

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY FOURTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD IN THE OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY AT K-76, HAUZ KHAS, NEW DELHI, ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 03, 1993, AT 1100 HOURS.

The following were present :

1. Prof. V.C. Kulandai Swamy, Vice-Chancellor, Chairman
2. Shri S.V. Giri
3. Prof. H.P. Dikshit
4. Prof. V.V. Mandke
5. Prof. S.K. Singh
6. Shri P. Satyanarayana

Shri K. Narayanan, Registrar - Secretary

Shri R.K. Bhargava could not attend the meeting.

Dr S.K. Gandhe & Prof. C.L. Anand (PVCs), Shri C.R. Pillai, Director (Planning & Teachers Affairs) and Shri S.C. Johorey, Finance Officer, attended the meeting as special invitees.

Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rado, 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 33RD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANGEMENT HELD ON JUNE 17, 1993, AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON.**

**BM 34.1.1**

Before the confirmation of the Minutes was taken up, a reference was made to the dharna by the IGNOU Non-academic Staff Association. At the request of the Vice-Chancellor, the Secretary of the Board briefly explained the circumstances leading to the dharna. The University has been making selection and appointment of persons against the open recruitment quota in Group B, C & D posts. The Staff Association had filed a writ petition in Delhi High Court demanding that promotion/open recruitment quota should be made effective from the inception of the University and not from the date of notification of the R & P Rules. They also prayed for a stay on the appointments, which were under process. In an interim order, the Delhi High Court had directed that appointments, if any, made by the University will be subject to the final verdict of the court

in the writ petition. Accordingly, the University issued offers of appointment with the condition that the appointments are subject to the decision of the court in the above said writ petition. The University has therefore not violated the court orders. However, the Staff Association maintains that the appointments are against the orders of the court. The Vice-Chancellor informed that since the University followed due legal procedures, there cannot be any violation of the court orders. The Board noted the stand taken by the University.

BM 34.1.2

The Secretary of the Board stated that no comments have been received from any member so far. However, he gave the details of the omissions/mistakes noted in the minutes already circulated to the members, most of which were typographical, which have since been corrected. The Board noted these corrections.

BM 34.1.3

Shri S.V. Giri, Secretary, Dept. of Education, wanted to know whether the creation of the STRIDE had the approval of the Board of Management. He also wanted to know the financial implication, if any, that might arise from the establishment of the STRIDE. The Vice-Chancellor explained that the idea of setting up a training institute was mooted as early as in 1990 and that it was considered on more than one occasion by the Board of Management. The Planning Board had also considered the proposal and approved it. There were a series of discussions with the officers of the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Commonwealth of Learning on the establishment of the proposed institute. The final project proposal was forwarded in consultation with the Department of Education, Ministry of HRD to the COL which had committed financial support for a three year period beginning from 1993-94 for the development of the Institute. The Board, at its 33rd meeting, duly approved the proposal to establish the STRIDE and to upgrade the existing Division of Distance Education (DDE) into STRIDE with all its staff becoming part of it. This decision did not involve the creation of any additional post during 1993-94 and therefore, no additional financial implications were involved in the implementation of the decision. The Vice-Chancellor also clarified that the further development of the STRIDE will be taken up within the overall allocation of funds to IGNOU during the eighth plan period.

BM 34.1.4

The Board confirmed the minutes of the 33rd

meeting held on June 17, 1993.

34.1.5

The Board also noted the action taken thereon.

ITEM NO.2

**TO CONSIDER NOMINATION OF A MEMBER ON THE DISTANCE EDUCATION COUNCIL.**

34.2.1

The Board considered the panels of names tabled at the meeting and decided to nominate Prof. S.K. Verma, Vice-Chancellor, CIEFL, who also heads the correspondence unit of the CIEFL, under the Clause (3)(a)(vii) of Statute 28 for the residual term of Prof. R.S. Rath, i.e., upto 12.3.94.

