committee (AFIAC).

The matter was placed before the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee and the ACSC accorded in-principle approval to the above proposal of the Defence Unit, RSD to give one time waiver to non-10+2 candidates enrolled upto January 2012 and awarded Associate degree (Advanced Diploma) in Science under Akashdeep for vertical mobility into BTS and BSW programmes and recommended the proposal to Academic Council for its consideration.

- AC 66.5.2 Academic Council endorsed the decision taken by the ACSC and accorded approval to the above proposal of Defence Unit, RSD for Offering BPP for the existing non 10+2 candidates enrolled upto January 2012 and having awarded Associate Degree (Advanced Diploma) in Science under Akashdeep for their Vertical Mobility into 3<sup>rd</sup> year of BTS & BSW programmes.

**ITEM NO. 6 To consider and approve the adoption of UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for the award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 – Research Unit**

- AC 66.6.1 The Chairperson informed the Academic Council that the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 were published in the Gazette Notification (Extraordinary) No. 278, Part III, Section-4 dated July 5, 2016. This Gazette Notification is in supersession of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations 2009. The University has submitted an affidavit to UGC on 23.8.2016 to strictly follow these Regulations and that IGNOU will abide by all its Clauses in toto. On the basis of Affidavit submitted by IGNOU, the UGC vide its letter No. F1-130/2015(VIP/PS), dated 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016 has accorded permission to start M.Phil./Ph.D. programmes under regular/part-time mode subject to the condition that essential clauses of UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 pertaining to eligibility criteria for admission to M.Phil./Ph.D. programmes, duration of programme, procedure for admission, allocation of Research Supervisor, Course work, Research Advisory Committee, Evaluation and assessment methods, and depository with INFLIBNET must be followed in letter and spirit.

The letter further stipulates that any deviation in implementing the Clauses of the UGC Regulations 2016, the permission would be deemed to be treated as withdrawn. Above permission is also subject to the condition that Act/Statute/Ordinance/Rule of the University provide for the same.

- AC 66.6.2 After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council adopted the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 published in the Gazette Notification (Extraordinary) No. 278, Part III, Section-4 dated July 5, 2016 with immediate effect. The Academic Council further decided that in the light of Affidavit submitted by the University to UGC and UGC's letter of permission to start MPhil/PhD programme through regular /part-time mode, all the condition contained in the UGC (Minimum Standards



and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 pertaining to eligibility criteria for admission to M.Phil./Ph.D. programmes, duration of programme, procedure for admission, allocation of Research Supervisor, Course work, Research Advisory Committee, Evaluation and assessment methods, and depository with INFLIBNET should be followed by the University in letter and spirit. Therefore, it would be the responsibility of the Schools of Studies and the concerned Research Supervisor to comply with all the terms and conditions of UGC Regulations 2016 from registration of M.Phil./Ph.D. students till the award of degree. The Research Unit and Schools of Studies would therefore, take all necessary steps to complete all the procedures required for offering the M.Phil./ Ph.D. programmes under these Regulations in a time bound manner.

**ITEM NO. 7 To consider the matter related to the Report of the Committee of internal members to have a fresh look at the Schools of Studies in view of the letter received from MHRD on the status report on the Schools of Studies of IGNOU established under Statute 10A (1) and 56 Regional Centres of IGNOU – reg.**

AC 66.7.1 The Academic Council vide Resolution No. 62.5.3 at its 62<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014 while considering the proposal had decided that a Committee of internal members of the University may be constituted to have a fresh look at the Schools of Studies, keeping in view the present functions, scope of expansion and allocation of Disciplines among the various Schools of Studies, and thereafter, the inputs of the Committee of internal members be placed before the main Committee of experts. In view of the above, the Vice Chancellor had constituted a Committee under the Chairpersonship of Prof S C Garg, School of Sciences, IGNOU. The matter was dwelled upon in the Academic Council in its 63<sup>rd</sup>, 64<sup>th</sup> and 65<sup>th</sup> meetings. In line with the decision taken by the Academic Council at its 64<sup>th</sup> meeting held on July 10, 2015, the Report of the Internal Committee was forwarded to all members of the Academic Council, its Standing Committee and Directors of Schools/Divisions etc vide e-mail dated 14<sup>th</sup> August 2015 for their information. In response, several Schools/Divisions forwarded their responses/representations/observations on the Report. These representations were placed before the Academic Council in its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting (AC 65.3.1-2/3).

The Academic Council in its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 decided to constitute a Committee of Internal members having adequate representation from the new Schools to examine the report of the Committee and submit its recommendations to the Academic Council. The Council authorized the Vice Chancellor as Chairman, Academic

Council to constitute the Committee (AC 65.3.2/3). Accordingly the matter was processed for constitution of a Committee of Internal members having adequate representation from the new Schools to examine the report of the Committee. Meanwhile, Ministry of Human Resources and Development vide its letter dated 14.1.2016 had sought the status Report on the Schools of Studies of IGNOU established under Statute 10A (1) and 56 Regional Centres of IGNOU which was provided to the MHRD. The data of IGNOU was examined by the Ministry and vide its letter No. F.No.5-1/2016-DL, dated 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016 Ministry forwarded its observations to IGNOU vide which it desired that an academic audit of IGNOU's existing Schools and Regional Centres may be conducted urgently and all the vital issues may be placed before the Finance Committee, Board of Management and other Statutory Authorities for seeking their suitable directions and thereby taking necessary measures to rationalize the need of various Schools and Regional Centres in respect of faculty, academic and non-academic staffing in the prevailing situation holistically.

