



**MINUTES OF THE 137<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON OCTOBER 16, 2019 AT 10.30 A.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM, VCO BLOCK, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068**

The following were present:

1.	Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice-Chancellor	- Chairman
2.	Prof. Ravindra Ramchandra Kanhere, Pro-Vice Chancellor	- Member
3.	Shri Madhu Ranjan Kumar, Joint Secretary (DL & Admn.), MHRD	- Representative, Secretary, MHRD
4.	Shri Vikram Sahay, Joint Secretary (P&A), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	- Representative, Secretary, M/I&B
5.	Prof. V.S. Prasad	- Member
6.	Prof. S.G. Deshmukh	- Member
7.	Shri Ashok Bhagat	- Member
8.	Prof. K.K. Aggarwal	- Member
9.	Prof. Subha Sankar Sarkar	- Member
10.	Dr. P. Prakash	- Member
11.	Prof. Poornima Mital	- Member
12.	Prof. Debal K. Singharoy	- Member
13.	Dr. Ranjan Kumar	- Member
	Dr. V.B. Negi, Registrar, Admn.(I/c)	- Secretary

Dr. Kshiti Bhusan Das, Pro-Vice Chancellor attended the meeting as Special Invitee. The Chairman introduced Dr. Kshiti Bhusan Das to the members of the Board. Shri Atul Kantilal Nishar, Member could not attend the meeting.

Shri Vinod Kumar, Deputy Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Board.

The meeting of the Board of Management began with a welcome note by the Chairman. The Chairman informed that Shri D.N. Bezboruah, Member BOM (Visitor nominee) vide his e-mail dated 15.10.2019 had expressed his inability to attend the BOM meeting due to certain medical problems in his family and accordingly he has tendered his resignation as a member of the BOM and requested his resignation be accepted without any

delay. The Chairman further informed that Shri Atul Kantilal Nishar, Member BOM (Visitor nominee) was requested from time to time to participate in the BOM meetings, however, he could not make himself available for any of the Board meetings so far.

Before the items on the Agenda were taken up for consideration, the Chairman presented before the BOM, a brief account of the developments that took place in the University since the last meeting (Emergent) of the Board (136<sup>th</sup>) held on 08.08.2019, as under:

1. On the national level initiative of 'One Tree and One Student Campaign' by Hon'ble Minister of HRD Dr Ramesh Nishank ji, IGNOU has made intensive efforts to propagate, participate and involve in the campaign at headquarters and through its Regional Centres and Study Centres.
2. The University is grateful to the Secretary and the Joint Secretary, Higher Education, MHRD for giving their valuable time on monthly basis to the University for further strengthening the ODL/Online system. The meetings were accordingly conducted in the MHRD on 10.8.2019 and 6.9.2019 in which the Secretary/ Joint Secretary, UGC was also present to discuss various issues relating to monitoring of counselling sessions, despatch of study materials, accessibility issues, SAMARTH Portal, Online programmes etc. The University submitted its actionable plans on the progress of the deliberated issues relating to ODL/Online programmes to the MHRD for August and September separately.
3. As first open university of the country, the University has uploaded institution information for quality assessment document on NAAC (a Portal for the purpose of NAAC Accreditation) on 16<sup>th</sup> October.2019. Prof Manjulika Srivastava, Director, CIQA and his team is complemented for this effort.
4. The admission figure for the July 2019 cycle crossed 5.40 lacs which was the highest till date. It has achieved the target well past the target set by the MHRD. In the last session i.e. July 2018, the admission figure was 4.40 lakh. Director, RSD Dr. M Shanmugam and his whole team at various Regional Centres have made sincere and laudable efforts to achieve this figure. The Board appreciated and complemented them for their hard work.
5. The material distribution work of January 2019 was over. The demand for e-material sets has increased from 1.27 lakh sets in January session to 6.08 lakh sets for July session. Further, 14 lakh sets for July 2019 session were also despatched. Around 30 lakh

more sets are to be despatched further. Priority has already been given to the programmes run on semester basis.