ITEM NO.3

**TO CONSIDER THE INSTITUTION OF A SCHEME OF JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATESHIPS.**

34.3.1

The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained the need for instituting some research fellowships by the IGNOU. In respect of Open Universities, IGNOU has to perform functions similar to those of the UGC. Since no effort has so far been made for the promotion of research in the distance education system, it was essential that a beginning is made with the institution of a small number of fellowships and associateships. Shri Giri wanted to know whether there is budget allocation specifically for these fellowships, and if there was none, it would be appropriate for the Board to refer the matter to the Finance Committee in the first instance. He, however, stated that if the institution of fellowships was considered urgent, he would go along with the proposal but in future such proposals should be in accordance with the statutory provision.

34.3.2

The Vice-Chancellor explained that, although there is no specific budget provision for the institution of Junior Research Fellowships and Research Associateships as such, there is a provision of Rs.3 lakhs for research in the current year's budget. He further stated that the University would be able to introduce the scheme within the funds allocated to it during the current year and that it is necessary that a beginning is made in this direction without any further delay.

34.3.3

The Board, after taking into account the observations made by the Education Secretary and the clarifications given by the Vice-Chancellor, approved the institution of 10 Junior Research

Fellowships and 5 Research Associateships each year, as proposed, in the first phase of the scheme covering 1993-94 and 1994-95.

**ITEM NO.4**

**TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1992-93.**

**BM 34.4.1**

The draft Annual Report for the year 1992-93 was tabled. The Vice-Chancellor explained the salient features of the report in brief. He requested the members to go through the report and offer their comments, if any, urgently so that the report could be finalised. It was also explained that the draft Annual Report required some editing and that certain gaps in information needed to be filled up. Shri Giri appreciated the efforts of the University in making the Annual Report available to members and requested the Chairman to adhere to the time schedule for its submission to the Parliament.

**BM 34.4.2**

The Board approved the draft Annual Report in principle and authorised the Vice-Chancellor to finalise it with such editorial and other changes needed and submit it to the Visitor and the Government within the stipulated dates.

**ITEM NO.5**

**TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF A PROFESSOR IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ON RE-EMPLOYMENT.**

**BM 34.5.1**

The Vice-Chancellor explained that the University attempted twice to recruit a Professor in Public Administration through open advertisement and selection, but on both occasions, the Selection Committees could not find a suitable candidate. However, the Selection Committee which met on 23rd January, 1993, suggested that the Vice-Chancellor may approach eminent scholars in the field, obtain their bio-data and take appropriate steps for making the selection. It was in this context that the name of Professor Mohit Bhattacharya was suggested. His candidature was referred to two distinguished experts, both of whom recommended that considering Professor Bhattacharya's eminence and his contributions, he would be a good choice. The Vice-Chancellor mentioned that the word "re-employment" suggested in the agenda note was not quite appropriate since Professor Bhattacharya's appointment had to be considered under Statute on a contract.

**BM 34.5.2**

Another member also felt that re-employment was not appropriate in this case and taking into



account the eminence of the person concerned, an appropriate designation like Senior Fellow could be considered.

BM 34.5.3

Taking into account the need of the University for senior persons, the Board approved the appointment of Professor Mohit Bhattacharya as Professor of Public Administration on a contract for a two year period and authorised the Vice-Chancellor to negotiate with him the terms of the contract. In the event of Prof. Bhattacharya's non-availability, the Board decided that the post be re-advertised.

#### ITEM NO.6

#### TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL ON ACADEMIC LINKAGES INCLUDING ESTABLISHMENT OF STUDY CENTRES ABROAD.

BM 34.6.1

The proposal was considered. The Vice-Chancellor explained that distance education system is rapidly developing throughout the world and many of the Western countries are trying to cater to the needs of developing countries specially in Africa and the Gulf Region. The Distance Education institutions abroad, with whom IGNOU has linkages have been suggesting that IGNOU make efforts to meet the higher education needs of people in the developing countries and in the Gulf Region which has a sizable Indian population. The Vice-Chancellor recalled that this matter was considered by the Board of Management in 1989, but the view taken then was that IGNOU should consolidate its programmes and activities within the country before venturing outside. The Vice-Chancellor pointed out that there have been significant developments since then; the IGNOU has expanded considerably; and there is a growing demand for IGNOU's courses and programmes from people outside the country. Many distance education institutions from the advanced countries are making determined efforts to exploit this potential market and unless IGNOU steps in at the right time, it would have missed a big opportunity. Some institutions and agencies in the gulf countries have invited the IGNOU to consider the possibility of setting up Study Centres there; they have also promised financial support for the purpose.