AC 66.7.2 The Chairperson informed the Council, that the MHRD was closely monitoring the activities of IGNOU. The matter was also placed before the Board of Management of IGNOU in its 125<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23.7.2016 and the BOM decided that the University should initiate the academic audit as per the directions of the MHRD. He further informed that in the opinion of MHRD, while some Schools are having very low enrolment and not producing desired results, the Regional Centre network has become extremely wide and needs re-calibration. Therefore, the University is seriously considering to examine the Ministry's observations and to take remedial measures. RSD has already taken up a pilot study in this regard. He further informed that the University is considering constituting two broad based Committees to relook at the whole issue, one for all the Schools of Studies and the other for Regional Services network. These two Committees will supersede the earlier Prof SC Garg Committee. Accordingly, there is no need to constitute the Committee of internal members as decided by Academic Council in its previous meetings.

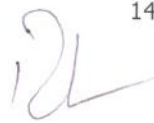
AC 66.7.3 In the light of above observations, the Academic Council decided to authorize Chairperson Academic Council to constitute two committees to relook at the whole issue, one for all the Schools of Studies and the other for Regional Services network. These two Committees will supersede the earlier Prof SC Garg Committee and its recommendations. Accordingly, no Committee of internal members, as decided by Academic Council in its previous meeting, would further be constituted.



**ITEM NO. 8 To place the recommendation made by the Committee constituted by the Vice Chancellor to look into various implications of fee refund policy relating to the Online Admission System – SRD.**

AC 66.8.2 The Member Secretary informed that the Academic Council in its 64<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 10.07.2015 vide resolution 64.18.3 had advised that a Committee be constituted that will look into various implications of fee refund policy. Accordingly, a Committee was constituted by the Vice Chancellor with Prof. S. Srilatha as the Chairperson to look into various implications of fee refund policy relating to the Online Admission System notified by the SRD. The recommendations made by the Committee were placed before the Council. The essence of the recommendations were as detailed below:

Grounds for refund	Modified Policy
Duplicate/multiple payments by the students for the same programme due to failure of online transaction	Fee equivalent to ONE Programme will be retained. Programme fee for remaining attempts will be refunded including the processing fee and late fee, if any, without any deduction.
Duplicate/multiple payments by the students for different programmes in the same session	Fee equivalent to ONE programme will be retained as per choice of the student. Fee for remaining programme(s) will be refunded after deduction of the processing fee in vogue (currently Rs. 100/-) and late fee, if any, per programme subject to the condition that the student makes a request to the RD concerned for refund before the closure of date of admission or within 30 days of submission of online admission form. Necessary information to retain one programme will be sent to the student by the RD.
Rejection/cancellation of admission form by the RC due to non-	Full programme fee will be refunded after deduction of the processing fee in vogue (currently Rs. 100/-) and late fee, if any,



<p>fulfillment of minimum eligibility qualification/ non-recognition of qualification or its equivalence/ due to commission of mistake/concealment of information or otherwise by the student.</p>	<p>through the online system. Provided that if a candidate obtained admission or was denied admission on account of submission of fake/forged documents, no refund shall be allowed.</p>
<p>Cases where the University decides to withdraw the programme due to any reason.</p>	<p>Full Programme fee will be refunded including the processing fee and late fee, if any, without any deduction.</p> <p>The refund will be reverted to the same Debit/Credit Card/Net Banking Account from where the payment has been received. However, where validity of the Debit/Credit Card expires in between, and the bank accepts the refund in spite of expiry of validity of the card, the user will be responsible for getting the money of refund from such bank. In cases where the refund is not accepted by the bank under the said Debit/Credit Card account, the refund of fee will be made through Account Payee Cheque by the RD concerned after ascertaining such reversal of refund back to IGOU Account.</p>
<p>A student does not want to continue with the programme and seeks refund of programme fee.</p>	<p>The refund request will be considered as under:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Before the last date for submission of admission form Programme fee will be refunded after deduction of Rs. 100/-.</li> <li>Within 15 days from the last date for submission of admission form – Programme fee will be refunded after deduction of Rs. 500/-</li> <li>Within 30 days from the last date for</li> </ol>



	<p>submission of admission form – Programme fee will be refunded after deduction of Rs. 1,000/-.</p> <p>d. After 30 days from the closure of the last date – No refund will be allowed.</p> <p>e. The last dates for submission of admission form will be considered separately i.e. last date without late fee and last date with late fee. However late fee, if any, will not be refunded.</p> <p>f. In cases of (a) to (c) above, the candidate will make a written request to the RD concerned for such a refund. The RC will process to cases as soon as possible after ascertaining the credit of the same in IGNOU Accounts.</p>
Others	<p>g. The OAS will have a provision of de-activation of Student Identity Card immediately on refund of fee.</p> <p>h. The OAS will provide a separate pop-up window to the RC for confirmation of student details including the amount of fee paid and amount to be refunded after relevant deductions, if any, on account of such a cancellation. The RC will be provided with facility for viewing the fee credit in IGNOU Account to ensure that the applicant has not claimed charge-back already. Provision shall also be made for flagging all records where charge-back has been processed, so that double refund is not possible.</p> <p>i. The above policy may be implemented with effect from January, 2016 admission cycle for OAS.</p>

The recommendations of the Committee have been notified by SRD for implementation, with the approval of the Vice Chancellor.

