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MINUTES OF THE 88TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON NOVEMBER 27, 2006 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK NO. 8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI – 110 068

The following were present:

1. Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice-Chancellor - Chairman
2. Prof. C.L. Anand - Member
3. Shri Pawan Chopra - Member
4. Dr. N.S. Rame Gowda - Member
5. Dr. K.Vishwanathan - Member
6. Shri Rajendra Singh Pawar - Member
7. Prof. Pardeep Sahni - Member
8. Shri V.K. Arora - Member
9. Smt. Poonam Bhushan - Member

Shri Dalip Kumar Tetri, Registrar - Secretary

Shri R.P. Agarwal, Secretary (S&HE), MHRD, Shri S.K. Arora, Secretary, Ministry of I & B, Prof. Y.K. Alagh and Dr. Devi Shetty could not attend the meeting.

Prof. B.S. Saraswat, Director, Academic Co-ordination Division and Shri R. Chauhan, Finance Officer attended the meeting as special invitees.

Shri T.K. Kaul, Deputy Registrar (VCO), Shri R.P.D. Singh, Assistant Registrar (Governance) and Smt. Suman Taneja, Section Officer (Governance) were present to assist the Secretary.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members to the 88th Meeting of the Board of Management and mentioned the composition of the Board of Management, which consists of very eminent experts in the related fields. The Chairman placed on record the contributions made by Prof. H.P. Dikshit, Ex Vice Chancellor and the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Prof. S.C. Garg for their efforts in accelerating the growth of the University in particular and their support to the ODL system in general.

The Chairman mentioned that from the day he took over the charge of the University as Vice-Chancellor, he has been constantly interacting with

the Faculty, the Directors of the Schools and Heads of Divisions including the Registrar (Administration), the Registrar (SRE), the Finance Officer and the Director (Academic Coordination) to get feedback and assess the situation. He has also gone through the Parliament Questions and Court cases pending against the university for the last 5 years and the University's response thereto. The recently concluded conference of Regional Directors from November 11-14, 2006 has greatly helped to understand the various problems being faced by the University. He mentioned that within a short span of two decades of its existence, the Indira Gandhi National Open University has been successful in establishing itself as the pioneer and undisputed leader in the ODL System. The University has a record registration of over 18,00,000 students on its rolls. However, he cautioned that there are areas to be pondered over our performance vis-a-vis the services being provided to students of the University. He has been receiving several enquiries particularly relating to non-receipt of the study material and the delay in declaration of the results and assignment recording, etc. He emphasized that proper and timely delivery of services to the students should receive our utmost attention. He emphasized that the students of the University are our main strength and any deficiency in our services to them should be a matter of grave concern to all of us. He also mentioned that it will be his duty to see that the policy laid down by the Board of Management is executed properly to realize the objectives of the University and that no compromise is made in maintaining the sanctity of the Act and Statutes. He emphasized that he will take every step to ensure that there is no hindrance in the way of facilitating academic activities. The Chairman then elicited suggestions from Hon'ble Members in the matter.

The Members wholeheartedly shared the concern of the Vice-Chancellor on the need to improve the delivery system and the services to the students. Shri Pawan Chopra, Member, Board of Management initiating the discussion wholeheartedly welcomed the approach and mentioned that consolidation and delivery of programmes will prove extremely useful to the University. Prof. C.L. Anand, Member mentioned that he had been associated with the University right from the very beginning, 3 years as Pro Vice-Chancellor and 2 years as Consultant. With such a deep concern of the Chairman for the institution and its programmes, awareness of the policies of the Government of India and deep commitment to achieve its objectives, the University is in for improvement in the times to come. He mentioned that the problems being faced in material distribution, counsellings, recording and updating student grade, examination related queries, course preparation and revision of

