

MINUTES OF THE 112TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON APRIL 09, 2012 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM, NEW VCO BLOCK, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068

The following were present:

1	Prof. M. Aslam, Vice-Chancellor	- Chairman
2	Shri Anant Kumar Singh, Jt. Secretary(CU&L), MHRD	- Representative, Secretary, MHRD
3	Er.R.K. Gupta	- Member
4	Prof. B.K. Pattanaik	- Member
5	Prof. E. Vayunandan	- Member
6	Dr. Srikant Mohapatra	- Member
	Shri Udai S. Tolia, Registrar (Admn.)	- Secretary

The Secretary, Ministry of I&B and Prof. G. Sundar, Members, BOM could not attend the meeting.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the 112th Meeting of the Board of Management. He, on behalf of the Board, recorded his appreciation for the valuable contributions made by the outgoing Members of the Board namely, Prof. B.S. Sharma, Dr. S.B. Singh Bhadauria, Dr. Veena Vinayakrao Thakare, Prof. P. Purushotam Rao, Advocate Pravin Parekh (the Visitor's nominees) and Prof. A. Kalyani, who completed their terms on the Board. The Chairman informed the Board that the terms of the Visitor's five nominees have expired on 16.02.2012 & that of Prof. A. Kalyani on 27.1.2012, when she completed her term as Vice-Chancellor, TNOU. Thereafter, the Chairman welcomed Prof. E. Vayunandan, as new Member on the Board of Management, representing the teachers of the University, as per the provisions of Statute 6A(1)(iii) of IGNOU Act. He also informed the Board about Prof. Vayunandan's long association with the University in different capacities.

Before the proceedings of the Meeting started, the Chairman informed the Board that as per the direction of the 111th Board, a High Power Review Committee constituted to look into the IGNOU activities & mandate, etc. The final report of the Committee is being finalized and the Committee's Interim Recommendations are being placed before the Board as separate agenda item. The Chairman also informed the Board that since the last Board meeting a number of activities were taken up to streamline academic activities of the University. These, among others, included 41st Meeting of the Academic Programme

Committee (APC) held on 30.1.2012 which took serious note of the programmes launched without approval of the APC/Planning Board and those programmes which have not been able to attract any enrolment. The APC noted that Act & Statutes of the University empower only the School Boards to initiate/conceptualize/recommend academic programmes for approval by the Academic Council/Planning Board. The APC approved the recommendations of the Committees to reintroduce Phase forms for design and development of new programmes. The Chairman further informed that meetings of the Equivalence Committee and the Student Support Services Committee were also held to deliberate upon all the pending issues viz. credit weightage, student services, etc. He also stated that the large-scale expansion of the University operations in the recent past without any concern for conformity with Act, Statutes & Ordinances which could have provided legitimacy and authenticity to such initiatives, have thrown up several academic & administrative issues and challenges. The programmes taken up in collaboration with the Rehabilitation Council of India & those offered under Advanced Centre for Informatics and Innovative Learning (ACIIL) are the two examples among others. With general endorsement from Academic Council both the processes of design & development and the evaluation seems to have been compromised and a pressure is now building for certification of these programmes. He hoped that outcome of various committees and recommendations of the High Power Review Committee would be able to guide us and take appropriate remedial action.

The Chairman then requested the Registrar/Secretary, BOM to present the items on the Agenda.

The following items were taken up for consideration:

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 111TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON DECEMBER 29, 2011 ALONG WITH ACTION TAKEN REPORT AND THE ACTION PROPOSED ON THE COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE MINUTES OF 111TH MEETING OF THE BOARD

BM 112.1.1 The Secretary informed that the Minutes of the 111th Meeting of the Board of Management held on 29.12.2011 were circulated to the Members of the Board. Comments have been received from Dr. S.B. Singh Bhadauria, Prof. P. Purushotam Rao, former Members, BOM and Dr. Srikant Mohapatra, Member, BOM on the Minutes of 111th meeting of the Board. The comments along with clarifications/further action proposed were placed before the Board. The Action Taken Report on the minutes of 111th Board meeting was also placed before the Board.

The Board noted the comments & clarifications on the Minutes of 111th meeting of the Board.