AC 66.8.2 Academic Council approved the recommendations of the Committee and ratified the decision taken by the Vice Chancellor in approving the notification for implementation of the recommendations of the Committee.

**ITEM NO. 9 To consider and approve the proposal of providing 50% fee concession to Army Veterans, Veer Naris, War Widows and Women Dependents enrolling in IGNOU programmes under IGNOU-Army Education Project (IAEP) w.e.f. January, 2017 – RSD**

AC 66.9.1 The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that a request has been received from IGNOU-Army Education Project (IAEP) vide their letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 for providing 50% fee concession for Army Veterans, Veer Naris, War Widows and Women Dependents enrolled in IGNOU programme under IGNOU-Army Education Project (IAEP). In order to examine the proposal and make recommendations, Vice Chancellor had constituted a Committee. The recommendations of the Committee are as under:

- a. The Committee felt that the request received from IAEP for 50% concession in fee for Army Veterans, Veer Naris, War Widows and Women Dependents was in line with the University's mandate of reaching out to the disadvantaged segments of the society, and may therefore be considered. The Committee noted that the University was already providing 50% fee concession to learners from rural areas enrolled in Agriculture Programme and full fee waiver to jail inmates. The present proposal could be considered on the same lines. With prospective effect i.e. January, 2017 session;
- b. The proposal for 50% fee concession to the aforementioned categories of students may be got approved by the appropriate statutory bodies of the University;
- c. The IAEP Cell may submit details of all such students including fee details for each of the sessions at the time of claiming fee share for the respective academic session, along with a certificate to the effect that the category of the students to whom fee concession is provided, has been duly verified and found correct.; and
- d. Arrangement of fee share may remain the same as per provision



of the MoU under clause of Fee Sharing at SN. 12 of the MoU.

AC 66.9.2 The Academic Council considered and approved recommendations of the Committee as under:

- a. Provision of 50% concession in fee for Army Veterans, Veer Naries, War Widows and Women Dependents enrolling in IGNOU programme through IAEP w.e.f. January, 2017 session;
- b. The IAEP may provide details of all such students including fee details for each of the sessions at the time of claiming fee share for the respective academic session, along with a certificate to the effect that the category of the student to whom fee concession is provided, has been duly verified and found correct.; and
- c. Arrangement of fee share may remain the same as per provision of the MoU under clause of Fee Sharing at SN. 12 of the MoU.

**ITEM NO. 10 To consider and approve the Re–location of Awareness-cum-Training Packages in Disability (VI/MR/CP/HI) and Certificate Programme in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (CP/MR/VI/HI) from National Centre for Disability Studies to SOCE and their re-implementation by the School with support from NCDS – SOCE.**

AC 66.10.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that as per Agenda received from School of Continuing Education (SOCE), during the years 2000 to 2008 the School of Continuing Education (SOCE) had developed four Awareness-cum-Training Packages in Disability for parents and family members of children with disabilities in 4 disability areas, namely, Visual Impairment (VI), Mental Retardation (MR), Cerebral Palsy (CP) and Hearing Impairment (HI). These non-credit programmes of 3 month duration each, were launched in a phased manner from 2004 and approximately 2200 parents and family members of children with disabilities have been oriented through these Awareness-cum-Training Packages in Disability. In addition, four Certificate Programme in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (CESE) of 1 year duration each were also developed by the School in the said four disability areas, viz. CP, MR, VI and HI in the period 2007-2009. These programmes were launched from 2009 onwards in a phased manner. The SOCE

developed Certificate Programme in Disability area 'Cerebral Palsy' (CESE-CP) and launched it in July 2009. In April, 2009 all the Awareness-cum-Training Packages and the Certificate programmes were transferred to National Centre for Disability Studies (NCDS) by an administrative approval. The Self Learning Material for CESE (Mental Retardation) was developed jointly by SOCE and NCDS and the programme was launched through NCDS after the transfer in July 2010. The Self Learning Material for the remaining two i.e., CESE (Visual Impairment) and CESE (Hearing Impairment) was developed by NCDS along the same pattern as CESE-CP and CESE-MR and launched in July 2011. The Awareness-cum-Training Packages in disability as well as the Certificate programmes were developed in collaboration with Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) under an MoU between IGNOU and RCI.

After the expiry of MoU with RCI in September, 2012 the said Packages and Certificate Programmes were discontinued after January 2013 admission. Further, in the 118<sup>th</sup> meeting of BoM of IGNOU held on June 15, 2013 it was decided that "all programmes of Centres/Divisions/Units etc. should be appropriately relocated in the Schools of Studies".