6. The structure of the Annual Report for the year 2018-19 of the University has been modified in tune with the seven parameters of NAAC for which the Board appreciated the efforts made by Dr. Pankaj Khare Director, P&DD and his whole team.
7. As per the approval of the Board on the Selection Committees' recommendations, Registrar (SED), Registrar (SRD), Finance Officer and Regional Director, RC Srinagar (on deputation) have joined the University. Shri Kumar Samresh has not joined as Public Relations Officer. He was given the extension twice upto 10.10.2019. As regards the post of Asst. Registrar at RC Srinagar (on deputation), the selected candidate Javid Qadir Zargar has also sought extension in joining the post of AR due to having special assignments in AICTE.
8. The Certificate Programme in Library and Information Science has 26,000 enrolments in Jodhpur and Jaipur Regional Centres. Likewise, Bhubaneswar Regional Centre is also having 5,000 enrolments in the Certificate Programme in Food and Nutrition. The Regional Centre at Khanna has enrolled about 14,000 students in its Diploma Programme in Early Childhood Care and Education. These courses have shown substantial increase in numbers.
9. The University is using the services of Gyan Vani, Gyan Darshan, Swayam Prabha, web conferencing etc. to impart the counselling sessions for these programmes. The University is receiving good response from the learners. The Board members expressed happiness regarding the use of technology in counselling.
10. The University has launched B. Voc Programme in Tourism and Certificate in Yoga from July session. A few more courses were in pipeline to be launched from January 2020 session.
11. IGNOU has got the sanction of Rs.75 crore HEFA loan from the Ministry. In this regard, a detailed proposal for the loan is to be sent to HEFA.
12. Various activities under Swachhata Abhiyaan and the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi were also undertaken by the University at headquarters and regional centres.
13. The University extended the benefit of fee waiver scheme to 84,914 learners belonging to SC/ST categories for July session. This number has shown substantial increase over previous year.

14. The Vice Chancellor, IGNOU was conferred with Honorary Fellowship by the Commonwealth of Learning at Scotland. The Board members congratulated the Vice Chancellor for receiving such a prestigious international honour.

After the above prefatory remarks, the Secretary, BOM presented the following Agenda:

**ITEM NO. 1 (A) TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF 135<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON JULY 19, 2019 AND**

**(B) TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN REPORT**

**BM 137.1.1** The Secretary informed the Board that the Minutes of 135<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Management held on 19.07.2019 were circulated to the members of the Board on 29.7.2019. The comments/observations were received from the MHRD and two BOM members namely Dr. P. Prakash and Prof. Satyakam. The said comments/observations alongwith their clarifications were placed before the Board for consideration as per Annexure-V of Item No.1.

**BM 137.1.2** The Board deliberated the aforesaid observations/comments point-wise received from MHRD/BOM members and suggested the modifications as per details given below:

1. In Appendix-3 & 4 (vide BOM Res.135.10.1), the following modifications be made under the column 'Provision after amendment':

- (i) The words 'fine tune' be replaced with the word 'contextualize'
- (ii) '14(1a)' be corrected as '17(1a)'.
- (iii) The following be added at the last of columns:

*'if there is no corresponding provision laid down by UGC and this will be done with the approval of MHRD'*

2. In Resolution No.135.13.1, the word 'action' be added before the word 'taken'.

3. The following Resolution be added after BOM Resolution No.137.18.1:

'BM 135.18.2: Prof. Satyakam left the BOM proceedings after Item No.18 with due permission from the Chairman/Vice Chancellor for an urgent personal work'.

- BM 137.1.3** The Board was also informed that the MHRD vide its letter No. F.5-24/2019-DL dated 14.10.2019 has forwarded their comments on the agenda items of 137<sup>th</sup> BOM (**Appendix-1**). The Board took the agenda items in the light of the MHRD comments.
- BM 137.1.3** The Board also noted the Action Taken Reports and confirmed the Minutes of the 135<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting with the above observations / directions.
- ITEM NO. 2 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF 136<sup>TH</sup> MEETING (EMERGENT) OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON AUGUST 08, 2019 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN REPORT THEREON**
- BM 137.2.1** As the minutes had already been confirmed by the Board, the Board noted the action taken report on the minutes of 136<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.08.2019.
- ITEM NO. 3 TO REPORT THE AMENDMENTS TO CLAUSE (1)(V) OF STATUTE 6A OF THE IGNOU ACT MADE AS PER THE MHRD LETTER NO.F.5-29/2010-DL DT.17.09.2019 CONCERNING THE TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVT. OF INDIA ON THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**
- BM 137.3.1** The Board noted the approval accorded by the Visitor on the amendments to Clause (1)(v) of Statute 6A of the IGNOU Act, conveyed by the MHRD vide its letter No.F-29/2010-DL dt.17.9.2019.The Board further noted that the notification in this regard was issued on 24.9.2019. (**Appendix-2**)
- ITEM NO. 4 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL UNDER CLAUSE (1) (IV) OF STATUTE 9 OF THE UNIVERSITY**
- BM 137.4.1** The Item was taken up for consideration. The Board authorized the Vice Chancellor to nominate the members on the Academic Council of the University under Clause (1)(iv) of Statute 9 of the IGNOU Act.

