IGNOU

MINUTES OF THE SIXTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD. ON DECEMBER 31, 1999, AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK - 8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI - 110 068.

The following were present:

- 1. Prof. Abdul W. Khan, Vice-Chancellor Chairman
- 2. Prof. V.S. Prasad
- 3. Prof. Habibur Rahman
- 4. Shri M.K. Kaw
- 5. Dr. (Smt.) Uma Tuli
- 6. Shri J.P. Javali
- 7. Prof. A.K. Agarwal
- 8. Dr. J.M. Parakh
- 9. Dr. D.K. Choudhry
- 10. Prof. Afzal Mohammad
- 11. Prof. R.V.R. Chandrasekhara Rao

Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rao, Registrar - Secretary

Prof. Suhash Chakravarty, Shri Kiran Karnik, Shri. Y.N. Chaturvedi, Sccretary, Deptt. of Information and Broadcasting and Dr. A.C. Muthatah could not attend the meeting.

Shri K.N. Tripathi, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Shri Vikram Chandra, Finance Officer, IGNOU attended the meeting as special invitees.

Shri D. Deb, Asstt. Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Board.

At the outset, as a mark of respect to the departed soul of Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, Ex-President of India, and Visitor, IGNOU the members observed, a two minute silence.

The Vice-Chancellor in his opening remarks expressed sincere thanks to the members for their active participation and meaningful contribution in the decision making process during the entire year of 1999. In this context he mentioned some of the salient developments for the information of the members.

IGNOU has emerged as one of the premier institutions in the country alongside IITs and IIMS, Dalhi University and Jawaharlal Nehru University, etc., as reported in one of the leading national dailies.

IGNOU has started new programmes in Information Technology and participatory programmes like Sahabhagi Vikas Niyojon.

- Despatch of study material to students has been continued to be sent on time.
- IGNOU has reached a major milestone as nodal agency to run educational broadcasting channel under the Gyan Darshan and Gyan Vani from MHRD and Ministry of I & B.
- There is a major development in interactive radio counselling from 24 All India Radio stations on IGNOU programmes and further transmission of the same from 65 AIR stations.
- The University has increased the outreach of its programmes in many unreached areas including the remote and untapped areas like the North East.
- Efforts have been afoot for creating employment opportunities for the resourceful and educated unemployed through the scheme of Distance Learning Facilitators.
- IGNOU has launched MEIDS project which is unique due to its facility of on-line registration, reference, and continuous evaluation.
- Construction work of residential Quarters for the employees are rapidly moving and construction of Academic blocks is expected to be completed by March 2000.
- MOU's/Agreements have been signed between IGNOU with Maldives for offering IGNOU programmes. Similar agreement is expected to be signed with Mauritius.
 - IGNOU has made grant of Rs. 7 crores to the State Open Universities/Institute of correspondence education.

The Vice-Chancellor further reiterated that the future thrust of the University will be focussed on the following areas:

- (a) Quality
- (b) Equity both in term of gender and socio-economic backgrounds.

The members recorded their appreciation and commended the Vice-Chancellor and his team for accomplishing the responsibilities and in achieving new standards in the growth and development of the University.

The following items were taken up:

- TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 64TH
 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
 MANAGEMENT HELD ON AUGUST 18, 1999
 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN
 THEREON.
- BM 65.1.1 The confirmation of the Minutes of the 64th Meeting of the Board was considered. The following points were made:
 - (a) Registrar read out the observations made by one of the members with regard to Board's resolution No. BM 64.3.2 and BM 64.4.1 (iii). Since the observations did not reflect any revision in the recording of the Minutes, the observations were noted. A copy of the letter of the member is appended at Appendix-I for future guidance.
 - (b) (i) Shri M.K. Kaw, Secretary, Deptt. of Education, pointed out that the concept of Virtual Campus initiative is taking concrete shape worldwide. He desired that the IGNOU should play the role of a catalyst in the whole process of virtual campus initiative.
 - (ii) Secretary also referred to the promotion of literacy as one of the key areas in which distance education mode can be of great significance. In this context he asserted that IGNOU can play a positive role in promoting literacy.
 - (c) Shri M.K. Kaw, further emphasised the need for developing a course in Indian Heritage and the Art of living. He informed that the National Open School has already developed a programme of study in this area.
 - (d) The Vice-Chancellor informed that the University has already moved in the direction of promotion of literacy. The University has collaborated with NGOs concerning the activities which will reach out to the School dropouts. The Centre of Extension Education, IGNOU has also undertaken activities in the

promotion of literacy through its extension programmes.