BM 34.6.2

The Vice-Chancellor also made a reference to a suggestion from the Rama Krishna Mission in South Africa to open a Study Centre of IGNOU at Durban to cater to the needs of Indians living there. He said that he would explore the possibility when he

visits South Africa in September on the invitation of the R.K. Mission in connection with inaugurating the Centenary Celebrations of Swami Vivekananda's address to Parliament of Religions in Chicago. To a query whether the extension of IGNOU activities outside the country would have any adverse impact on the effectiveness of the functioning of the University within the country, and the need for further expansion, it was clarified that all the resources required for extending IGNOU programmes outside the country would be raised externally, with the possibility also of generating some surplus, and that a separate unit within the University would handle the work involved in this new effort. The Study Centres abroad would be run with the active cooperation and help of our Embassies in the countries concerned.

BM 34.6.3

Taking these into account, the Board authorised the Vice-Chancellor to explore the possibility of opening Study Centres in the Gulf Region, in Mauritius and in South Africa. The Board also approved the proposal to depute Prof. C.L. Anand to the Gulf Countries to explore the possibilities of opening Study Centres in that region and sanctioned an expenditure of Rs.60,000/- for the purpose. The Board also noted that the Vice-Chancellor will be visiting South Africa in September, 1993, and authorised him to explore the possibility of opening Study Centres there. The Board also noted that the Ramakrishna Centre at Durban has invited the Vice-Chancellor and will bear the expenditure of his visit.

ITEM NO.7

TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING BOARD MEETING HELD ON JUNE 24, 1993.

BM 34.7.1

The Vice-Chancellor explained the salient points arising out of the decisions taken by the Planning Board at its meeting held on June 24, 1993. The Board noted the Minutes of the Planning Board.

ITEM NO.8

TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE DISTANCE EDUCATION COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JULY 15, 1993.

BM 34.8.1

The Vice-Chancellor explained the decisions taken by the Distance Education Council at its meeting held on July 15, 1993. The Board noted the Minutes of the meeting.

ITEM NO.9

TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 20, 1993.

BM 34.9.1

The Secretary, Department of Education referred to the exchange of correspondence between the University and the Dept. of Education and stated that he would like to discuss the matter separately with the Vice-Chancellor. Subject to these discussions, the minutes of the Finance Committee, held on August 20, 1993 were approved (Appendix-1).

ITEM NO.10

TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JULY 20, 1993.

BM 34.10.1

The Board considered the minutes of the Meeting of the Establishment Committee held on July 20, 1993. The Board, in particular, approved the following:

- (i) The proposal on promotion of two Section Officers/Sr. Personal Assistants to the post of Assistant Registrars on ad hoc basis against two vacant posts of Dy. Registrars.
- (ii) The recommendations of the Selection Committees for the post of Deputy Registrar held on June 21-23, 1993.
- (iii) To repatriate Dr S.K. Sharma, Asst. Regional Director, Patna, who is on deputation, to his parent department.
- (iv) The decisions of the Establishment Committee on the recommendations of the Increments Committee.

BM 34.10.2

The Board approved the minutes of the 13th meeting of the Establishment Committee held on July 20, 1993 (Appendix-2).

ITEM NO.11

TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE PURCHASE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JULY 12, 1993.

BM 34.11.1

The Board considered and approved the minutes of the Purchase Committee meeting held on July 12, 1993 (Appendix-3).

**ITEM NO.12**

**TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE HIRING OF ADDITIONAL OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.**

BM 34.12.1 The item was withdrawn.

BM 34.12.2

A suggestion was made that the University should work out its total accommodation requirements based on the CPWD norms and place the matter of hiring additional accommodation before the Board for consideration.