**ITEM NO. 5 TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST OF PROF. GAYATRI KANSAL, PROFESSOR MECHANICAL ENGG., SOET FOR VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT FROM THE SERVICES OF THE UNIVERSITY**

**BM 137.5.1** The Board was informed that Prof. Gayatri Kansal had applied for voluntary retirement in December 2018. At that time, she had not completed her age of fifty five years and she had requested to waive off the three month notice period. However, during the course of time, she has attained the age of 55 years and served under three months notice period. It was further informed that Prof. Gayatri Kansal had already filed W. P. No. 750/2017 before Hon'ble Delhi High Court regarding her issue of conversion of Extra Ordinary Leave to Child Care Leave from 03.08.2009 to 30.09.2010. The W.P. does not have any material effect bearing on the VRS application but it may lead to some difference on pensionary benefits. The University had also sought a legal opinion in the matter which suggests that "Prof. Gayatri Kansal's application for VRS may be allowed since it complies with aforesaid rule FR 56(k) stipulations and her services may be terminated from the date of passing of the order in that respect. It was proposed that Prof. Kansal's pension should be determined in accordance of Section 2 "Pension" of Statutes of University without taking into consideration the period from 03.08.2009 to 30.09.2010 (period to convert from EOL into CCL) in service and a condition may be put in the retirement order stating that the change in amount of pensionary benefits, if any, is subject to the outcome of W.P. No. 750/2017."

**BM 137.5.2** After deliberations, the Board approved the request of Prof Gayatri Kansal for Voluntary retirement (VRS) as proposed under 56(k).

**ITEM NO. 6 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR IN APPOINTMENT/GIVING CHARGE OF DIRECTORS OF SCHOOLS/UNIT**

**BM 137.6.1** The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in appointment/giving charge of Directorship of following Schools/ Units to the following Teachers/Academics as per details given below:

#	Name of the Teacher/Academic	School/Unit	Period of Appointment/ Charge given
1.	Prof. Shatrughna Kumar	School of Humanities (SOH)	22.07.2019 to 30.09.2019
2.	Prof. K. Ravi Sankar	School of Management Studies (SOMS)	05.08.2019 to 04.08.2022

3.	Prof. D. Venkateshwarlu	School of Education (SOE)	01.08.2019 to 31.07.2022
4.	Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya	School of Inter-Disciplinary and Trans-Disciplinary Studies (SOITS)	04.08.2019 to 03.08.2022
5.	Dr. Bijayalaxmi Mishra	Research Unit	14.08.2019 to till further orders.
6.	Prof. Neera Singh	School of Humanities (SOH)	01.10.2019 to 30.09.2022

**ITEM NO. 7 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN ACCEPTING THE REQUEST OF DR. SIBU G NETTO, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, RC THIRUVANANTHAPURAM TO RELIEVE HIM WITH LIEN FOR TWO YEARS TO ENABLE HIM TO JOIN AS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY, KOTTAYAM, KERALA**

**BM 137.7.1** The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in accepting the request of Dr. Siblu G Netto, Assistant Director, RC Thiruvananthapuram to relieve him with lien for two years to join as Assistant Professor in Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala.

**ITEM NO. 8 TO RATIFY THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE UNIVERSITY IN IMPLEMENTING THE DECISION OF HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF DELHI W.R.T. WRIT PETITION CIVIL NO. 7697 OF 2016 FILED BY DR M. RAJAMANNAR, THE THEN PRODUCER (SELECTION GRADE), AND NOW DY. DIRECTOR, IGNOU**

**BM 137.8.1** The Board ratified the decision taken in implementing the decision of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in respect of Writ Petition Civil No.7697 of 2016 filed by Dr. M. Rajamannar, Dy Director.

**ITEM NO. 9 TO CONSIDER THE SYLLABUS FOR WRITTEN TEST FOR THE POSTS OF ASSISTANT REGISTRAR AND SECURITY OFFICER IN THE UNIVERSITY**

**BM 137.9.1** The Board was apprised that the written test syllabus of the Delhi University for the post of Assistant Registrar (Group-A) was recommended by the Committee constituted and the same was considered by the 77<sup>th</sup> Establishment committee which was duly ratified by the Board of Management in its 135<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 19.7.2019. In this regard, the efforts were made to fill up the position of Assistant Registrars under direct recruitment through

the National Testing Agency (NTA) under MHRD. However, the NTA had expressed its inability to conduct such open recruitment exams for the purpose of appointments. The University approached the EdCIL (India) Ltd. under MHRD to conduct such exams based on the past experience as it had earlier conducted such written tests for various posts under direct recruitment on behalf of the University. Accordingly, the EdCIL had submitted its proposal which is under active consideration by the University. As per their proposal, it was informed that they conduct such exams based on the Computer Based Test (CBT) having the Objective type question papers. In view of this, the Committee as referred to above, re-visited the syllabus and modified the same into the Objective type mode only. The Committee also modified the existing syllabus of written test for the post of Security Officer (Group-A) having the both components of Objective & subjective have been clubbed into the Objective type questions only. These modified written test syllabi for the posts of Assistant Registrar and Security Officer were placed before the Board for consideration.