- (e) With reference to Board's resolution No. BM 64.6.2, Secretary Deptt. of Education made a reference to the report of the Justice Wad Committee. In his reply the Vice-Chancellor explained the background of the two reports, namely, Anand Sarup Committee (ASC) and fustice Wad Committee. The Vice Chancellor further informed that the University has already taken corrective measures on several issues on the lines as suggested by the ASC. In this context, Secretary Deptt. of Education stressed that the University should spell out the measures taken arising out of the ASC reports and index the corrective measures taken and to be taken in future.
- While on the subject, the Board took a second look at the recording of the Minutes under the resolution quoted above (BM 64.6.2) and opined that the wording as existing now gives room for interpretation that the matter of settling Issue amicably is still open. However, the Board noted that the intention of the Board win to close the matter once and for all. The Board also noted that where the case of Prof. Rukesh Khurana is concerned, the Board had taken a mild view and that the matter need not be reopened again. So far as the issue relating to the appointment of Director of School of Social Sciences is concerned, the Board considered the issue under separate item, namely, Item No. 18 while considering the representation made by Prof. Kapil Kumar, Professor, School of Social Sciences.
- BM 65.1.2 With the above observations, the Minutes of the 64th Meeting of the Board of Management held on August 18, 1999 were confirmed.
- TO CONSIDER THE CONFERMENT OF HONORARY DEGREE AT THE 11TH CONVOCATION TO BE HELD ON MARCH 4, 2000,
- BM 65.2.1 The Board considered and accepted the proposal for the conferment of the Degree of Doctor of letters

(Honoris Causa) on Prof. V.C Kulandaiswamy, the second Vice Chancellor of the IGNOU for his outstanding contribution to the growth and development of IGNOU in particular and to the educational field in general. This will be reported to the Academic Council at its next Meeting.

BM 65.2.2 The Board noted that the 11th Convocation will be lield on March 04, 2000.

TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR FOR REGIONAL SERVICES DIVISION (RSD)

BM 65.3.1 The Board considered the item.

BM 65.3.2 The Board considered and approved the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellor in appointing Dr. D.K. Choudhry as the Director, Regional Services Division, IGNOU for a period of 5 years.

TO CONSIDER THE PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF ADVERTISEMENTS

BM 65.4.1 In considering the period of validity of advertisements, the Board decided the following:

- (1) The period of validity of advertisements in appointments will be for a period of one and half year.
- (2) The University will re-advertise the various positions if the gap is more than a year and half.

ITEM NO.5 TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE 28TH MEETING. OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON OCTOBER 26, 1999 AND CONSIDER WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS COMMITTEE (ARC)

BM 5.5.1 The Board considered the item.

- BM 65.5.2 The Vice-Chancellor gave a brief background as to the constitution of the ARC and its recommendations. He requested Prof. Habibur Rahman, Chairman, ARC, to bring out the salient features of recommendations of ARC.
- Prof. Habibur Rahman informed the members that in considering various issues of reforms, the committee kept the interests of the University as well as the employees in balance. The practices followed by other Central Universities have also been referred to in addition to the Govt. of India decisions on such areas. He urged the members to consider the recommendations in the light of the unique and special structure required for the Distance Education System in which the IGNOU has been established.
- BM 65.5.4 Prof. Habibur Rahman referred to the various recommendations of ARC relating to the following areas:
 - (a) Staffing norms and staffing patterns
 - (b) Recruitment and Career Advancement
 - (c) Training
 - (d) Performance Assessment
 - (e) Rewarding of Merit
 - (f) Incentives for staff attached to officers
 - (g) Transfer policy
 - (h) House Allotment Rules
 - (i) Grievance Redressal Mechanism
 - (j) Women Cell/SC/ST Cell
 - (k) Human Resources Development Cell
 - (1) Age of Retirement
 - (m) Outsourcing of Services
 - (n) Welfare Measures

BM 65.5.5 The Chairman, ARC, requested the Board:

- (i) That the report of the ARC be approved in principle;
- (ii) That the items with financial bearing will be referred to Finance Committee and brought before the Board of Management;
- (iii) That the items which do not require considerations by the Finance Committee be implemented; and

- (iv) That issues where Govt's clearance is required they may be referred to Govt. before implementation.
- BM 65.5.6 (i) The Board accepted the suggestions made by the Chairman, ARC as above. The Board also confirmed the Minutes of the 28th Meeting of the Establishment Committee. A copy of the Minutes is placed at Appendix-II.
- TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE 37TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 27-12-1999

Since the Finance Committee did not meet as scheduled, the item has been deferred.

- TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE 17TH
 MEETING OF THE DISTANCE EDUCATION
 COUNCIL HELD ON OCTOBER 22, 1999 AND
 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE
 VICE-CHANCELLOR IN RELEASING THE
 DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE
- BM 65.7.1 The Board noted and confirmed the minutes of the 17th Meeting of the Distance Education Council held on October 22, 1999. A copy of the Minutes is placed at Appendix-III.
- The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chanbcellor in releasing the development assistance as per details given in **Appendix-IV**.
- TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE 26TH MEETING OF THE WORKS COMMITTEE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1999.
- BM 65.8.1 The Board noted and confirmed the minutes of the 26th Meeting of the Works Committee held on September 30, 1999. A copy of the Minutes is placed at Appendix-V.

- TO CONSIDER THE NOMINATION ON THE PLANNING BOARD UNDER CLAUSE (1)(IV) OF STATUTE 10 OF THE STATUTES OF THE IGNOU.
- BM 65.9.1 The Board considered and nominated the following persons as members of the Planning Board under clause (1) (iv) of Statute 10 of the Statutes of the IGNOU.

Name

Areas of Specialization

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1. Prof. D.M. Pestonjee Management
2. Dr. R.N. Salhan Learned profession
3. Prof. K. Gopalan Education
4. Dr. R. Chakrabarti Distance Education
5. Dr. Y.V. Reddy Commerce and Industry

- ITEM NO. 10 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO STATUTE 28 REGARDING COMPOSITION, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF DISTANCE EDUCATION COUNCIL (DEC).
- BM 65.10.1 The Board considered the proposed amendments to statute 28 regarding composition, powers and functions of Distance Education Council (DEC) in the light of the recommendations made by the DEC at its 17th Meeting held on October 22, 1999.
- BM 65.10.2 Prof. V.S. Prasad, Pro-Vice-Chancellor explained the background, need and justifications for modifications in the existing statute.
- BM 65.10.3 Considering the background and justifications for modifications in the statute 28, the Board agreed that these modifications be adopted and that the proposed amendment need to be sent to MHRD for acceptance. The details of the amendment including the regulations for extending development support to State Open Universities (SOUS) are given at Appendix VI and VII.

ITEM NO.11 TO CONSIDER NOMINATION OF THE MEMBERS TO THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL UNDER CLAUSE (1)(IV) OF STATUTE 9.

BM 65.11.1 The Board considered the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellor and nominated the following persons as members to the Academic Council under clause (1) (iv) of Statute 9 for the residual period, i.e., 09-05-2001.

Prof. Madhulika Kaushik Prof. B.S. Saraswat Dr. J.M. Parakh

TO REPORT ON THE MATTER RELATING TO PAY FIXATION OF PRO-VICE-CHANCELLORS.

BM 65.12.1 The Board considered the item. After detailed discussion the following points emerged:

- i) The payscales of the Pro-Vice-Chancellors (Rs. 18400-22400) are higher than the payscales of the Professors (Rs. 16400-22400).
- ii) The guidelines for the fixation of pay in the revised payscales have been notified by the Govt. of India.
- iii) Statute 3 (3) (a) of IGNOU Act provides' for the guidelines for the fixation of pay of Pro-Vice-Chancellors.
- iv) There is a need for uniformity in the fixation of pay of Pro-Vice-Chancellors in Central universities.

BM 65.12.2 With the above observations the Board agreed that the pay of Pro-Vice-Chancellor in the revised payscales be fixed as under:

- i) The pay of Pro-Vice-Chancellors in IGNOU shall be fixed at Rs. 19900 per month in the revised payscales, i.e., Rs. 18,400-22,400.
- ii) Specific cases of Pro-Vice-Chancellors where the pay is to be fixed at a higher level than Rs. 19,900/- taking into account their basic pay