The School Board of SOCE in its 54<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 considered and approved the proposal for relocation of the programmes Awareness-cum-Training Packages in Disability (CP/MR/VI/HI) and Certificate Programmes in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (CP/MR/VI/HI) in the School of Continuing Education and their re-implementation with support from NCDS. The justification for re-implementation of the 8 programmes require academic inputs in the field of disability, which are located in the School and expertise in coordination with disability related organizations and institutions in the field, which is the strength of NCDS. Thus, these programmes can be reinitiated through their re-launch by SOCE, with support in programme implementation by NCDS including the signing of MoU with RCI. The distribution of responsibilities outlined by School Board are as under:

SOCE (Academic Inputs)		NCDS (Inputs of the field)	
1	Re-launch the programme After signing of MoU with RCI	1	
2	Develop assignments	2	Identify programme study centres
3	Moderation of term-end-	3	Coordinate with RSD, RC & PSC for implementation



	exam Papers		of programme.
4	Orientation of counselors	4	Facilitation of orientation of counselors
5	Revision of courses	5	Monitoring of PSC

AC 66.10.2 After detailed discussion, the Academic Council approved relocation of the Awareness-cum-Training Packages in Disability (VI/MR/CP/HI) and Certificate Programme in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (CP/MR/VI/HI) from NCDS to SOCE and their reimplementation with support from NCDS as per the distribution of responsibilities outlined above, following submission of final Utilization Certificate and Statement of Accounts by NCDS to RCI with respect to funds received from RCI under the previous MoU.

**ITEM NO. 11 To consider and approve nomenclature of the Post Doctoral Certificate in Dialysis Medicine (PDCDM) Programme – SOHS.**

AC 66.11.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that as per information received from School of Health Sciences, the Post Doctoral Certificate in Dialysis Medicine (PDCDM) Programme was developed by IGNOU at the request of the Directorate of General Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family welfare (MOHFW), Govt. of India. Development of the programme was funded by the Ministry through an MoU signed on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2010 and the programme was launched in 2012 after approvals of relevant bodies of IGNOU.

An objection was raised in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Academic Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014 on the nomenclature of the programme when agenda was placed for modifying the admission criteria (Item No. AC 63.16). The Council had then desired that nomenclature be in light of MCI guidelines to avoid difficulty in recognition of the programme. The School has informed that Post Doctoral Certificate course in various streams is as per approved guidelines of MCI.

The Member Secretary further informed the Council that while considering the IGNOU's application for recognition in 2016-17, University Grants Commission (UGC) did not recognize this programme.

AC 66.11.2 The Council decided that the programme can be offered only after recognition by UGC. Accordingly, School should take up the matter with Directorate of General Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family welfare (MOHFW), Govt. of India for recognition of this programme by UGC. Till such time the approval is received, the

programme will be put on hold.

**ITEM NO. 12 To consider and approve the extension of maximum duration for Lateral entry students of M.A. (DE) programme, who enroll directly into second year – STRIDE.**

AC 66.12.1 The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that the Staff Training and Research Institute of Distance Education (STRIDE) has proposed extension of maximum duration for Lateral entry students of M.A. (DE) programme, who enroll directly into second year. Two year M.A. (DE) revised programme is on offer by STRIDE under SOE since January 2012, with maximum duration of six years. The eligibility for the programme is as under –

- (i) Graduate in any discipline can enroll in the first year of the programme. Those students who complete successfully five courses of the first year is given PG Diploma in Distance Education and those students who continue in the second year and complete successfully five courses of second year is given M.A. (DE).
- (ii) Students who have completed earlier IGNOU's PG Diploma in Distance Education (PGDDE) are admitted directly into the second year of the programme through lateral entry scheme. These lateral entry students are given only two years as maximum duration. On the basis of last 3 years experience of lateral entry students; It is felt that two years maximum duration is too less and many could not complete all the courses in two years duration and are facing problems and forced to take re-admission (which is a fresh process).

To overcome this problem of lateral entry students related to maximum duration, the STRIDE has proposed extension in maximum duration by one more year i.e. total 3 years to facilitate more students to complete courses, which include one project work also. This proposal of 3 years maximum duration is in tune with other programmes of the University i.e. M.S.W and M.Com for lateral entry students. The proposal has been approved by School Board of School of Education in its meeting held on 15 July 2016.

AC 66.12.2 The Academic Council approved the proposal of STRIDE for extension in maximum duration of M.A. (DE) programme by one year i.e. total 3 years, for lateral entry students enrolling directly into second year.

**ITEM NO. 13 To report the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed between Commonwealth of Learning (COL) and IGNOU to develop two courses based on ICT skills – SOCIS.**





AC 66.13.1 The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that IGNOU and Commonwealth of Learning (COL) have signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on August 11, 2016 to develop two courses based on ICT skills. The MOA would be valid till December 30, 2016. As part of the Agreement IGNOU will develop content for the following courses:

- Introduction to Mobile Architecture (Course 1).
- Introduction to Windows and IOS (Course 5).

The Director, School of Computer and Information Sciences (SOCIS) informed that SOCIS would develop the above mentioned two courses and will follow due procedures to launch these programmes. These courses would be OER (CC-BY-IO) based. COL will contribute a maximum of CAD 13960 towards the development of the above mentioned two courses. The content development is expected to be completed by December 30, 2016. COL entered into similar agreement with the following five Open Universities across the world to develop ten other courses based on ICT skills:

- Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL)
- Open University of Malaysia (OUM)
- Allama Iqbal Open University (AIU)
- National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN)
- Open University of Tanzania (OUT)

Out of twelve courses developed by these six Open Universities, IGNOU will develop and offer above mentioned two Courses 1 and 5.