**BM 137.9.2** The Board after detailed deliberations, considered and approved the following for implementation:

- (i) Revised written test syllabus for the post of Assistant Registrar. As regards the negative marking 0.25%, due to a typographical error, this may be read as 0.25. (**Appendix-3**).
- (ii) Revised written test syllabus for the post of Security Officer. As regards the negative marking 0.25%, due to a typographical error, this may be read as 0.25. (**Appendix-4**).
- (iii) Weightage of written test and Interview for the above mentioned posts will be 85% and 15% respectively.
- (iv) The University may hire the services EdCIL (India) Ltd. under MHRD for conduct of written tests for the posts of Assistant Registrar and Security Officer under direct recruitment.

**ITEM NO. 10 TO CONSIDER THE EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE PRESCRIBED FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR, COMPUTER DIVISION IN THE UNIVERSITY**

**BM 137.10.1** As per the suggestions of the 135<sup>th</sup> BOM, the qualifications for the post of Director, Computer Division has been finalized with the help of Prof. S,G, Deshmukh and Prof. K.K. Aggarwal, BOM members and accordingly, the same was placed before the Board

for consideration. The Board perused the same and suggested that the words 'at a senior level' mentioned in the last lines of both paragraphs under 'Essential Qualifications' is not required and be deleted.

**BM 137.10.2** Accordingly, the following qualifications for the post of Director, Computer Division is considered and approved.

**Essential:**

*Ph.D in Computer Science/Computer Applications/Computer Engineering/Computer Science and Engineering Information Technology with at least 55% of the Marks at Masters' Degree level; and at least 10 years of experience as Assistant Professor/Assistant Director/Equivalent in the Academic Level 11 and above or administrative and technical experience in area of ICT applications of at least 10 years.*

**OR**

*MCA/M.Tech in Computer Science/Computer Science and Engineering/Information Technology with at least 55% marks and administrative and technical experience in area of ICT applications of at least 15 years.*

**BM 137.10.3** The appointment to the post of Director, Computer Division will be made on deputation for the period of 05 years extendable upto two years. The Director will be also be eligible for reappointment for another term of 5 years. No minimum age for applying to this post is being kept. Maximum age for applying to this post will be 55 years. The maximum age till which a person can hold the post will be 62 years. This is in line with DoPT order of 2016 wherein deputation is allowed for 5+2 years. Thus the maximum age at the time of application is kept at 55 years.

- ITEM NO. 11** (A) TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOGNITION OF OVERSEAS STUDY CENTRE AT CLASCMA INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTRE, SINGAPORE
- (B) TO RATIFY THE SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) WITH ONE NEWLY ESTABLISHED/RECOGNIZED OVERSEAS STUDY CENTRE AT EMIRATES PROFESSIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE, SHARJAH

- BM 137.11.1** (A) The Board perused the relevant documents placed with the agenda regarding recognition of new Overseas Study Centre at Clascma International Education & Research Centre, Singapore of the International Division and observed that this should be referred back to the International Division for thorough review.
- (B) The Board noted that as per the approval of the Visitor conveyed by the MHRD vide its letter No.5-28/ 2014-DL(pt.) dated 11.02.2019 for recognition of fourteen institutions as Overseas Study Centres of the University, the MoA has been signed with one more institution ie, Emirates Professional Training Institute, Sharjah on 01.08.2019. The Board ratified the same.

**ITEM NO. 12 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2018-19**

**BM 137.12.1** Director, Planning & Development Division (P&DD) was invited to present salient features of the Annual Report briefly. It was informed that the Annual Report of the University for the year 2018-19 has been prepared in line with the seven parameters of NAAC.

**BM 137.12.2** The Board approved the Annual Report of the University for the Financial Year 2018-19 and authorized the University to submit the same to the Ministry for placing before both the Houses of Parliament, as required under Section 28, read with provision under Statute 25 of the IGNOU Act.

