

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY THIRD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF TH
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD AT MAIDAN GARHI, NE
DELHI-110068 ON MAY 17, 1991 AT 10.30 HRS

The following were present :

1. Prof. V.C. Kulandai Swamy, V.C. - Chairman
2. Shri Anil Bordia
3. Prof. Ram G. Takwale
4. Prof. Sitanshu Mehta
5. Fr. T.V. Kunnunkal
6. Prof. (Mrs) Rajammal P. Devadas
7. Prof. D.D. Joshi
8. Dr. S. Kannan
9. Dr. S.N. Chaturvedi

Shri K. Narayanan, Registrar - Secretary

Shri Mahesh Prasad, Dr. Gurpreet Singh, Prof. Jamal A. Kidwai, Shri Nikhil Chakravartty, Dr. M.P. Parameswaran and Prof. B.N. Koul could not attend the meeting.

Prof. R.J. Garde, Pro-V.C. and Shri C.R. Pillai, Director (Planning and Teachers Affairs) attended the meeting as special invitees.

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

The following items were considered :

- ITEM NO 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 22ND MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD ON FEBRUARY 18, 1991 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON
- 23.1.1. The minutes of the twenty second meeting of the Board of Management held on February 18, 1991 were confirmed.
- 23.1.2. The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained the action taken on the minutes of the last meeting and stated that such of the items which require further consideration by the Board have been included in the agenda for the present meeting. These are:
- (1) Draft Statute for operationalisation of the provisions contained in Sections 4 and 5(2) of the IGNOU Act; and
 - (2) The recommendations of the Absorption Committees.
- 23.1.3. The Board noted the action taken on the minutes.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT ON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT : A REVIEW OF PROGRESS : PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

23.2.1.

The Vice-Chancellor made a presentation of the progress made by the University in the last five and a half years of its existence. The presentation covered all aspects of the working of the university : the academic programmes, student enrolment, support systems, and infrastructure.

23.2.2.

The Board discussed in some detail the academic programmes of the University, especially those which are currently under preparation. During the course of discussions, the following points were made :-

- (i) The Vice-Chancellor explained that the main endeavour of the University has been to initiate new programmes in professional fields, especially those in which the conventional universities are not offering any significant programmes, or those which could be models for other universities/institutes of correspondence courses etc. Some of these programmes are in the areas of Water Resources Management, Construction Management, Nursing and Teacher Education.
- (ii) The University has decided in principle that its programmes will be offered on a course-wise basis. Accordingly, in most of the new programmes, it would be open to any prospective student to register for any course or a combination of courses of his/her choice, and depending upon his/her needs, complete a certificate, diploma or degree as the case may be.
- (iii) The strategy of course-wise registration and the modular structure of programmes would enable a large number of serving personnel to pursue continuing education programmes which are relevant to their professional improvement as well as their career advancement.
- (iv) It was necessary that, as a long term strategy, the University should consider the methods for identification of learner groups, determination of programme areas and other relevant details for initiating new programmes.

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(v) It would be desirable if these strategies and approaches for the future programmes are also discussed by the Board so that members can express their views and offer their suggestions to enable the University to formulate its academic programmes.

(vi) As for the proposal to launch a B.Ed. programme, it was pointed out that a comprehensive legislation on teacher education programmes is on the anvil, and, therefore, it would be advisable if further action for launching the B.Ed. programme is deferred till the enactment of the proposed legislation. Vice-Chancellor informed that the programme contemplated is essentially in the nature of continuing education for in-service candidates and will present the programme to the Board with the objectives and approaches in detail.

23.2.3

The Board took note of the report of the Vice-Chancellor. The report, after making certain corrections in the statistical data, is taken on record.

ITEM NO 3

TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT STATUTE FOR OPERATIONALISATION OF THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN SECTION 5(2) OF THE IGNOU ACT

23.3.1.