**ITEM NO.13**

**TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEES.**

BM 34.13.1

The Board considered the recommendations of the Selection Committees for the posts of Reader in Political Science and Reader in History held on 23.8.93 and 25.8.93 respectively and approved them. In this connection, the Board noted that there were 9 posts of Readers sanctioned for the School of Social Sciences, but 3 of them are to be allotted to specific disciplines. The Board decided that these three positions may be allocated as follows:

Discipline	Existing allocation	Additional allocation	Total
Economics	1	1	2
Pol. Science	1	1	2
Sociology	1	1	2

BM 34.13.2

The Board further decided that offers of appointment for the post of Readers may be issued to the following in the first instance:

Discipline	Person(s) Recommended	Basic pay
Pol. Science	1. Dr A.S. Narang 2. Dr D. Gopal	Rs.4950/- As per rules.
History	Dr Ravindra Kumar	Rs.4825/-



**ITEM NO.14**

**TO CONSIDER RENEWAL OF TERM OF THE STANDING COUNSEL FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF ONE YEAR.**

**BM 34.14.1**

The Board considered the proposal and approved it on the same terms and conditions as before.

**ITEM NO.15**

**TO CONSIDER THE CASE OF SHRI D.K. TETRI.**

**BM 34.15.1**

The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained the issues involved. Considering the fact that the Recruitment & Promotion Rules for Group A posts are already in operation, it was felt that relaxation of Rules may not be justified. The Board, therefore, decided that Shri D.K. Tetri may be considered for the Senior scale of Assistant Registrar, viz., Rs.3000-5000 after he completes the stipulated 8 years of service as Asst. Registrar, and that in the meanwhile he may continue to perform the functions of Deputy Registrar (Finance) on ad hoc basis.

**ITEM NO.16**

**TO CONSIDER THE MODIFICATION/AMENDMENTS SUGGESTED TO THE REGULATIONS FOR THE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.**

**BM 34.16.1**

The Board approved the "Regulations for the meetings of the Board of Management" as proposed with the addition of a sub-clause indicating the date of commencement of the Regulations. A copy of the Regulations, incorporating the above amendment is placed at Appendix-4.

**ITEM NO.17**

**TO CONSIDER THE LEASING OF BUILDINGS FOR DELHI REGIONAL CENTRE AND THE COMMUNICATION DIVISION.**

**BM 34.17.1**

The Board considered the proposal and approved the following:

- (i) To continue the licence for the Building at 52, Institutional Area, Tughlakabad for a further period of 3 years w.e.f. 12th March, 1993 at an enhanced licence fee of Rs.75,598.44 per month.
- (ii) The lease of additional 1225 sq.ft of floor area in the premises at Vishwa Yuvak Kendra to augment the increased accommodation requirement of the Regional Centre for a period of 3 years in the first instance at an additional monthly licence fee of Rs.18,375/- with provision for increase in rent after a period of 3 years.

BM 34.17.2

In this connection, the Board was informed that IGNOU would take up the construction of its Regional Centre for Delhi in the main campus as part of the Phase-1 programme.

ITEM NO.18

TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE ALL INDIA ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO A CONFERENCE ON "RECENT TRENDS IN EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING TECHNOLOGY".

BM 34.18.1

The Board considered the request from All India Association for Educational Technology for financial support to its conference on "Recent Trends in Educational and Training Technology" and approved a grant of Rs.30,000 for the purpose.

ITEM NO.19

TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE POST OF MAKE-UP ASSISTANT - AGE RELAXATION.

BM 34.19.1

The Board considered the proposal. In terms of the qualifications prescribed in the advertisement and taking also into account the fact that there was no provision for relaxation of the requirements prescribed in the Recruitment and Promotion Rules, the Board was not in favour of relaxing the age limit in case of Shri Subhash Gupta. The Board also noted that none of the candidates called for interview and empanelled by the Selection Committee fully satisfied the conditions of qualifications/age. The Board therefore suggested that the University may appoint a person on contract to meet the immediate requirements. The University may readvertise the post with the qualifications prescribed in the rules alongwith those considered equivalent to them and then fill up the post on a regular basis.

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

(V.C. KULANDAI SWAMY)  
Vice-Chancellor