**ITEM NO. 13 TO CONSIDER THE MHRD AND CVC OMS REGARDING ISSUES RELATED TO DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST DR. ANITA PRIYADARSHINI, FORMER JOINT DIRECTOR, NIOS AND PRESENTLY ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, STRIDE, IGNOU AND ISSUANCE OF VIGILANCE CLEARANCE**

**BM 137.13.1** Director, Academic Coordination Division was invited to explain this item. It was informed that while Dr Anita Priyadarshini was working as Director, DEPSSA, IGNOU on deputation basis, she was selected as Reader, STRIDE. On a matter related working with NIOS, prior to her joining IGNOU, a charge sheet was issued by NIOS to her. Since her term of deputation got over, she directly joined the post of Reader without relieving order from NIOS. She

was allowed to join the post provisionally subject to production of proper relieving Order from NIOS within a month. She had filed a Writ petition No. 7853/2011 in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. On the directions of the Court, IGNOU extended the date of submission of relieving Order. The Writ petition was finally disposed off by Hon'ble High Court with a detailed Order touching upon the aspect of her employment with IGNOU, and relieving by NIOS.

The Board was further informed that a complaint regarding appointment of Dr Anita Priyadarshini as Director, DEPSSA and Reader STRIDE was forwarded by CVC. The CVC vide O.M. No 012/EDN/109/404979 dated 02.01.2019 had advised CVO, MHRD to carry out detailed investigation into the allegations relating to irregularity in appointment of Dr. Anita Priyadarshini at IGNOU. Accordingly, an Enquiry was conducted by MHRD through a Committee. The report of the Committee was forwarded by MHRD to the CVC for advice in the matter. In reply CVC vide O.M. No. 012/EDN/109/431065 & 430843 both dated 30.08.2019 informed that the case has been examined in detail by the Central Vigilance Commission and accordingly vide letter F.No. 13012/1/2019-Vig. dated 6.9.2019 ,the Vigilance Section, MHRD had advised CVO, IGNOU to enquire into all aspects of complaint received against Dr. Anita Priyadarshini.

The MHRD vide aforementioned letter has inter-alia advised IGNOU to take necessary action for reviewing the Recruitment Rules and to put in place an SOP for the recruitment process for various posts in IGNOU, and also take necessary action in compliance of CVC's advise in time bound manner for conducting detailed investigation and furnishing report/ First Stage Advice proposal as indicated in the aforesaid letter is complied with.

It was further informed that the Vice Chancellor had constituted a Committee to prepare the relevant details with respect to the letter of MHRD F.No. 13012/1/2019-Vig. dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The Report of the Committee was placed before the Board for perusal.

**BM 137.13.2** Based on the Report of the Committee constituted by the Vice chancellor as referred to above, the Board directed that the detailed report on the issues raised by the CVC in respect of the selection process for the post of Project Director, DEP-SSA be submitted to CVC. The Board authorized the Vice Chancellor/Chairman, BOM to submit the report to CVC on the matter.

**ITEM NO. 14 TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKS COMMITTEE, STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE BOM MADE IN ITS 73<sup>RD</sup> MEETING HELD ON 10.10.2019**

**BM 137.14.1** As per the BOM decision (vide its 98<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 14.01.2009 vide Resolution No.98.5.2), the delegation of financial powers with the Works Committee is upto Rs.5 crores. In view of this, the brief of the following matters which were taken up in 73<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Works Committee are placed before the Board of Management for consideration and approval :

**WC 73.16** : The Govt. of Kerala has allotted 1 acre of land free of cost on 30 years lease base on 31.01.2016 in Trivendrum. The CPWD has submitted the estimate cost of **Rs.17,48,93,000** for construction of ground plus one structure for an area 2263 sqr. mtrs. of built up area. The proposal is under consideration of MHRD for HEFA loan.

**WC 73.17** : The Administration of Andaman and Nicobar island has allotted the 0.2 hectors of land free of cost situated at Lambaline village under Port Blair Tahsil on 13.05.2015. The construction of boundary wall was already completed by CPWD. The CPWD has submitted its estimate of **Rs.6,93,03,200** for basement plus ground floor for an area 746 sqr. Mtrs. with a future expansion provision for another two floors above the ground floor. The proposal is under consideration of MHRD for HEFA loan.

**The following matters which were also taken up and considered by the Works Committee are submitted before the BOM for information :**

**WC 73.20** : The Govt. of Gujrat has allotted 2.0 acre of land free of cost in year 2013. The construction of boundary wall was already completed by CPWD. The CPWD has submitted its estimate of **Rs.9.23 crores** for ground plus one floor for an area 1704.87 sqr. mtrs. for the construction of building of the Regional Centre, Rajkot. The proposal is under consideration of MHRD for HEFA loan.