The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained that consideration of this item was deferred at the last meeting as the Committee appointed by the UGC to consider the broad policy issues involved in the promotion, co-ordination and maintenance of the Distance Education system, was to meet within a few days after the Board meeting. The Committee consisted of the Education Secretary, MHRD, the Vice-Chairman, UGC and the Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU. The Committee had since met and its recommendations have been placed on the table. The draft statutes have been revised in accordance with the recommendations of this Committee. Views/Suggestions, if any, were invited from the members of the Committee before finalisation of the draft.

23.3.2.

The Board considered the draft statute and the suggestions/views of the members of the Committee and approved the draft statute with the following modifications :-

(1) The Statute should have a preamble that would clearly indicate the scope and range of functions to be performed by the Distance

Education Council in the context of the provisions made in the IGNOU Act;

- (2) The Distance Education Council should have, in addition, one teacher from the open university/distance education system to be nominated by the Board of Management on the recommendation of the Chairman, Distance Education Council;
- (3) The University Grants Commission may be requested that a member of the Commission to be nominated by its Chairman on the Distance Education Council, as a matter of convention, be a teacher.
- (4) The two Vice-Chancellors of State Open Universities, on the Council are to be nominated by the Chairman, Distance Education Council, by rotation;
- (5) Two Heads of institutions of Correspondence/Distance Education to be nominated by the Board of Management should be from universities other than open universities which have been declared fit to receive assistance under Section 12B of the UGC Act.
- (6) The Vice-Chancellor to be nominated by the Visitor on the Distance Education Council should be of a University other than an Open University.
- (7) Provision should be made for the retirement every year of one half of the members nominated by the Board of Management from among its members and heads of institutions of correspondence/distance education, and those nominated by the Chairman, Distance Education Council from among the Vice-Chancellors of state universities.
- (8) Under the powers and functions of the Distance Education Council, the following new clauses may be added :

"to promote an innovative system of university level education, flexible and open, in regard to methods and pace of learning, combination of courses, eligibility for enrolment, age of entry, conduct of examination and organise various courses and programmes".

"to appoint Committees for advising and

assisting the Distance Education Council in the performance of any of its functions or exercise of any of its powers." 75

- (9) Sub-clause (xvii) of clause (3)(a) of the draft statute may be rephrased as follows :

"to take such measures as are necessary, consistent with the objects of the University, to provide an innovative, flexible, and open system of University education, for the promotion, including introduction and continuation of courses and programmes which conform to the standards prescribed by the Distance Education Council, to maintain such standards in the institutions offering distance education programmes, and to prevent through such measures as are considered appropriate, institutions from offering courses and programmes which do not conform to standards laid down by the Distance Education Council."

23.3.3. The draft statute incorporating the above corrections/modifications is placed at Appendix I.

ITEM NO 4. TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ABSORPTION COMMITTEE

23.4.1. The Board considered the recommendations made by the Absorption Committee at its meeting held on March 13, 1991 and approved the recommendations made therein. The proceedings of the Absorption Committee referred to above is at Appendix II.

ITEM NO 5. TO CONSIDER THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE

23.5.1. The Board considered the proceedings of the Establishment Committee meeting held on 10.5.1991 and took the following decisions:-

- (i) The consideration of the draft Recruitment and Promotion Rules for Groups B, C and D employees be deferred to the next meeting.

(ii) The Board considered the recommendations of the Selection Committees for teachers and other staff and the recommendations of the Establishment Committee thereon and approved the recommendations of the Establishment Committee for the appointment of teachers and other staff.

(iii) The Board approved the remaining recommendations made by the Establishment Committee.

23.5.2.

The proceedings of the Establishment Committee, as approved by the Board, (excluding item No. 2 concerning the Recruitment and Promotion Rules for Groups B, C and D employees, consideration of which was deferred) are placed at Appendix III.

ITEM NO 6

TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF PRO VICE-CHANCELLORS

23.6.1.