As regards the matter of appointment of Dr. R.P. Singh as the Director, Regional Services Division (RSD), Dr. Srikant Mohapatra pointed out that as per the past practice/convention, the senior-most Regional Director in Professor's scale was being appointed as Director, Regional Services Division except in the case of Dr. Masood Parveez and, therefore, the appointment of Dr. R.P. Singh, as Director, RSD was not in order. During the discussion, it was further pointed out that in terms of Clause (1)(c) of Statute 4, the Director, Regional Services Division shall be appointed on the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellor from amongst the Regional Directors in Professor's scale. However, the Board felt that the selection of Director, RSD should have been made on the basis of seniority-cum-merit and in the instant case, it seems that both these aspects were not followed.

BM 112.1.2 The Board, therefore, directed to seek further details for examining the matter in detail to facilitate taking a final view in the matter.

BM 112.1.3 As regards the comments received from the MHRD vide their letter dt.28.12.2011 on the Minutes of 110th meeting of the Board, the Board noted & approved the amendments/modifications as already authorized for adoption in its previous Meeting (vide Res.No.111.1.1), as per the table placed with Item No.1 of the agenda.

BM 112.1.4 The Board also noted the Action Taken Report. As regards the case of Dr. V.S.P. Srivastava, Head, Comp. Div., the Board decided that the same may be discussed in the next Board.

BM 112.1.5 With the above observations, the Board confirmed the Minutes of the 111th Meeting held on 29.12.2011, with the above observations.

ITEM NO. 2 TO CONSIDER AND CONFIRM THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PURCHASE COMMITTEE MADE AT ITS 60TH MEETING HELD ON 12.3.2012

BM 112.2.1 The item was taken up for consideration. During the discussion, it was pointed out whether it was necessary to place the Minutes of the Purchase Committee before the Board, in view of the fact

that under the provisions of GFR, the Head of the Institution/Organisation is the Competent Authority. The Registrar (Admn.) apprised the Board about the provision under Statute 16 (2) of the IGNOU Act which clearly provides for placing the recommendations of the Standing Committees before the Board. During the discussion it was pointed out as to whether under the provisions of GFR, the Head of the Organisation/Institution is the Competent Authority to approve the purchases of certain values of goods & services irrespective of the amount involved. It was, therefore, suggested that the delegation of financial powers needs to be reviewed, in view of the earlier BOM decision taken at its 108th Meeting. The Board agreed to the suggestions.

BM 112.2.2 The Board resolved that till such time review is made, only those items should be placed before the Board where specific approval of the Board is required, in terms of the provision under Act/Statutes/Ordinances and the rest be decided administratively with the approval of the Competent Authority.

ITEM NO. 3 TO CONSIDER AND CONFIRM THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 65TH MEETING OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 22.3.2012

BM 112.3.1 The recommendations of the 65th Meeting of the Establishment Committee held on 22.3.2012 were placed before the Board for consideration. As regards the recruitment of Multi-Tasking Staff (Technical & Non-Technical), the Board was informed that number of persons who have been working in IGNOU on muster roll/daily-wages for the past several years have acquired necessary knowledge and skills required at IGNOU. However, they are not able to compete with a large number of other external candidates when recruitment tests are held on all India basis. After examining the matter it was felt necessary that there is need to address this issue so as to fully utilize the experience they have gained while working with the University. It was, therefore, proposed that 15% of posts may be reserved for them in the qualifying tests within which they could compete among themselves, in the same qualifying test through separate cut off merit. During the discussion it was felt that there is a need to adopt a uniform policy in the matter of recruitment of staff whether technical or non-technical. It was pointed out that in case 15% vacancies are filled up by earmarking separate cut off merit list for internal candidates, Article 14 of the Constitution of India will need to be examined. It was also pointed out that the

Hon'ble Supreme Court in a catena of judgments has emphasized the need to eliminate the cases/processes where the prescribed Rules for recruitment of staff were not followed.

BM 112.3.2 The Board, therefore, resolved that the issue needs to be examined further in detail in the light of the above observations.

BM 112.3.3 As regards Item No.4 concerning the recommendations of the Core Committee on framing & finalizing the syllabi of written test for non-academic Groups-A, B & C posts, the Board appreciated the efforts made in this regard & approved the recommendations with the further direction to upload/post the syllabi on the University's website for reference of the candidates.

BM 112.3.4 The Board also discussed the issue of revival of the cadre/posts of Joint Registrar. The Board was informed that there are officers in the University at Dy. Registrars and/or equivalent levels who have not only put in long years of dedicated service but also greatly contributed to the growth of the University. It was felt necessary to retain the posts/cadre of Joint Registrar & equivalent for their upward professional mobility. The Board, however, decided that the matter may be examined thoroughly and resubmitted for a final decision by the Board.