**WC 73.21** : The municipal corporation of Pune has allotted the land of 1.83 acres in Balewadi at a cost of Rs.3.50 crore on lease for 30 years in 2013. The CPWD has submitted its estimate of Rs.13,60,07,000 earlier for ground plus three structure for an area

of 2896 sqr. mtr. and further submitted its revised estimate based on DPAR 2019 for an amount of **Rs.18,53,92,857**, the clarification regarding enhancement is being sought from the CPWD. The proposal is under consideration of MHRD for HEFA loan.

**WC 73.22** : The Govt. of Haryana has allotted the land of 7235.40 sqr. mtr. at Karnal at a cost of Rs.5.25 Crore in December 2007. The possession of land was given in October 2011. The boundary wall has been completed by CPWD. The Govt. of Haryana has taken back the land. On request from the university, permission was once again received to complete the work by HUDA to be accomplished by December 2020.

**WC 73.24** : M/s RITES Ltd. was engaged for the work of architectural-cum-PMC for the construction of administrative Blocks, extension of Academic Blocks etc. M/s RITES has obtained the statutorily approvals for construction of various buildings at IGNOU Campus, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi. The officials of M/s RITES Ltd. explained the complete project details in the aforesaid meeting of the Works Committee. After going through the project details, the Works Committee has approved the construction of buildings in A,B & D Blocks in first phase .This will require minimum tree cutting/re-plantation at site. The built up area would be 10,000 sqr. mtr. with the estimated cost of Rs.62.08 crores. The construction work is expected to be completed in two years. Simultaneously, M/s RITES Ltd. will take up the matter with concerned authorities for conversion of land use from Green Khasras to Institutional use (Educational) within two years which was allotted to IGNOU by Delhi Administration in second lease deed.

**BM 137.14.2** The Board considered and approved the proposals under WC.73.16 and 73.17. For the remaining proposals, the board noted the details (**Appendix-5**).

**ITEM NO. 15 TO CONSIDER THE MHRD LETTER NO.5-19/2016-DL DATED 20.09.2019 REGARDING SWITCHOVER FROM CPF TO GPF BY SOME OF THE EMPLOYEES OF IGNOU**

**BM 137.15.1** The Chairman referred the MHRD's letter No.5-19/2016-DL dated 20.9.2019 regarding switchover from CPF to GPF by some of the employees of IGNOU, which was placed before the BOM for information. (**Appendix-6**). The Board noted that the MHRD has

mentioned the letter No.25(4)/E-V/2018(Pt.) dated 22.08.2019 of the Deptt. of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance advising that the issue of conversion of CPF to GPF-cum-Pension in case of some of the employees {number of employees (43 or 46) to be verified} of IGNOU is to be dealt with strictly as per the IGNOU Act, 1985 and the Statute made there under without any deviation/relaxation whatsoever. It was also clarified that no additional financial allocation will be made by the central government and IGNOU has to bear the implications and decide as per the powers available to them.

**BM 137.15.2** The Board directed the University to take necessary action in the matter strictly as per the advice of the MHRD letter dated 20.09.2019, as referred to above.

**ITEM NO. 16 TO CONSIDER THE PARA 1.6 OF THE EQUIP REPORT FOR IGNOU**

**BM 137.16.1** The Chairman while taking up this matter invited the Heads of the Operational Divisions viz., Director (RSD), Director (COE), Registrar (SRD), Registrar (SED) and the Finance Officer. They were introduced to the BOM members. The Joint Secretary, MHRD presented a brief of the Para 1.6 of the EQUIP Report for IGNOU. It was informed that Para 1.6 of the IQUIP report recommends strategies to increase penetration of Open Distance Learning through creation of Learner Support Centres (LSCs) to expand the students base. The aim is to cover almost all the 3500 educationally backward blocks and 11 educationally backward districts with at least one ODL Study Centre by the year 2024. For a GER of 40, the target is to enroll 1.53 crore SC/ST students into Higher Education by 2024 with financial assistance upto Rs.30,000/- per student per year. The ICT infrastructure at IGNOU needs to be upgraded in order to support additional 150 lakhs students added through ODL by the year 2024. It was further informed that the report also suggested that students should be given an opportunity to work whenever workforce is required to increase attractiveness of students in the Higher Education system.

**BM 137.16.2** The Joint Secretary urged the University to take necessary steps to achieve the goal as early as possible in this regard. Prof. V.S. Prasad, Member appreciated the initiative taken by the MHRD in this regard and suggested that efforts should also be made to increase the access to the distance mode for students especially for

weaker sections and women. The Board also suggested that the University should also launch new courses especially the Professional courses to attract the students to take admission in the ODL institutions.

**BM 137.16.3** The Board deliberated the matter at length and decided to constitute a committee to have the action plan of IGNOU regarding adoption of para 1.6 of the EQUIP Report in the University. A copy of para 1.6 of the EQUIP Report is placed at **Appendix-7**.

