

IGNOU

THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

HELD ON DECEMBER 10, 1988.

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IGNOU

MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD IN THE UNIVERSITY OFFICE AT YMCA CULTURAL CENTRE, 1 JAISINGH ROAD, NEW DELHI, ON DECEMBER 10, 1988.

The following were present:

1. Prof. G. Ram Reddy, Vice-Chancellor Chairman
2. Prof. C. Narayana Reddy
3. Prof. Mrinal Miri
4. Prof. B.S. Sharma
5. Dr J.S. Bajaj
6. Dr Gurpreet Singh
7. Prof. Ranjit Gupta

Shri K. Narayanan, Registrar Secretary

Shri Anil Bordia, Shri Gopi K. Arora, Prof.R.P. Bambah and Dr (Miss) Armaity S. Desai could not make it convenient to attend the meeting.

Prof. D.D. Joshi, Prof. R.J. Garde, Pro Vice-Chancellors and Shri S.N. Sharma, Finance Officer, were present as special invitees.

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

At the outset, the Chairman, on behalf of the Board, and on his own behalf offered congratulations to Dr J.S. Bajaj on his unanimous election as President for life of the International Diabetics Federation in recognition of his outstanding research contribution in the field and professional leadership.

The following matters were considered:

ITEM NO.1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON OCTOBER 7, 1988, AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON.

13.1.1 The Minutes of the thirteenth meeting of the Board of Management held on October 7, 1988, were confirmed.

13.1.2 The Board noted the action taken on the decisions of its meeting held on October 7, 1988.

ITEM NO.2 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE REVISED PAY SCALES OF REGISTRARS, DEPUTY REGISTRARS AND ASSISTANT REGISTRARS AND EQUIVALENT POSTS.

13.2.1 The Board considered the letter No.F.10-52/87 Desk (U) dated 2.11.1988 (Appendix I) received from the Government on revision of scales of pay of Registrars and other Administrative Officers in the University.

13.2.2 After considerable discussion the Board resolved as follows:

(i) The revised scales of pay be adopted to all the posts of Administrative Officers referred to in the Government's letter No.F.10-52/87 Desk (U) dated 2.11.1988 with effect from 1.1.1986.

(ii) The Board suggested that in view of initial stage of development of the University the Ministry be requested to waive the condition of tenure appointment in respect of the posts of Registrars and its equivalent at IGNOU so as to attract experienced personnel from other institutions of higher learning as the condition of tenure

appointment may inhibit young and dynamic officers of other Universities/Institutions to apply to senior positions at IGNOU.

(iii) The Board noted that it had, in an earlier meeting, extended the benefit of revised pay scales to the Directors.

(iv) So far as the other Group A officers in the University, whose position is not clearly indicated in the Government's letter, the matter be referred to the Finance Committee before it is considered by the Board. Till such time a decision is taken in this regard all such Group A officers listed in Appendix II be continued in the pre-revised scales of pay.

ITEM NO.3 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1987-88.

3.3.1

The Board approved the basic content of the Report but at the same ^{time} desired that the conventional format be changed and presentation be made more professional so that the report creates a better professional and visual impact. Wherever possible academic activities like research, research publications etc be highlighted more distinctly.

ITEM No.4 ✓ TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE AGE OF RETIREMENT OF NON-TEACHING STAFF.

3.4.1

The Board considered the proposal on the age of retirement of non-teaching staff and desired that, before a decision is taken in the matter, the University may collect information from other Central Universities regarding the issues raised in the agenda note and bring the matter again before the Board for consideration. ✓

- ITEM NO.5 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FROM THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY REGARDING COOPERATION WITH THE ENGINEERING STAFF COLLEGE OF INDIA, HYDERABAD.
- 13.5.1 The item was withdrawn.
- ITEM NO.6 TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEES.
- 13.6.1 The Board approved the recommendations made by the Selection Committees as listed in the Appendix III.
- ITEM NO.7 TO CONSIDER THE LIFTING OF PROBATION OF TEACHERS
- 13.7.1 The Board noted that Prof. V.R. Jagannathan has successfully completed the probation period of 12 months on 14.10.1988 and agreed that the probation may be lifted.
- ITEM NO.8 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL ON MODERNISATION OF LIBRARY OPERATIONS.
- 13.8.1 The Board considered the proposal on modernisation of Library operations in view of the recommendations of the Committee given in Appendix-IV. Considering the unique nature of functions to be performed by the IGNOU, the Board approved the modernisation plan suggested by the Committee and agreed that the modernisation programme of the library be taken up on a pilot basis and the functioning be reviewed annually. The training of Library personnel to handle the sophisticated equipment may also be planned as integral part of modernisation.

ITEM NO.9 ✓ TO CONSIDER THE LETTER FROM SHRI L.P. SHAHI, MINISTER OF STATE FOR EDUCATION, ON THE ROLE OF IGNOU IN REMOVAL OF ILLITERACY. ✓

13.9.1 The Board discussed at length issues arising out of the letter received from Shri L.P. Shahi, Minister of State for Education and Culture regarding the role of IGNOU in the removal of illiteracy in the country.