The University has at present three positions of Pro-Vice-Chancellor. In order to make appointment against vacancies existing and may arise, Vice-Chancellors of several universities in the country and Heads of higher education bodies were requested to suggest names of suitable candidates. Thirty-two nominations were received. The Vice-Chancellor constituted a Committee consisting of the following persons to evaluate the bio-data received for the positions of Pro-Vice-Chancellor in IGNOU:-

- (1) Prof. V.C. Kulandai Swamy
Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU
- (2) Prof. R.G. Takwale
Vice-Chancellor
Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University
- (3) Prof. A. Gnanam
Vice-Chancellor
Pondicherry University
- (4) Prof. R.P. Bambah
Vice-Chancellor
Panjab University

23.6.2

The Committee met on March 25, 1991 (Prof. Bambah could not attend) and short-listed seven names for consideration and appropriate recommendation by the Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU to the Board of Management. The recommendation of the Committee is

taken on record.

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23.6.3

The Board was informed that one position of Pro-Vice-Chancellor has been lying vacant for over one year. Another incumbent Pro-Vice-Chancellor whose term expires on 31.8.1991 is proceeding on long leave from early June, 1991 and will be demitting his office on or about the date of expiry of his leave. The Board agreed that the appointment of two Pro-Vice-Chancellors be made immediately against these two positions.

23.6.4

On the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor, the Board of Management approved the following panel of names in the order of preference given below for appointment as Pro-Vice-Chancellor against the two vacancies for a period of three years as per the provisions of the Statute. The Board also decided that their term of office will be co-terminus with the date of the incumbent Vice-Chancellor demitting office, or ceasing to be the Vice-Chancellor.

- (1) Prof. H.P. Dikshit
(Formerly Vice-Chancellor,
R.D. University, Jabalpur)
Professor
Department of Mathematics
& Computer Science
R.D. University, Jabalpur
- (2) Prof. S.K. Trehan
Professor of Mathematics
Panjab University, Chandigarh
- (3) Prof. G.J.V. Jagannadha Raju
Chairman
A.P. State Council for
Higher Education
Hyderabad

Note: The members of the Board suggested the inclusion of a fourth name in the panel to be on the safe side and suggested that the Vice-Chancellor may recommend a fourth candidate for the panel. Although the Vice-Chancellor indicated the next possible candidate from the remaining short-listed names, he would prefer his recommendation to be confined to the panel of three names mentioned above for the present, and come before the Board again with his recommendations when the need arises.

ITEM NO 7

TO CONSIDER EXTENSION OF THE SCHEME OF REVISION OF PAY SCALES APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FOR TEACHERS IN ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE AICTE TO THE TEACHERS OF THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE IGNOU

- 23.7.1. The consideration of this item was deferred to next meeting.

ITEM NO 8

TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL OF DR. BAKHSHISH SINGH

- 23.8.1. The Board considered and approved the research proposal titled "Correspondence/Distance Education Courses in India - an indepth study" submitted by Dr Bakhshish Singh for funding by the University to the extent of Rs. 1.60 lakhs. While according its approval, the Board decided that the Project Director may be requested to send quarterly reports and that Prof. B.N. Koul may be associated with the review of the progress of the project on behalf of the IGNOU. It was also suggested that the questionnaire if any issued for data collection be vetted by the University to ensure that the information gathered would meet the requirement of the University, especially in view of the establishment of the Distance Education Council, now under consideration.

- 23.8.2. The Board members may send their suggestions, if any, for the design of the study to Prof. Bakhshish Singh.

ITEM NO 9

TO REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS OF CERTAIN SELECTION COMMITTEES/APPOINTMENTS MADE EARLIER

- 23.9.1. The Board noted and approved the following appointments by deputation which were not reported to the Board through oversight:-

- (1) Shri B. Selvaraj, selected by a duly constituted Selection Committee at its meeting held on 31.7.1987, but taken on deputation as Production Officer in the pay scale of Rs. 1500-2000 (PR) with effect from 29.9.1987.
- (2) Shri D.C. Mehtani, Chief Project Officer was taken on deputation with effect from 23.3.1988 in the pay scale of Rs 1500-2500 (PR). He was recommended by a Committee constituted for the purpose which met on 18.2.1988.

