

MINUTES OF THE 146th MEETING (EMERGENT) OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON JANUARY 10, 2022 AT 11.30 A.M. IN THE VIRTUAL MODE

The following were present:

1.	Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice-Chancellor	- Chairman
2.	Prof. R.P. Das, Pro-Vice Chancellor	- Member
3.	Shri Mrutyunjay Behera, EA (HE) & Jt. Secretary, MOE	- Nominee, Secretary, MOE
4.	Prof. V.S. Prasad	- Member
5.	Prof. S.G. Deshmukh	- Member
6.	Prof. K.K. Aggarwal	- Member
7.	Prof. Subha Sankar Sarkar	- Member
8.	Dr. P. Prakash	- Member
9.	Prof. S K Yadav	- Member
10.	Prof. Jitendra Kr. Srivastava	- Member
11.	Dr. Bharat Bhushan	- Member
	Dr. V.B. Negi, Registrar, Admn.(I/c)	- Secretary

The Secretary (Information & Broadcasting), Shri Ashok Bhagat and Shri Atul Kantilal Nishar, Members could not attend the meeting. The meeting was conducted through virtual mode.

Prof. Satyakam, Prof. Uma Kanjilal and Prof. Sumitra Kukreti, Pro-Vice Chancellors attended the meeting as Special Invitees.

At the outset, Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU and the Chairman of the Board welcomed all the members. He informed that Shri Vineet Joshi, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education has taken over the affairs of the University. The Chairman welcomed him and sought his guidance and valuable support in the University activities. He also welcomed Shri Mrutyunjay Behera, who would now be monitoring all the Central Universities including IGNOU.

The Chairman further informed that the Emergent meeting of the Board of Management was convened to consider the matters regarding the inquiry report related to leakage of the confidential papers, reporting the implementation of

IGNOU & MSDE collaboration under SANKALP Project and the recommendations of the Selection Committee meetings for certain non-teaching Group-A posts.

Thereafter, the following agenda items were presented by the Secretary before the Board.

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEES FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF DIRECTOR (COMPUTER DIVISION), DEPUTY REGISTRAR ETC. ON DIRECT RECRUITMENT BASIS

BM 146.1.1 The recommendations of the Selection Committee meetings for recruitment to the post of Director (Compute Division), Deputy Registrar etc. on direct recruitment basis were placed before the Board by the Chairman. The Board approved the recommendations, as per details given below.

Dates of Meeting	Positions	Name of the Candidate selected	Remarks
17.12.2021	Appointment to the post of Director, Computer Division in the PB-4 G.P. 10000/- (Rs.1,44,200-2,18,200 in Level-14 of 7 th CPC)	Dr. Manish Bhardwaj <u>Waiting List:</u> 1. Prof. B.K. Tripathi 2. Dr. M.M. Rao	As per rules
20.12.2021 & 21.12.2021	Appointment to the post of Deputy Registrars (UR-05, SC-01, OBC-01) in Level-12 of 7 th CPC	<u>UR:</u> 1. Sh. Nikhil Kant 2. Sh. Puneet Goel 3. Sh. Santosh Kumar Tripathi 4. Sh. Moti Chand Prasad 5. Sh. Martand Pratap <u>Waiting List:</u> 1. Sh. Kamal Kant Sahay 2. Sh.S.P. Raut 3. Ms. Akansha Sharma 4. Sh.Abrar Ahmad 5. Ms.Renu Tomar 6. Sh.Tikendra Prakash Singh	

		7. Sh.Pushendra Kr. Singh 8. Sh.Rajiv Sharma <u>SC:</u> Sh. Kamaldeep Singh Bhatia <u>Waiting List:</u> 1. Sh.Sanjeev Kr. Verma 2. Sh. Harsh Kapoor <u>OBC:</u> 1. Sh. Anand Kr. Soni <u>Waiting List:</u> 1. Sh. Ashish Patidar 2. Sh. Gajula Ashok	
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The Board confirmed this Item for implementation and directed to issue the Part-Minutes in this regard.