- prior to joining as Pro Vice-Chancellors, they will be governed by the rules of pay fixation.
- iii) Any pay fixation to be done other than the above two methods may be brought before the Board of Management for specific consideration.
- ITEM NO. 13 TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE 22ND MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON OCTOBER 7, 1999
- BM 65.13.1 The Board considered and noted the minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Academic Council held on October 07, 1999.
- ITEM NO. 14 TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE 9TH
 MEETING OF THE PURCHASE
 COMMITTEE HELD ON 3-12-1999
 - BM 65.14.1 The Board noted and confirmed the Minutes of the 9th Meeting of the Purchase Committee held on 03.12.99. A copy of the minutes is placed at Appendix-VIII.
 - TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE COMPOSITION OF SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE POST OF SENIOR. PROJECT MANAGER
 - BM 65.15.1 The Board considered and approved the composition of the Selection Committee for the position of Senior Project Manager in the payscale of Rs. 18400-500-22400, as under:
 - 1. Vice-Chancellor Chairman
 - 2. A Pro-Vice-Chancellor to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor
 - 3. A person nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, in consultation with Secretary, Education.
 - 4. Two members of the Board of Management nominated by it and
 - 5. One person not in the service of the University nominated by the Board of Management.

- BM 65.15.2 The Board further decided that the Senior Project Manager shall be the Héad of the Construction and Maintenance Division.
- ITEM NO.16 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE AMENDMENT TO LEAVE ORDINANCE AND STATUTE 17 OF THE IGNOU ACT.
- BM 65.16.1 The Board considered the proposed amendments to be incorporated in Statute 17 and modification to be incorporated in the Leave Ordinance.
- Registrar informed the members that the proposed amendment in Statute 17 and modifications to be incorporated in the Leave Ordinance are as per the Govt. of India notification on these subjects. He further informed that after the approval by the Board the amendments in Statute 17 will be sent to the Visitor for approval.
- BM 65.16.3 One of the members observed that due to amendments in Statute 17, the clauses are to be renumbered. This was noted.
- BM 65.16.4 With the above observations the Board approved:
 - (1) The proposed amendment in Statute 17. A copy of the modified Statute 17 is placed at Appendix-IX.
 - (2) The modifications in the Leave Ordinance. A copy of the modified ordinance is placed at Appendix-X.
- ITEM NO. 17 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF PROF. M.M. PANT AS PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR
- BM 65.17.1 The Vice-Chancellor explained the background leading to resignation of Prof. M.M. Pant as Pro-Vice-Chancellor. This was noted by the members.
- BM 65.17.2 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor under Section 10(3) of the IGNOU Act in accepting the resignation of Prof. M.M. Pant as Pro-Vice-Chancellor w.e.f. 01-09-99.

- ITEM NO. 18 TO REPORT ON THE MATTER RELATING
 TO THE APPEAL MADE BY PROF. KAPIL
 KUMAR, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES,
 IGNOU
- BM 65.18.1 The Board considered the representation of Prof. Kapil Kumar, Professor of History, School of Social Sciences and in this context also had occasion to refer to the Report of the Anand Sarup Committee in this matter.
- BM 65.18.2 The Board after considerable discussion resolved:
 - 1) That the University should not resort to ad-hoc appointments to Directorship and that too for indefinite periods without obtaining the approval of the Board at its meeting immediately following such appointments by the Vice-Chancellor;
 - 2) That in future all appointments to Directorships shall be for the full period of 3 years as stipulated in Statute 4.
 - Further resolved that felt-injustices like those voiced by Prof. Kapil Kumar will have no occasion to recur.
- ITEM NO. 19 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MODIFIED VERSION OF ORDINANCE ON CAREER ADVANCEMENT OF TEACHERS AND CONSEQUENT AMENDMENTS TO THE EXISTING ORDINANCE
- BM 65.19.1 In considering this item it was pointed out that the modified version of Ordinance on Career Advancement of Teachers and consequent amendments to the existing Ordinance do not reflect the cases of academic staff.
- Registrar informed the members that the University has written to the MHRD regarding the Career Advancement cases of certain academic staff and that clarification from MHRD is still awaited.

BM 65.19.3

With the above observations the members agreed to adopt the modified version of Ordinance on Career Advancement of teachers and consequent amendments to the existing ordinance in principle subject to clearance by the MHRD. A copy of the ordinance is placed at **Appendix-XI**.

ITEM NO. 20 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE CENTRAL AIR-CONDITIONING OF BLOCK A,B,C,D,F&G OF THE ACADEMIC COMPLEX AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF RS. 4.7 CRORES

BM 65.20.1 The Board considered the proposal for the Central Air-conditioning of Block A,B,C,D F and G of the Academic Complex at an estimated cost of Rs. 4.7 crores,

BM 65.20.2 The Board viewed that the proposal involves an expenditure to the tune of Rs. 4.7 crores for the purpose and it would be desirable to have the proposal examined in the Finance Committee.

BM 65.20.3 The Board accepted the proposal in principle subject to clearance by the Finance Committee.