- (3) Shri Arjun Chawla, Executive Engineer was taken on deputation in the pay scale of Rs. 3000-4500 with effect from 22.11.1988. He was recommended by a Committee constituted for the purpose which met on 12.10.1988.
- (4) The Selection Committee, to select a Librarian in the pay scale of Rs. 4500-7300, was held on 24.6.1989. The Committee did not find any one suitable for the post.

ITEM NO 10

TO REPORT ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE DIRECTOR, SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES

23.10.1.

The appointment of the following teachers made prior to the constitution of the Board of Management was reported to the Board at its first meeting held on 30.1.1987:-

1. Prof. Bakhshish Singh
2. Prof. (Mrs) Shakti R. Ahmed
3. Prof. Rakesh Khurana

23.10.2.

While the appointment of the above teachers was reported to the Board, their appointment as Directors of the Schools of Studies made with effect from 13.10.1986 was not reported through an oversight. While Prof. Bakhshish Singh and Prof. (Mrs) Shakti R. Ahmed have since relinquished the Directorship, Prof. Rakesh Khurana continues to be the Director of the School of Management Studies.

23.10.3.

The Board approved the appointments ex-post-facto.

ITEM NO 11

TO REPORT ON THE STATUTES/ORDINANCES WHICH HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE VISITOR/GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

23.11.1

The Board was informed that the Statutes made/amended which have received the assent of the Visitor are placed at Appendix IV. The Board was also informed that the following first ordinances made by the Vice-Chancellor have received the approval of the Central Government.

- (1) Ordinance on the Convocation.
- (2) Ordinance governing leave of all employees of the University including teachers and other academic staff.
- (3) Ordinance on career advancement of teachers.

ITEM NO 12

TO REPORT ON THE CONVOCATION

23.12.1

The Board was informed that the Second Convocation of the University was held on April 27, 1991 and that Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, Vice-President of India, delivered the Convocation Address. A total of 3,276 students were awarded Diplomas for various programmes, of whom, 990 students were awarded the Diplomas in person while 2,286 students were awarded the Diplomas in absentia. The Board commended the Vice-Chancellor, the officers and the staff of the University for the successful conduct of the Convocation, marked by discipline and dignity.

ITEM NO 13

TO REPORT ON THE EXTENSION GIVEN TO KOTA OPEN UNIVERSITY FOR UTILISATION OF GRANTS SANCTIONED TO IT

23.13.1.

It was reported that the Kota Open University to which IGNOU had granted Rs. 22 lakhs - Rs. 20 lakhs for strengthening computer facility and Rs 2 lakhs for staff development - had requested the University for extension of time for utilisation of grants sanctioned to it upto 30th April, 1991 in the first instance and again renewed their request for a further extension upto 31st May, 1991. The Vice-Chancellor had granted the extension of time till 31st May, 1991. This was noted.

ITEM NO 14

TO CONSIDER THE EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF RETAINER-SHIP OF SHRI A.V. RANGAM, LEGAL ADVISER

23.14.1.

The Board approved the proposal to retain Shri A.V. Rangam as legal adviser for a further period of one year with effect from 1.7.1991 on the same terms and conditions as hitherto.

ITEM NO 15

TO NOTE THE TELECASTING OF IGNOU PROGRAMMES BY DOORDARSHAN

23.15.1.

The Vice-Chancellor tabled the item. The Board noted with appreciation that Doordarshan will be telecasting IGNOU programmes for half an hour,

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from 6.30 A.M. to 7.00 A.M. on three days a week -
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays - and that the
telecast will commence from May 20, 1991.

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

(V.C. KULANDAI SWAMY)
Chairman