13.9.2. The Board noted that the task assigned to IGNOU both in terms of the National Policy on Education and the objects set for it in the Act emphasize the role of the University in providing opportunities for higher education. Considering the magnitude of illiteracy in the country, the Board was of the view that eradication of illiteracy is a national problem and the IGNOU should also find ways and means to extend its help to the Government.

13.9.3 ✓ The Board was of the view that IGNOU could develop materials, both printed and audio visual and make it available to such agencies as Government has chosen to use for the task of illiteracy removal under various programmes. A suggestion was also made that the University should write to the Government seeking clarification as to whether the Government would be willing to entrust this task to IGNOU. In the event of Government accepting the proposal, the University may initiate steps to develop materials and seek Government's assistance towards the production costs. The Board suggested that appropriate programmes be developed for the co-ordinators of adult literacy programmes so as to improve their skills, by which larger sections of adult learners are benefited. ✓

- ITEM NO.10 TO CONSIDER EXTENSION OF EMPLOYMENT OF DR S.C. GUPTA, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, LUCKNOW.
- 13.10.1 The Board noted that the posts of Regional Directors have been advertised. The Board agreed to the proposal that Dr Gupta's term may be extended for a period of six months from 1.12.1988, or until a person is available through regular recruitment.
- ITEM NO.11 TO CONSIDER OPENING OF A SEPARATE BANK ACCOUNT FOR TRANSACTIONS RELATING TO PROVIDENT FUNDS OF THE UNIVERSITY.
- 13.11.1 The Board considered the proposal on opening of a separate Bank Account for transactions relating to the Provident Fund Account with the Canara Bank, Connaught Place, New Delhi.
- 13.11.2 The Board, while approving the account being opened with the Canara Bank, noted that the Bank would manage a portfolio of investments of the monies deposited as per guidelines issued in this behalf.
- ITEM NO.12 REPORTING ITEMS
- 12(1) To receive the revised study Report from Shri V. Rama Rao, Engineer-in-Charge, Communication Division, and Prof. R.N. Mathur, School of Sciences.
- 13.12(1).1 The Board received the reports submitted by Shri V. Rama Rao and Prof. R.N. Mathur.
- 13.12(1).2 The Board observed that when teachers or other staff are sent to attend conferences/seminars, the reports submitted by them on their return should clearly highlight the topics of discussion, the benefits accrued to the individual and the University by such participation, a gist of

discussions on the paper presented, both positive and negative, and the participants recommendations which could be relevant to the University. The Board suggested that the University devise a suitable Report Format incorporating the above points for submission of the tour reports. ✓

12(2) To report the change effected in the advertisement released for the posts of Registrar consequent on revision of pay scales by the Government.

12(2).1 The Board noted the changes as per Appendix-V effected in the advertisement consequent on the revision of pay scales.

12(3) To report for approval the visit of Prof. C.S. Moorthy to Kathmandu, Nepal.

12(3).1 The Board approved the action of the Vice-Chancellor in sending Prof. C.S. Moorthy to attend the First World Congress on Engineering and Technology held at Kathmandu, Nepal, in November, 1988. The Board noted that the expenditure involved in the above visit was Rs.10,500/-.

12(3).2 While receiving the report submitted by Prof. C.S. Moorthy, the Board felt that the report should incorporate the points expressed by it on the subject under 13.12(1).2 above.

12(4) To Report the participation of Shri S.N. Sharma, Finance Officer, in the Workshop on Internal Audit Interface and Re-orientation held at Kathmandu, Nepal, and to receive his report.

- 13.12(4).1 The Board received the report submitted by Shri S.N.Sharma, Finance Officer, on his participation in the Worksnop on Internal Audit Interface and Re-orientation held at Kathmandu, Nepal in October 1988.

12(5) To report provision of additional accommodation to the Vice-Chancellor and proportionate recoveries of electricity/water charges.

- 13.12(5).1 ✓ When this item was considered, the Vice-Chancellor withdrew from the Meeting. It was agreed that the proposal be reviewed in the light of the discussions held and be brought in the next meeting.

ITEM NO.13 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TEN ADDITIONAL FLATS AT THE ASIAN GAMES VILLAGE COMPLEX.

- 13.13.1 In view of the fact that the University was finding it difficult to attract eminent academics from outside to join without accommodation, the Board approved of the University acquiring of the ten flats allotted by the Government at a cost of Rs.1,10,92,173/-. A suggestion was made that in view of the high capital cost and consequent high property taxes, the possibilities of hiring houses, or construction of multi-storey residential units in the area allotted to the University be explored. It was explained that it was difficult to find suitable accommodation for senior staff members within the ceilings approved by the Board earlier, while the work of construction of multi-storey flats would take considerable time.

ITEM NO.14 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL ON COOPERATION WITH THE UNESCO INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY COURSES.

B.14.1 The Board was gratified to note that efforts made in making IGNOU an institution of excellence have received due recognition by a world body like the UNESCO and the International Technological University. The University should be able to develop the required packages which should also have relevance to other developing countries.