TO REPORT FOR INFORMATION THE OFFERING OF 100 SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO THE STUDENTS OF SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES FOR PURSUING THEIR HIGHER STUDIES AT IGNOU

BM 65.21.1

The Board noted that the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India has come forward to offer 100 scholarships for students of South Asian Countries (Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka) to enable them to carry out their studies at IGNOU. Value of each scholarship would be Rs. 20000/-(Rupees Twenty Thousand only) and IGNOU would raise a claim of Rs. 20 lakhs annually. To begin with IGNOU will offer five academic programmes - Certificate in Computing, Bachelor of Information Technology, Master of Business Administration, Bachelor of Library Information Sciences and Bachelor of Tourism Studies.

- ITEM NO. 22 TO REPORT THE ADDITION OF TWO CLAUSES IN THE ED-EXCEL AGREEMENT ALREADY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT AND TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF OVERSEAS CENTRE AGREEMENT WITH EDEXCEL.
- BM 65.22.1 The Board considered the proposal and approved the addition of two clauses in the agreement already signed with M/s. Edexcel as indicated below:
 - (i) the clause relating to Overseas Agreement Centre under the title "Definitions interpretation" be added in the Agreement.
 - (ii) Similarly the Clause (d) in Para 12.3 be reintroduced in the Ed Excel Agreement.
- BM 65.22.2 The Board further considered and approved the draft of Overseas Centre Agreement to be entered with Ed Excel Enterprises Ltd., a copy of which is placed at Appendix XII.
- TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN SIGNING MOU/AGREEMENTS
- BM 65.23.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in signing the following MOUs/Agreements.
 - a) Extension of Agreement between the Commonwealth of Learning and IGNOU
 - b) Agreement between MICROSOFT Operation Pte Ltd. and IGNOU
 - c) Agreement between Mascareignes Academy of Law, Economics and Management (MALEM) Mauritius and IGNOU. A copy each of the Agreement is placed at Appendix-XIII.

TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE **ITEM NO. 24** VICE-CHANCELLOR IN SIGNING TRIPARTITE "AGREEMENT" BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC MALDIVES, MINISTRY OF **EXTERNAL** AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND GANDHI INDIRA NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

BM 65.24.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in signing the Tripartite Agreement between Govt. of Republic of Maldives, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India and Indira Gandhi National Open University. A copy of the Agreement is placed at Appendix-XIV.

ITEM NO. 25 RETIREMENT AGE OF NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES - CASES OF DEPUTATIONISTS WHO JOINED BEFORE CUT OFF DATE BUT ABSORBED IN IGNOU AFTER THE CUT OFF DATE (16.05.1989)

BM 65.25.1 The Registrar explained that at initial stages certain number of officers joined the IGNOU from various Central and Autonomous organisations. The matter relating to absorption of these officers in IGNOU were not settled between IGNOU and their parent departments on the date of Board's resolution dated 16.5.1989 concerning the cutoff date for age of retirement. The absorption cases of these officers were settled after the cut off date viz. 16.5.89.

BM 65.25.2 Keeping in view the circumstances bearing on the age of retirement of these deputationists and that these officers made good contributions to the organization, the Board agreed that the age of retirement at 62 years be extended to the deputationsits who were absorbed in the University after the cut off date viz. 16.05.1989 taking their date of joining into account. This benefit will, however, be available to only such category of officers as are covered by Government/University Grants Commission.

ITEM NO. 26 PURCHASE OF OFFICE ACCOMMODATION FOR REGIONAL CENTRE, BHOPAL

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BM 65.26.1 The Board approved the purchase of a building known as Sanchi Complex of Madhya Pradesh Housing Board. The details of the building are given below:

Floor area of the building = 7858 sq.ft Cost (a) Rs. 1100 per sq.ft = Rs. 86,49,800/-

Lease rent for 11 years in

Advance (a) Rs. 86,438 per annum = Rs. 950818

Land Maintenance Charges = Rs. 2000/- per annum Common Service Charges = Rs. 7200/- per annum

BM 65.26.2 The Board further decided that this may be reported to the Finance Committee at its next meeting as provision for this has been recommended in revised estimates.

ITEM NO. 27 APPOINTMENT OF PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR

BM 65.27.1 The Board accepted the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor and approved the appointment of Shri D.C. Pant as the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU under Statute 3 of the Statutes of IGNOU in the revised pay scale of Pro-Vice-Chancellors, Rs. 18400-500-22400/-.

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

(ABDUL W. KHAN) Vice-Chancellor