AC 66.13.2 The Academic Council approved the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2016 between Commonwealth of Learning (COL) and IGNOU to develop two courses based on ICT skills. SOCIS shall develop the above mentioned two courses. The Academic Council further decided that SOCIS will follow due procedures to launch these two courses mentioned above.

**ITEM NO. 14 To report the status of Disciplines housed in various Schools of Studies – reg.**

AC 66.14.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that as per Statute 9A(c), the Academic Council has powers to frame such regulations and rules consistent with the Statutes and Ordinances regarding the academic functioning of the University, including disciplines, Admissions, award of fellowships and students, fees and other academic requirements. Accordingly, over a period of time several Disciplines have been created



by the Academic Council under various Schools. A list of Disciplines housed in various Schools of Studies as per information in ACD was also placed before the Council. Director, SOSS pointed out that Anthropology discipline may also be included in the list circulated. Some Schools opined to add more disciplines keeping in view the programmes offered by them.

- AC 66.14.2 The Council appreciated the efforts of ACD in collating the information and decided that the list may be shared with all the Schools of Studies for their comments/updation/verification and the verified list may be placed before the Committee being constituted by the University on reexamining the functioning of Schools/Regional Centres.

**ITEM NO. 15 To report the matter related to status of Programmes approved by the Academic Council of the University – reg.**

- AC 66.15.1 The Member Secretary informed that the Academic Council is the Statutory Authority of the University to exercise general supervision over the academic policies of the University and to give direction regarding methods of instruction, evaluation or research or improvement in academic standards. Accordingly, the programmes offered by the University are required to be approved by the Academic Council along with other Statutory bodies like School Board, Planning Board etc. before launch.

Academic Coordination Division had initiated the compilation of the list of Programmes offered by the University since inception and approved by the Academic Council in its various meetings. Based on the records and information received from the various Divisions/Units of the University, a list of Academic Programmes/ Programmes Proposal approved in Academic Council was compiled by the ACD and placed before the Council.

After detailed scrutiny, this information is intended to be utilized by the University as a ready reference and record. This exercise will also help in identifying if any programme is on offer without approval of the Academic Council as well as identifying the self life of the programme. It will also help in rationalizing the Nomenclature of the programmes on offer in line with University Grants Commission, All India Council of Technical Education, Medical Council of India, Dental Council of India etc.

- AC 66.15.2 The Academic Council lauded the efforts of the ACD and decided that the list so compiled should be circulated amongst the Schools of Studies and relevant Divisions/Unit for updation, if any and verification. The final





list may be shared for information and record.

**ITEM NO. 16 To report the signing of MoU between IGNOU and Ministry of Textiles – reg.**

AC 66.16.1 The Member Secretary informed that on the initiative taken by the Ministry of Textile, the Indira Gandhi National Open University has signed a Memorandum of Undertaking (MoU) with Ministry of Textiles through Office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at Varanasi to cooperate and collaborate in the area of education for handloom weavers and their children through Open and Distance Learning.

AC 66.16.1 The Academic Council noted the signing of Memorandum of Undertaking (MoU) with Ministry of Textiles through Office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms at Varanasi to cooperate and collaborate in the area of education for handloom weavers and their children through Open and Distance Learning.

**ITEM NO. 17 To consider giving opportunity to BA in International Hospitality Administration Students – batch 2008 - 2014 and 2010-16 – reg.**

AC 66.17.1 The Bachelor of Arts in International Hospitality Administration (BA-IHA) a three year degree programme was offered in collaboration with American Hotel and Lodging Education Institute (AH &LEI) since July 2008. The last batches of students were admitted in July 2012 academic session as per the advice of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. The minimum period for completion of the BA-IHA degree programme is 03 years while maximum is 06 years. Students enrolled in July 2008, 2009 and 2010 have completed six years in June 2014, 2015 and 2016, respectively. There is no provision of re-admission in this programme and there is no longer any support system for this programme.

The School of Tourism & Hospitality Services Sector Management (SOTHSSM) has proposed for giving extension to the students from July 2008, 2009 and 2010 batches who failed to pass the Term End Examination or submit their assignments on time. The Vice Chancellor has granted an extension of registration period of 01 year to the Students of BA-IHA programme from the Batch of July 2008 – 2011, 2009- 2012 and 2010-2013.

AC 66.17.2 The Academic Council ratified the decision taken by the Vice Chancellor in granting extension of registration period of 01 year to the Students of BA-IHA programme from the Batch of July 2008 – 2011, 2009- 2012 and

2010-2013.

**ITEM NO. 18 To consider ratification of the Notification for the award of PhD / M.Phil.**

AC 66.18.2 The Member Secretary informed that on the recommendations of the external evaluators and the Board of examiners and as per the Academic Council, notifications in respect of seventy three ( 73) students for award of M.Phil/Ph.D Degrees in various Disciplines across the Schools have been issued by the Student Evaluation Division (SED) with the approval of the Vice Chancellor.

Clause 12 of the Ordinance on Research Degree Programmes inter-alia envisages that

"A student shall be awarded the M.Phil/Ph.D Degree, with the approval of the Academic Council, provided that the corresponding evaluation report given by the Examiners is satisfactory".