BM 112.3.5 The Board approved the recommendations of the 65th Establishment Committee with the above observations.

ITEM NO. 4 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR IN EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT OF PROF. VELYAUTHAM SARAVANAN AS PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY STUDIES ON DEPUTATION TERMS

BM 112.4.1 The matter was discussed at length. The Board was informed that Prof. Velayutham Saravanan was appointed as Professor and Director, School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies (SOITS) on deputation terms for a period of one year with effect from 1.2.2011. It was pointed out that the Board at its 107th Meeting held on 11.4.2011 ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in appointing Prof. V. Saravanan as Professor in the SOITS on standard deputation terms, for a period of one year from 1.2.2011 or till appointment of a regular incumbent, whichever is earlier. As per the direction of the

Board, the legal opinion about appointment of Prof. Saravanan as Director, SOITS was also to be obtained in the matter. However, there was a considerable delay in obtaining the legal opinion and in the meantime Prof. Saravanan was also made Director of the School for one year, which he completed on 31.01.2012. After receiving the legal opinion, Prof. V. Saravanan's term of appointment as Professor & Director of SOITS was extended by the Vice Chancellor for one more year or till appointment of a regular incumbent, whichever is earlier.

BM 112.4.2 After detailed discussion, the Board observed that Prof. Saravanan who joined the University as Professor on standards deputation terms had no seniority since he was not on regular rolls on the University. The Members expressed their concern at the inordinate delay of almost one year in obtaining the legal opinion in the matter, as decided by the Board earlier at its 107th meeting, which should have, however, been made available earlier, especially in view of the fact that the post is reserved for SC candidate. The Board further observed that the legal opinion should only be sought in cases where there are ambiguities under the relevant Rules/Statutes/Ordinances.

BM 112.4.3 The Board resolved that it would not be advisable to allow Prof. V. Saravanan to continue to function as Director of the School and that the prescribed rules for appointment of a senior-most teacher in hierarchy be followed and the post which has already been advertised be filled up immediately, as per the prescribed procedure.

ITEM NO. 5 TO CONSIDER THE RE-EMPLOYMENT OF TEACHERS OF THE UNIVERSITY AFTER SUPERANNUATION

BM 112.5.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. It was observed by some Members that since the recommendations/report of the Committee, constituted to adopt the guidelines for re-employment of Professors after the age of superannuation, were not found attached with the agenda, the same needed to be studied thoroughly. However, the Secretary informed the Board that the said recommendations were also tabled before the Board at its 111th Meeting which was, however, not taken up for paucity of time. The Members felt that the same needs to be discussed thoroughly. The Board, however, resolved that pending decision regarding adoption of the guidelines & finalization thereof, the process in the matter can be initiated in respect of those who are eligible according to the said guidelines

due to the reason that the process involved is lengthy.

ITEM NO. 6 TO CONSIDER THE FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO EXAMINE THE MATTER IN RESPECT OF APPOINTMENT OF THE CHIEF PROJECT OFFICER, CMD, IGNOU

BM 112.6.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. The Board noted the recommendations of the Committee constituted for the purpose. The findings of the Committee in brief are as under:

- (i) The total number of application received by the University was 11 (eleven).
- (ii) The Screening Committee at its meeting held on 6.4.2010 initially shortlisted only two applications/candidates namely; Sh. Rajiv Kumar & Sh. Indra Narayan Jha based on the eligibility criteria as indicated in the advertisement for the post of Chief Project Officer (CPO).
- (iii) Dr. D.K. Choudhry, the then PVC (I/c) of CMD and one of the members of the Screening Committee, subsequently observed *“discussed with Prof. Singh telephonically who is in agreement that this case of Mr. Reddy is in order”* which was duly approved by the Vice-Chancellor & accordingly Sh. Sudheer Reddy was also called for the interview.
- (iv) In case the relaxed criteria as adopted in case of Sh. Sudheer Reddy was also applied to other candidates who were, however, found ineligible, the choice of selection would have been wider. The Committee, after perusing all details of the candidates, came to the conclusion that there would have been two more candidates eligible for interview namely, Lt.(Retd.) Rajnath Singh & Sh. Pramod Kumar Jain, resulting into total five numbers of eligible candidates, as given below:
 - (1) Sh. Rajeev Kumar
 - (2) Sh. Indra Narayan Jha
 - (3) Sh. Sudheer Reddy
 - (4) Lt.(Retd.) Rajnath Singh
 - (5) Sh. Pramod Kumar Jain
- (v) The inclusion of application of Sh. Reddy in shortlisted candidates appears to be against the established norms i.e. relaxation cannot be given to only one individual irrespective of the fact whether the person is internal or external and relaxation should have been given by the

appointing authority only i.e. the BOM, who also prescribed the eligibility criteria.