**ITEN NO.23 TO REPORT THE ACTION PLANS OF IGNOU IN RESPECT TO THE DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE MEETING AT MHRD ON 10.08.2019**

**BM 137.23.1** This Item was taken up ahead of the remaining agenda items as this item also needs the participation of the Heads of the Operational Divisions as that of Item No.16. The Board was informed that a Review meeting was held in the MHRD on 10.8.2019 on Online IGNOU programmes. The decisions taken during the meeting were conveyed to the University by MHRD on 21.8.2019 (**Appendix-8**). The University sent its compliance report on 30.8.2019 to the MHRD (**Appendix-9**). The Ministry while reviewing the progress of ODL/Online programmes with special reference to IGNOU further conveyed certain decisions taken by it on 06.09.2019 (**Appendix-10**). The University also sent its actionable plans on the progress of the ODL/Online programmes in the University to the Ministry vide its letter dt.30.9.2019 (**Appendix-11**).

**BM 137.23.2** The Chairman apprised the Board about the progress made and future action plan proposed by the University. The report in respect of Grievance Redressal of students through IGNOU Portal is being reported to the MHRD on monthly basis. The SAMARTH Project is taking care of the process of recruitment, admission, and now looking towards finance. It was further informed that the 9 study centres in Delhi are willing to dispatch the study material to the students. The efforts are also being made to identify the Printing Press who can take the responsibility of sorting the study material. Director, RSD also briefed about the installation of CCTVs at 20 Study Centres with high enrolments and biometric system is to be installed for the attendance of Counsellors and the students. The Regional Centres will monitor all such activities at their respective Regional Centres.

**BM 137.23.3** The Board noted the above developments and proposed action plans.

**ITEM NO. 17 STRENGTHENING OF ADMINISTRATION – PERIODIC REVIEW OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES UNDER FUNDAMENTAL RULE (FR) 56(J)/(L) AND RULE 48 OF CCS (PENSION) RULES, 1972 AND ADOPTION THEREOF IN THE UNIVERSITY**

**BM 137.17.1** The Board perused the OM No.25013/3/2019-Estt.A-IV dated 20.6.2019 of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training, Govt. of India and its enclosures regarding the periodic review of Central Government employees for strengthening of administration under FR 56(j) and Rule 48 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972. The Board opined that the above guidelines be also adopted in the University.

**ITEM NO. 18 TO CONSIDER THE INQUIRY REPORT IN THE CASE OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

**BM 137.18.1** The Board was informed that the Office of the Vice Chancellor had received a complaint of sexual harassment on 22.7.2019 from a Research Scholar (complainant) against a faculty member (defendant). The complaint was immediately referred to the IGNOU Committee Against Sexual Harassment (ICASH) for investigation in the matter. Based on the gravity of the complaint and deliberations regarding the case, the ICASH was of the view that an inquiry into the complaint be initiated in accordance with the relevant rules. The Chairperson, ICASH submitted the Inquiry Report on 12.09.2019.

The Report of the ICASH was presented to the BOM.

**BM 137.18.2** The Board after detailed deliberations, decided as under :

- (i) The ICASH may ensure that due procedures are followed for enquiry.
- (ii) A copy of the Inquiry Report of ICASH after finalization/review by it, is to be provided to both the Complainant and the Defendant for their response.
- (iii) The Board of Management, in exercise of powers conferred by Sub-Rule (1) of Rule 10 of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules 1965 and keeping in view the provision under Statute 19 of Statutes of the University under IGNOU Act, 1985 decided to place Prof. C.R.K. Murthy under suspension with immediate effect till further orders and attach him to the STRIDE. It was further decided that during the period that

this Order shall remain in force, his headquarters will be New Delhi and he shall not leave the Headquarters without obtaining prior permission. This Order be issued by the Cadre Controlling Division i.e. Academic Coordination Division.

The Board confirmed this Item and directed to take necessary action in this regard immediately.

The Part-Minutes has been issued on 16.10.2019.