The Academic Council at its 64<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 had approved to issue Notifications to M.Phil/Ph.D. students on successful completion of their viva voce examination with the approval of the Vice Chancellor in order to mitigate the hardship faced by the students (AC 64.21.1).

The names and other details of the students, who have been recommended for award of Ph.D and M.Phil Degree was placed before the Council. The Notifications for the award of M.Phil and Ph.D Degrees have been issued by SED in respect of these students.

AC 66.18.2 The Academic Council ratified the issue of notification for the award of M.Phil and Ph.D Degrees to 73 students (6 M.Phil. and 67 PhD) as per list enclosed as Annexure...

**ITEM NO. 19 To consider revision of Schedule for launch of undergraduate programmes under UGC-CBCS – reg.**

AC 66.19.1 The Chairperson informed that the Academic Council in its 64<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2015 considered and approved the adoption of Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) of UGC and directed the Schools to devise strategies for implementation of CBCS from Academic session (Jan/July 2016) in a phased manner. In order to expedite the process, the CBCS Committee was constituted to monitor the activities related to CBCS and coordinate between the contributing Schools. Since then the Committee has conducted a series of meetings. In order to clarify the technical issues pertaining to the Scheme, the University also organized a lecture



on "Implementation of CBCS" by Prof. H Devaraj, Vice-Chairman, UGC on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2016. However, there are still some issues coming on the way in implementation the CBCS for the programmes in ODL mode since the documents brought out by UGC speaks broadly about implementation of CBCS in face to face programmes. The CBCS Committee in consultation with the Schools has identified the issues which still need clarification. The University is also taking up the matter with UGC for clarification on those issues.

The Schools are at different stages of design and development of programmes under UGC-CBCS. However, it involves huge effort and is time consuming keeping in view the large number of courses and course options to be given under the Scheme. The existing courses already developed do not fit into the CBCS framework and need complete overhauling/revamping. In most cases the courses need to be written afresh. The CBCS Committee is constantly monitoring the progress in implementation of CBCS by different Schools and discussed the matter in detail in its meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2016. It was realized that it will be realistic to fix the schedule for launch of CBCS earliest with effect from July 2018 session only.

- AC 66.19.2 After detailed discussions, the Academic Council decided that the University should start implementing CBCS as soon as possible but certainly by July 2018 session in all the Undergraduate Courses of the University.

**ITEM NO. 20 Amendment in the University rules and regulations for seamless integrations of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) offered through the SWAYAM Platform - IUC**

- AC 66.20.1 The Member Secretary informed that the Ministry of Human Resource and Development, Government of India has embarked on a major initiative called 'Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds' (SWAYAM) to provide an integrated platform and portal for online courses, covering all higher education, High School and skill sector courses. SWAYAM (swayam.gov.in) is an indigenous platform developed by AICTE in collaboration with Microsoft for hosting the Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). Beta version of the platform was made live on August 15, 2016 wherein around 160 courses are available. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has uploaded the list of proposed MOOCs courses to be launched in 2016 and is available in their website (www.ugc.ac.in).

IGNOU has been identified as one of the National Coordinators for the



SWAYAM initiative to handle Certificate and Diploma level courses.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has also notified "Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through SWAYAM" Regulations, 2016 in the Gazette of India on July 19, 2016 wherein credit transfer for online courses under SWAYAM platform of Government of India has been defined.

As per the letter received from Assistant Educational Advisor (DL), MHRD, vide R. NO. 18-16/2016-DL dated August 22, 2016, the regulations are also to be implemented by the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode institutions in the country, though at present it is not mentioned in the regulations. UGC has been advised to make necessary amendments in the regulations to include ODL institutions as well.

However, the IGNOU and State Open Universities have been directed to take further necessary action upon seeking the requisite sanction/ approvals from its respective statutory authorities with the advice that that the University shall implement MOOCs only upon receiving the amended UGC regulations.

The UGC Regulation requires the Universities/ Institutions to make amendments in their Ordinances, Rules, Regulations etc. to incorporate provisions for credit mobility and recognition for Seamless Integrations of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) offered through the SWAYAM Platform.

The Chairperson informed that IGNOU being a significant partner has a great role to play in this area. The University has also been asked to develop content for 5 DTH channels including one in association with NIOS. The University is gearing up to successfully accomplish this ongoing and regular activity. He further mentioned that in the recently held Regional Director's conference at Lucknow, the Regional Directors and ARDs have been asked to contribute at least one MOOCs courses. Presently the task of coordination of these activities has been entrusted to Inter University Consortium.

- AC 66.20.2      The Academic Council adopted the Gazette Notification No. 295 dated July 20, 2016 of UGC (Credit framework for online learning Courses through SWAYAM) Regulation, 2016 and appreciated the steps taken by the University in its implementation. The Council further decided that a new Centre may be created with dedicated full time teaching and academic staff to carry on this task on a full time basis.

**TEM NO. 21      To report the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), signed**



**between Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and IGNOU to develop two Bridge Programmes in Community Health for Nurses and Ayurveda Practitioners- SOHS**

- AC 66.21.1 Member Secretary informed that the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt of India had approached IGNOU to collaborate with MoHFW for developing two Bridge Programmes in Community Health for Nurses and Ayurveda Practitioners. The Planning and development of the two programmes has been funded by MoHFW. An amount of Rs.64.24 lacs was released by MoHFW for developing the programme for Nurses and Rs. 75.00 lacs have been sanctioned for developing the programme for Ayurveda Practitioners. The MoHFW will facilitate sponsorship of candidates for both the programmes from states.