B.14.2 The Board felt that developing bilateral relations with UNESCO, the International Technological University and the Commonwealth of Learning will be of great benefit. Since IGNOU was already planning to start courses outlined by the UNESCO and the ITU, testing of such materials in the international forums will add to the prestige of the University.

B.14.3 ✓ The Board, while agreeing to the proposed cooperation with UNESCO and the ITU, suggested that IGNOU should also explore the possibility of developing packages for possible cooperation with SAARC countries. A proposal on such cooperation may be submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs. ✓

B.14.4 While on the subject, the Vice Chancellor reported that he took advantage of his visit to London in connection with the meeting of the Commonwealth of Learning, to visit Paris for discussion with Dr. Herbert Marchl, Head, Directorate of Education and others in the UNESCO from 25.10.88 to 27.10.88. This was noted

ITEM NO.15 ✓ TO NOTE THE INSTALLATION OF VAX COMPUTER
✓ UNDER THE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT
ADMINISTRATION (ODA) PROGRAMME. ✓

13.15.1 The Board noted that the ODA will be supplying a VAX-8530 computer system to IGNOU and that the University had obtained the necessary clearances from the Department of Electronics, Department of Economic Affairs and DGTD including Customs Duty exemption. The Board also noted that the computer will be housed at K-76 Hauz Khas as permanent buildings in the main campus will come up only after 3 to 4 years.

13.15.2 It was reported that the University is proposing to entrust the work of installation and maintenance to M/S Computer Maintenance Corporation Ltd (CMC), an undertaking of the Government of India.

13.15.3 ✓ The Board, while approving in principle the entrusting of the work to CMC, felt that there was scope for reduction in the costs of installation, which should be negotiated. It was also suggested that the option to get the different components executed by the IGNOU through the suppliers of the components instead of through CMC acting as a turnkey contractor, may be explored. ✓

ITEM NO.16 TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST FROM DR ASHA S. KANWAR FOR DEPUTING HER TO ENGLAND TO WORK ON A RESEARCH PROJECT.

13.16.1 The request of Dr Asha S. Kanwar for deputation to UK for a month for research purpose was considered by the Board. Since her work had no direct relevance to IGNOU's activities and also the fact that she

joined the University only on 13th October, 1988 on probation for one year. the Board could not agree to her request.

ITEM NO.17 TO NOTE THE CONTINUED APPOINTMENT OF DR BAKSHISH SINGH AS PROFESSOR IN INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY.

13.17.1. Considering the fact that Prof. Bakshish Singh attains the age of 65 on 25.5.1989, the Board agreed for continuance of Prof. Bakshish Singh in the University service as Professor upto 25.5.1989 under the same terms and conditions applicable to him under reemployment scheme.

ITEM NO.18 ✓ TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN ON THE UNANIMOUS RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEES.

13.18.1 The Board approved the action of the Vice-Chancellor in offering appointments to teachers based on the unanimous recommendations of the selection committees. The list of such teachers is at Appendix VI.

ITEM NO.19 TO CONSIDER LIFTING OF PROBATION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE PROBATION PERIOD.

13.19.1 The Board approved the action of the Vice-Chancellor in lifting the probation of persons who have successfully completed their probation period. The list of such persons is at Appendix VII.

ITEM NO.20 TO CONSIDER MODIFICATIONS TO THE STATUTE ON HONORARY DEGREES SUBMITTED TO THE VISITOR.

13.20.1 The Board considered the suggestion received from the Ministry of Human Resource Development on the draft statute on Honorary Degrees submitted to the

Visitor. The Board agreed to the proposed suggestion, and modified the statute as given below:

22. HONORARY DEGREES

All proposals for the conferment of Honorary Degrees shall be initiated by the Vice-Chancellor, who, after consultation with the Academic Council and the Board of Management, shall submit the same to the Visitor for confirmation.

ITEM NO.21 ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

13.21.1 The Chairman informed the members of the Board the following items for information:

- (i) The Commonwealth of Learning has been set up with its headquarters in Vancouver (Canada) and Lord Briggs has been elected as the Chairman.
- (ii) The drawings and designs of IGNOU's two stage architectural competition will be exhibited at Azad Bhavan, New Delhi, for four days with effect from 16th December, 1988. The Vice-Chancellor extended an invitation to all the members of the Board to visit the exhibition and also to attend the inaugural function at Azad Bhavan on 16th December, 1988 at 4 P.M.
- (iii) The question of sharing the royalty on a book edited by the Vice-Chancellor, containing the papers read at the International Seminar on Distance Education held in November 1985 plus other papers from eminent contributors in the area, was also considered. Looking to the fact that the amount involved in the royalty was insignificant, sharing was not

material. However, it was felt that for deciding a future policy, matter can be deliberated only if some more information is available.

(iv) Attempts are being made to hold the first convocation towards the latter part of February, 1989.

(v) The Vice-Chancellor reported about holding the first convocation of the University some time in February, 1989 and that the Prime Minister has been requested to preside over the Convocation. The Prime Minister's reply is awaited. This was noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Board a day before the Convocation.

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

Prof. G. Ram Reddy
Chairman