**ITEM NO. 19 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE:**

- (A) SHARING OF SELF LEARNING MATERIALS OF IGNOU WITH OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES ONLY THROUGH BULK PURCHASE AS PER IPR POLICY OF IGNOU APPROVED BY BOM (BM 119.19.1) IN NOVEMBER 2013; AND**
- (B) TO WITHDRAW EXISTING MOU ON SHARING OF SLMS AND SIGN A REVISED MOU WITH SUCH UNIVERSITIES/INSTITUTIONS HAVING DEB-UGC APPROVAL FOR OFFER OF ODL PROGRAMMES**

**BM 137.19.1**

- (A) It was informed that the IGNOU had signed MOUs with State Open Universities and other Universities from time to time for sharing of Self Learning Materials (SLMs) for launching the respective ODL programmes. In consonance with the IPR Policy, 2013, it was proposed to share the SLMs only through bulk purchase on IGNOU prescribed rates subject to certain conditions.
- (B) The Board was informed that the study materials of IGNOU were shared with various institutions based on the MOUs signed from time to time. This is affecting our enrolment adversely. It was also informed that these materials are being subletted further to other institutions without the consent of the University as a result the aspirant students enrolled themselves in such other institutions and are using the IGNOU study material without any MOU.. In this connection, it was informed that no royalty about using IGNOU study material is being paid to the University.

**BM 137.19.2**

The Board took a view that any university (SOU included) is in the business of generating knowledge and use that to teach its students. If it cannot develop its own text for its own routine graduate and post graduate programmes, its status as a university is

*(Revised by the Board in its 139<sup>th</sup> Meeting, as per the comment received from the Member)*

questionable. It thus cannot survive long term on the borrowed knowledge of other education institutions. Thus Board took a very serious view and directed that the existing MOUs are to be withdrawn immediately and in future the sharing of study material of the University be avoided with other universities/institutions which may be decided on case-to-case basis, keeping in view the university IPR and OER policies and interests of IGNOU.

**ITEM NO. 20 TO CONSIDER THE MATTER RELATING TO CONDUCT OF DR. B RAJAGOPAL, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, IGNOU**

**BM 137.20.1** The Board was informed that Dr. B. Rajgopal was appointed as Regional Director and posted at RC, Ahmedabad. The staff of RC, Ahmedabad made complaints of harassment, causing mental torture etc. by Dr. Rajgopal. Accordingly, a Committee was constituted to look into the matter and its report was placed before the BOM at its 109<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 27.08.2011 and BOM directed the matter be dealt administratively. He was transferred to RC, Hyderabad on 7.7.2010 and again complaints were received from the staff of RC, Hyderabad against Dr. Rajgopal. One more Committee was constituted in this regard and found that there was no visible change in the behavior and conduct of Dr. Rajgopal and he was asked to submit the explanations in this regard which were contradictory to the reports of both the Committees. Further, he was transferred to RSD hqrs. in Sept., 2012 and further transferred to RC, Vijayawada in January, 2014 on his request. The University based on the legal opinion in Dec., 2016 transferred him to RSD in March, 2017. Further, he was again transferred to RC, Koraput in July, 2017, his present place of posting. The University again received a few complaints against him from the staff of RC, Koraput. To enquire the matter, a Committee has recently been constituted. The Enquiry Reports and the legal opinion sought in the matter were placed before the BOM for information.

**BM 137.20.2** The Board noted the above and directed that a Charge sheet against Dr. B. Rajagopal, Regional Director be placed before the next meeting of the BOM.

**ITEM NO.21 TO CONSIDER THE LETTER RECEIVED FROM CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSION (CVC) TO INITIATE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST DR V P RUPAM, THE THEN REGIONAL DIRECTOR, RANCHI REGARDING IRREGULARITIES REPORTED AT PSC-**

**0534, SWAMI VIVEKANAND SEVA TRUST,  
JAMSHEDPUR**

**BM 137.21.1**

The Board directed to initiate the disciplinary proceedings against Dr. V.P. Rupam as per the directions of the CVC.

**ITEN NO.22**

**TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE ORDINANCE FOR CAREER ADVANCEMENT SCHEME OF TEACHERS AND ORDINANCE FOR CAREER ADVANCEMENT SCHEME OF ACADEMICS INCLUDING LIBRARIAN OF IGNOU BASED ON “UGC REGULATIONS ON MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT OF TEACHERS AND OTHER ACADEMIC STAFF IN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AND MEASURES FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS IN HIGHER EDUCATION, 2018”**

**BM 137.22.1**

The brief details regarding the Ordinance for Career Advancement Scheme of Teachers and Ordinance for Career Advancement Scheme of Academics including Librarian of IGNOU based on ‘UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2018’ are presented before the Board. It was also informed that these ordinances were prepared in tune with the UGC instructions and UGC regulations 2018.

**BM 137.22.2**

After deliberations, the Board approved the Ordinance for Career Advancement Scheme of Teachers and Ordinance for Career Advancement Scheme of Academics including Librarian of IGNOU based on ‘UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2018’.

**BM137.22.3**

The Board further directed to forward the Ordinances to the MHRD for consideration by the Visitor. **(Appendix-12)**

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

**(Nageshwar Rao)**  
Chairman