MOU for Bridge Programme in Community Health for Nurses between IGNOU and MoHFW was signed on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 and MOU for Bridge Programme in Community Health for Ayurveda Practitioners between IGNOU and MoHFW was signed on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2016. The School of Health Sciences has stated that it would follow IGNOU norms in developing the two programmes.

- AC 66.21.2 The Academic Council noted the signing of MoU between IGNOU and MoHFW for developing two Bridge Programmes in Community Health for Nurses and Ayurveda Practitioners.

**ITEM NO. 22 To Consider and Approve Extension of Registration Period of AISECT D.El.Ed. students by one year i.e. upto June 2017 – RSD**

- AC 66.22.1 The Director, RSD informed that AISECT-D.El.Ed students were admitted in D.El.Ed in July 2011. However, as per the minutes of the 35<sup>th</sup> meeting of Academic Council's Standing Committee of IGNOU (ACSC) held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012, the students admitted in July 2011 session of D.El.Ed were shifted to July 2012 session due to inordinate delay in receiving recognition of the revised D.El.Ed programme from the NCTE and consequently delay in preparing the learning materials. As per the guidelines of Student Handbook and Prospectus 2011 of D.El.Ed programme, the minimum duration is 2 years and maximum is 4 years. Accordingly, for these students of the D.El.Ed admitted through AISECT, the maximum duration of 04 years has ended in June 2016. As per record available with the University, these students had appeared for their first year examination in June 2013 and subsequently could not appear in the previous examinations conducted by the University due to the various court cases filed by the students and AISECT in the High Court of Madhya Pradesh. As per the recommendation of the AISECT

monitoring Committee duly constituted by the Vice Chancellor based on the eligibility of the D.El.Ed students as ascertained by the Committee at RC Bhopal, the eligible D.El.ED students of AISECT were permitted to appear for the TEE December 2015 and June 2016. The matter was also reported in the BOM in its 124<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016.

As per status provided by the RC Bhopal, there are 11,845 students of AISECT who are eligible and have paid complete fee. Based on the result status provided by SED, as on June 2016, a total of 5148 AISECT D.El.Ed students have completed the programme. In the light of the circumstances explained above, the CCU Unit of RSD has requested that the validity of registration period of these students may be extended by one year i.e. upto June 2017 so that remaining eligible AISECT D.El.Ed students could complete their programme.

- AC 66.22.2 After detailed discussion, the Academic Council approved the extension of registration period of eligible AISECT D.El.Ed students by one year i.e. upto June 2017 so that they could complete their programme subject to the condition that the NCTE norms are not violated. The RSD and School of Education will ensure compliance of NCTE norms in this regard.

**ITEM NO. 23 To Consider and Approve:**

- (i) **Commemorating the University Convention Centre in the memory of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar and naming it as Bharat Ratna B.R. Ambedkar Sabhagar (Bharat Ratna B.R. Ambedkar Convention Centre).**
- (ii) **Dedicating the University Library Building in the memory of founder Vice Chancellor of IGNOU and naming it as Prof. G. Ram Reddy Library: and**
- (iii) **Rechristening the erstwhile DEC building as Abdul Kalam Bhawan.**

- AC 66.23.1 The Vice Chancellor informed that at various occasions during his meetings with Faculty, Staff and Association members, they had proposed for renaming of the important buildings of the University Campus in the memory of Bharat Ratna B.R. Ambedkar, Prof. G. Ram Reddy and Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. Accordingly, it is proposed for renaming of three University campus buildings i.e. University Library, University Convention Centre and Erstwhile DEC building as under:

- (i) Commemorating the University Convention Centre in the memory of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar and naming it as **Bharat Ratna B.R. Ambedkar Sabhagar** (Bharat Ratna B.R. Ambedkar Convention



Centre).

(ii) Dedicating the University Library Building in the memory of founder Vice Chancellor of IGNOU and naming it as **Prof. G. Ram Reddy Library**: and

(iii)Rechristening the erstwhile DEC building as **Abdul Kalam Bhawan**.

AC 66.23.2 The Academic Council applauded the proposal of the Vice Chancellor and decided as under:

(i) Commemorating the University Convention Centre in the memory of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar and naming it as **Bharat Ratna B.R. Ambedkar Sabhagar** (Bharat Ratna B.R. Ambedkar Convention Centre).

(ii) Dedicating the University Library Building in the memory of founder Vice Chancellor of IGNOU and naming it as **Prof. G. Ram Reddy Library**: and

(iii)Rechristening the erstwhile DEC building as **APJ Abdul Kalam Bhawan**.

**ITEM NO. 24 To consider and approve the Phase 2 form for Post Graduate Diploma in Right to Information – SOSS**

AC 66.24.1 The Member Secretary informed that the Faculty of Public Administration, School of Social Sciences (SOSS) has proposed development of a Post Graduate Diploma in Right to Information. The Phase 1 form of the Programme was approved by the 65<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the School Board of School of Social Sciences held on 25<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2016. The Phase 2 form of the programme has also been approved in the 66<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the School Board of the SOSS held on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016.