- (vi) The approval of the Board for relaxation should have been taken before the interview and not after the appointment was made & the candidate joined the post.

BM 112.6.2 The Board deliberated on the issue at length. The Board was, therefore, constrained not to ratify the appointment of Sh. Sudheer Reddy, as Chief Project Officer (CPO), CMD. The Board resolved to follow the prescribed procedure for appointment of the Chief Project Officer and re-advertise the post.

ITEM NO. 10 TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED IN THE CASE OF SHRI M. RAJAMANNAR, PRODUCER (SG)

BM 112.10.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. The Board observed that the full facts presented before the Selection Committee along with the terms of reference for appointment of Sh. M. Rajamannar needed to be placed before it for taking a final decision. The Item was, therefore, deferred.

ITEM NO.16 TO CONSIDER THE INTERIM RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HIGH POWER REVIEW COMMITTEE

BM 112.16.1 The Board considered the interim recommendations of the High Power Review Committee constituted to examine IGNOU Mandate in respect of its academic activities & other related issues. The Board was of the view that since certain major decisions have to be taken based on the recommendations of the Committee, it was felt appropriate to have full Report of the Committee to facilitate Board to take a suitable decision. The attention of the Board was also drawn to the urgency of some of the issues including fresh admissions for July 2012 session. The Board, therefore, directed that the High Power Review Committee may be requested to finalize its report at the earliest. The Board further directed that the next Meeting of the Board be convened within 2-3 weeks to discuss the report & take a final decision.

A copy of the interim recommendation of the High Power Committee is placed as **Appendix**.

ITEM NO.20 TO NOMINATE A MEMBER ON THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT UNDER CLAUSE (1)(VI)(A) OF STATUTE 6A OF THE IGNOU ACT

BM 112.20.1 The Item was presented by the Chairman. The Board was informed that Prof. A. Kalyani, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Open University, completed her term as Vice-Chancellor, TNOU on 27.1.2012 and that she also ceased to be a Member of Board of Management. Therefore, the nomination of a new Member on the BOM is required to be made by the Board in terms of the provision under Clause (1)(vi)(a) of Statute 6A. The Board was also informed that the new Vice-Chancellor of TNOU has not yet been appointed and presently, the Registrar is looking after the activities of TNOU. Prof. Kalyani's nomination to BOM was made on 09.10.2009 for a period of 3 years which she would have completed on 08.10.2012, had she continued to occupy the position of the Vice-Chancellor.

BM 112.20.2 The Board discussed the item and decided to nominate Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak, Vice-Chancellor, Uttarakhand Open University as Member on the Board of Management of IGNOU for a period of three years from the date of issuance of notification.

The following items in the Agenda placed before the Board could not be taken up due to paucity of time.

Item No.7	To consider the comments received from the IGNOUTA on certain decision of the Board of Management
Item No.8	To consider and approve the recommendations of the Academic Council for establishment of the Centre for Modern Indian Languages and Mother Tongues
Item No. 9	To consider the request of Dr. Nandini Sinha Kapur, Associate Professor, School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies for counting her previous service rendered in PGDAV College, University of Delhi for the purpose of Career Advancement
Item No.11	To consider and approve qualifications for academic & non-academic posts in Indian Sign Language Research & Training Centre (ISLRTC)
Item No. 12	To consider inclusion of a Clause in Statute 6A, dealing with the composition of the Board of Management of the University for making provision of a member from SC/ST community on the Board

Item No. 13	To consider the Appeal preferred by Dr. S.S. Dubey, Ex. Lecturer in Physics, IGNOU against imposition of penalty of removal from services
Item No. 14	To report the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in extending the period of temporary appointment of Prof. Anil Kumar Jha as Director, Planning and Development Division
Item No. 15	To consider the appointment of Directors of various Schools of Studies
Item No. 17	To consider the proposal for adopting the earlier practice of preparation of Gold Polished Solver Medals to the meritorious students on the eve of Convocation
Item No. 18	To consider the issue of faculty development in the University
Item No. 19	To consider the revision of licence fee in respect of IGNOU houses/flats

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair

(M. Aslam)
Chairman