ITEM NO. 2 TO CONSIDER THE COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM PROF. DEBAL K. SINGHARROY ON INQUIRY REPORT RELATED TO LEAKAGE OF THE CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS

BM 146.2.1 The item was taken up for consideration. It was informed that the University had received complaint in the year 2015 regarding leakage of confidential letters related to an Inquiry. In the complaint, it was alleged that the leakage had the involvement of the then Director (ACD), Prof. Debal K. Singha Roy. A two member Committee was constituted on 11.09.2015 by the Vice Chancellor to find out the facts relating to leakage of the confidential letters. The Committee submitted its report on 13.01.2016 and the findings of the Committee were placed before the Board of Management in its 125th meeting held on 23.07.2016. The Board had considered the recommendations and also discussed various technicalities in respect of the Committee's observations on the then Vice Chancellor and resolved to seek the comments of the erstwhile Director, ACD on the report.

In this meeting, the Board was informed that the comments have been received from Prof. Debal K. Singha Roy, then Director, ACD on the Report of the Inquiry Committee, which were shared with the Board Members.

BM 146.2.2 The Board observed that the enquiry report was not conclusive. The complaint received in 2015 has lost its relevance as the visitorial enquiry against the then Vice-Chancellor has been completed and subsequently, the ministry has also closed that enquiry.

BM 146.2.3 After detailed deliberations, the Board resolved that the complaint made against the then Director (ACD), Prof. Debal K. Singha Roy be closed.

ITEM NO. 3 TO REPORT THE PROPOSAL FOR IGNOU AND MSDE COLLABORATION UNDER SANKALP PROJECT FOR CAPACITY BUILDING OF OFFICIALS WORKING UNDER STATE SKILL DEVELOPMENT MISSION AND DISTRICT SKILL COMMITTEES (INCLUDING A MOU)

BM 146.3.1 The Board was informed that the University has signed an MOU with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) for capacity building of officials working under the State Skill Development Mission and District Skill Committees under the SANKALP Project on 22.11.2021. The MSDE has approved a budget of Rs.10,43,57,000/- for IGNOU to act as knowledge partner in imparting training in a blended mode. A core group of teachers and academics of IGNOU would act as Master Trainers who would be trained by MSDE to impart training to 400 TOTs who shall further train 4000 district officials. The training programme shall be offered in a modular form using IGNOU model with total 16 credit programme offered at Certificate level. The grass root level training programmes shall be conducted by the Regional Centres (RCs) and modules would be developed after need assessment, to be conducted by RCs. IGNOU will develop the training content keeping in view the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) stipulated by MSDE and the target date of completion of the Project by IGNOU is 31.3.2023.

The Board was further informed that the University has set up a

Steering Committee for monitoring the implementation of the Project under the Chairpersonship of Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Satyakam. The University has also constituted core teams on various aspects related to implementation of the Project and also the Programme Inception Report from IGNOU has been submitted to the MSDE on 21.12.2021.

BM 146.3.2 The Board appreciated the proposal of collaboration between IGNOU and MSDE under SANKALP Project for capacity building of officials working under State Skill Development Mission and District Skill Development. Prof. V.S. Prasad, Member suggested that experts available during the skill development can also be effectively used by IGNOU Schools of Studies. Prof. K.K. Aggarwal also suggested to add the multiplicity of courses in these training programmes. The Chairman welcomed the suggestions and also informed that the University is also working on another proposal of the Ministry to build strong association with ITIs/Polytechnics.

BM 146.3.3 The Board noted the details of proposal and expressed its happiness on signing of MOU with Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

ITEM NO. 4 TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF SCREENING CUM EVALUATION COMMITTEES AND SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR PROMOTIONS OF TEACHERS AND ACADEMICS UNDER CAREER ADVANCEMENT SCHEME (CAS)

BM 146.4.1 The item was deferred.

ITEM NO. 5 ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

Prof. V.S. Prasad presented following suggestions for academic development of the University:

- i) The University should develop Micro Credential system regarding courses on offer to make ODL system more accessible to students. The University may also evolve a system to open course-wise admission to get substantial increase in student enrolment. This will also generate more

resources for the University.

- ii) MOOCs for capacity development of staff may be encouraged. This may be an online course aiming at unlimited participation and open access. The course may comprise widely researched content on developments in open and distance education and should also be extensively used for capacity development of staff in the University.