The Director, School of Law intervened and requested for housing the programme in the School of Law on the ground that this programme is more of legal education domain which is the domain of School of Law. However, the Academic Council was of the opinion that the programme is rather interdisciplinary in nature and be housed in SOSS. Moreover, the Faculty of Public Administration is at a very advance stage of development of this programme. The change in nomenclature of this programme from PG Diploma to Diploma was also discussed. The Director, SOL requested that views of School of Law may be recorded on the matter.

AC 66.24.2 After detailed discussion, the Academic Council approved the Phase 2 form for Post Graduate Diploma in Right to Information. The Council also

decided that the matter regarding change in nomenclature of this programme from PG Diploma to Diploma may be placed before the School Board of SOSS. The Council also decided to house the programme in SOSS and record the views of Director, SOL.

**ITEM NO. 25 To consider and approve the constitution of a suitable mechanism for validating incomplete academic inputs of in-service, untrained, Govt. sponsored primary teachers pursuing Diploma in Primary Education (DPE) in the State of Jharkhand.**  
(Tabled Item)

AC 66.25.1 Member Secretary informed that the School of Education has submitted an agenda as a tabled Item to consider and approve the constitution of a suitable mechanism for validating incomplete academic inputs of in-service, untrained, Govt. sponsored primary teachers pursuing Diploma in Primary Education (DPE) in the State of Jharkhand.

Director School of Education (SOE) informed the Council that the diploma in Primary education (DPE) was in project mode in the State of Jharkhand to train nearly 30,000 untrained in-service teachers following a request by the state Govt. The state Govt. offered their District Institute of Education and Training (DIETs) as Programme Study Centres to implement different components of the Programme (assignments, workshops, SBAs). They used to maintain student records and transmit the same to the Local Regional Centre. The DIETs however were barely functional on account of lack of infrastructure, faculty and therefore did not perform their designated functions vis-à-vis the enrolled students optimally, especially in view of the large number of teachers enrolled.

Consequently, records of grades of some components were either not kept or not transmitted to the RC following which nearly 3,000 students have not been able to complete the DPE. The right to Education (RTE) Act being implemented in the country, including in the State of Jharkhand stipulates retention of trained teachers only in the system, while terminating the services of the rest. In view of the above, a number of students have petitioned the SoE that they will lose their jobs in case they do not get a diploma from IGNOU.

It was also informed that the validity of MoU between IGNOU and State Govt of Jharkhand was for the period 2005-08 and most students are of that period.

AC 66.25.2 The Council sought to know the approval status and norms of the NCTE in this regard. After detailed discussion and keeping in view the urgency, the Academic Council accorded approval to the proposal for constituting a suitable mechanism for validating incomplete academic inputs of in-



service, untrained, Govt. sponsored primary teachers pursuing Diploma in Primary Education (DPE) in the State of Jharkhand during the period of MoU, subject to the condition that the NCTE norms should not be violated. The School of Education, while constituting such a mechanism, will ensure compliance of NCTE norms and guidelines in this regard.

**ITEM NO. 26 Extension of Scheme of Fee Exemption for Students Enrolled at UG/PG Certificate; UG/PG Diploma; BLIS and B.Ed in the Financial Year 2016-17 in addition to the earlier approved programmes - P&DD.**

(Tabled Item)

AC 66.26.1

Member Secretary informed that the Planning and Development Division (P&DD) has submitted an agenda (tabled) to consider and approve the extension of the Scheme of fee exemption for students enrolled at under-graduate certificate; under-graduate diploma; post-graduate certificate; post-graduate diploma; BLIS and B.Ed in the Financial Year 2016-17.

Director, Planning and Development Division (P&DD) informed that the Academic Council in its 65<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 21st March 2016 ratified the decision taken by the Competent Authority for utilization of grant under SCSP/TSP components of the budget in the Financial Year 2015-16 through fee reimbursement in the following academic programmes:

- a. Freshly registered in BDP (B.A., B.Com, B.Sc.);
- b. Freshly registered BSW; BTS; and
- c. Fresh and Second Semester re-registered students of BCA

The Academic Council had further recommended for fee-waiver in place of fee reimbursement for which the Academic Council authorized the Vice-Chancellor to take appropriate steps.

The SCSP/TSP Grant Committee recommended extending the scheme of fee reimbursement for these academic programmes in the Financial Year 2016-17 as fee exemption. This recommendation was implemented with approval of Competent Authority by issuing a notification on 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.

The SCSP/TSP Grant Committee in its 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016 recommended for extending the scheme of fee exemption for students enrolled at under-graduate Certificate; under-graduate Diploma; PG Certificate; PG diploma; BLIS and B.Ed in the Financial Year 2016-17. The Committee examined financial feasibility of this extension and found that the scheme can be implemented with available grants

under SCSP/TSP heads for the programmes specified above.

- AC 66.26.2      The Academic Council appreciated the proposal of the University and approved extension of the scheme of fee exemption for students enrolled at UG Certificates; UG Diploma; PG Certificate; PG Diploma; BLIS and B.Ed in the Financial Year 2016-17. It also decided that subject to the availability of funds, this scheme may be extended to all programmes offered by the University.

The Council also appreciated the efforts made by Academic Coordination Division in compiling the Agenda.

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

  
**Chairperson**