The Board appreciated the suggestions and the Chairperson assured the Board that the University will take suitable initiatives in this regard. The Board was also informed that the university is already having a system of Micro Credentials.

After completing the agenda items, the Chairman, with the permission of the Board, felicitated the following six outgoing BOM members whose term of membership would be expiring in the month of January 2022.

1. Prof. V.S. Prasad
2. Prof. S.G. Deshmukh
3. Padma Shri Ashok Bhagat
4. Shri Atul Kantilal Nishar
5. Padma Shri Dharendra Nath Bazboruah
6. Dr. P. Prakash

The Chairman informed that Shri Dharendra Nath Bazboruah had already resigned the membership one year back due to personal reasons. He further informed that during the tenure of the above distinguished members on the Board of Management, 14 meetings of the Board i.e. from 133rd to 146th meeting were conducted. During this period, the University *inter alia* undertook the following major activities/initiatives:

- The University was exempted from the application of the University Grants Commission ODL Regulations, 2017 and the University Grants Commission Online Regulations 2018.
- The University was awarded A++ Grading from the NAAC team.
- The MOE extended software support facilities under SAMARTH portal, which helped the university to strengthen technology support base.

- Appointments against teaching posts were started, rosters were recast and appointments in first phase were successfully completed for various teaching and academic posts.
- The University obtained the approval of the Hon'ble President of India as Visitor of the University for the Ordinances on Career Advancement Schemes of teachers and academics under 6th and 7th CPC based UGC Regulations 2010 and 2018, respectively. Further, Research Ordinance for offering Ph.D programmes in the University was also approved by the Visitor.
- The construction work of buildings at 10 Regional Centres (for which land had already been acquired earlier) has been initiated.
- International operations have been strengthened leading to opening/recognition of several Centres across several countries.
- During both the Covid waves, the University continued to function well and reshaped its operations further by adopting technology driven solutions in all its activities: teaching- learning, programme design and development; research, assessment and evaluation; administration; finance; governance; staff development; admissions; learner support; academic counselling; quality enhancement; etc.
- For the first time, the University started teaching through channels in 13 Regional Languages for BA Programme from January 2022.
- The University started/offering 30 new online courses. The number of SWAYAM courses increased from 21 to 151 on SWAYAM Portal.
- The University was ranked 2nd position in Swachhta Abhiyan.
- The University developed a dynamic Alumni portal to interact with its Alumni. Within months of launch, around 16000, alumni have already registered with the University so far.
- The University has 74.1k followers on Twitter, 72.4k on face-book and around 19.3k on Instagram. University also has 2668 pages of Digi News in the year to cover all its major activities.

- The University secured 1st rank in the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievement (ARIIA) 2021 from MOE, Govt. of India.
- There has been a substantial increase in number of ODL programmes and courses launched. A good number of programmes at undergraduate, post graduate, diploma and certificate levels have also been either launched afresh or revised. The viewership and downloading of IGNOU's digital course material has also increased manifold.
- There has been a substantial increase in enrolment for fresh admissions and re-registration year after year.

The Chairman thanked all the outgoing members and appreciated their contributions made during their tenure of last three years. He further sought their continued support and guidance in the future endeavors of the University.

The Chairman then invited other BOM members for their views on the contributions made by the outgoing members. All the members present in the meeting including Prof. K K Aggarwal, Shri Mrutyunjay Behera and the four Pro-Vice Chancellors expressed their respects and regards by narrating their vision, specific strategic advices, valuable guidance etc. Their human touch, positivity and the wisdom have immensely benefitted in the growth path of this People's University. For every initiative, activity and effort of the University, the overwhelming support and contribution of all the outgoing members was acknowledged and was also put on record.

All the outgoing members thanked the Chairman of the Board and all IGNOU fraternity for such an innovative way to felicitate the outgoing members of BOM. They strongly opined that IGNOU has a big name and great distinction in ODL system. They have also shared their memoirs on various achievements of the University and appreciated the Vice Chancellor and his whole team for their sincere efforts in overall development and growth of the University.

In the end, the Vice Chancellor and Chairman, Board, on behalf of entire IGNOU family complemented the hon'ble outgoing members and wished them for their healthy and peaceful life ahead.

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

(Nageshwar Rao)
Chairman