courses should receive the utmost attention of the University. He assured his full co-operation to the University in its efforts to achieve the objectives. Mrs. Poonam Bhushan, Member also emphasized the need for consolidation and starting of the kind of courses, which meet the diverse needs of the society. Dr. Ramegowda and Prof. Pardeep Sahni, Members joined others in emphasizing the requirement and assured their full cooperation in achieving the objectives of the University. Shri Rajendra Singh Pawar, Member, Board of Management, emphasized that the IGNOU had potential to popularize higher education among the masses and particularly, the rural masses where 1.4 million school going children could be a huge asset for the country in the coming years. He emphasized that the world was moving fast with the globalization of the economy and the country has to respond well in time to be able to reap the benefits of globalization. He emphasized that in the next 15 years, there is going to be ageing population of about 50 million people in the World, particularly in America, Japan and China, while India will be having 47 million surplus manpower of working age group at the same time. By providing appropriate education, training, skills development and technology upgradation to this surplus manpower, India can gain an edge in the World economy and progress rapidly. Even a few more new conventional universities, if established, cannot cope with such a huge demand. IGNOU being a leader in the ODL System is in unique position to take up the challenge and harness the human resources to meet the emerging demand effectively. He further mentioned that this capability of the University was unique which the other Universities do not possess. He further mentioned about mechanization and streamlining of the operations to enhance the capabilities of the University to provide education to all those in need. Dr. K. Vishwanathan mentioned that social organizations in the country were contributing a good deal for the uplift of the society. He hoped that the University shall associate the social organizations also in its endeavour to enlarge educational opportunities and to achieve its mandate.

The Chairman then wholeheartedly thanked the members for their valuable suggestions and guidance and emphasized the University's resolve that we will not fail and will come upto the expectation of the country. He requested each member to identify a particular area of thrust for policy formation for accelerated growth of the University. He then requested the Secretary to present the items on the agenda.

Shri Dalip Kumar Tetri, Secretary then presented the agenda items ad seriatim as under:

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 87TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON JUNE 22, 2006 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON

BM 88.1.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary informed that the Minutes of the 87th Meeting were circulated to the members of the Board. The comments have been received from Director, Academic Coordination Division pointing out certain omission in recording of the Minutes in respect of Item No. 26 of the 87th Meeting of the Board.

BM 88.1.2 The Board considered the comments and approved adoption of the following in Item No. 26 of the Minutes of the 87th Meeting:

“The approval of the Board of Management to pay lien charges to the Rani Durgavati University, Jabalpur during the period Dr. Ajay Kumar Gupta retains his lien with his parent organization.”

BM 88.1.3 With regard to Item No. 13 relating to the ratification of the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in entrusting the additional charge of the post of Director of the School of Law to Prof. B.S. Saraswat, it was emphasized that the decision was not in consonance with the provisions of the Statute, which provide that Director has to be from among the Professors in the related School. The relevant provision in the Statute are as follows:

“Statute 4. The Directors

Clause (1)(ii)(a)- A Director of a School shall be appointed from among the Professors of the School by the Board of Management on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor;”

In view of the above provisions, it was felt that in the case of a vacancy in the position of Director in a

School where there is no Professor, the senior most teacher in the hierarchy in the School should be given the charge of the School.

BM 88.1.4 It was further stressed that even if there were precedents to the contrary, the violation should not be allowed to be repeated. The matter was discussed in detail. The Board, therefore, decided that the matter be examined in further detail and if necessary, the existing provisions be considered for amendments accordingly. The Board did not confirm the Minutes in respect of Item No. 13. of the 87th Meeting.

BM 88.1.5 Similarly, the Board considered the confirmation of the minutes of Item No. 27 of the previous meeting and directed that the above decision will equally apply to the case of assignment of the charge of the post of Director, School of Computer & Information Science to Prof. S.C. Garg.

BM 88.1.6 The Secretary informed the Board that in the action taken report, there was a typographical error in recording the date of joining of Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai, as Vice Chancellor of the University as 23.10.2006. The Board authorized that the correct date of joining of the Vice-Chancellor in the University i.e, 21-10-2006 may be adopted.

The Board confirmed the Minutes of the 87th Meeting with the above modifications/decisions.
(Appendix - 1)

ITEM NO. 2 **TO CONSIDER NOMINATION/CO-OPTION OF A MEMBER ON THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT UNDER CLAUSE (1)(VI)(A) OF STATUTE 6A**

BM 88.2.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Board considered the item and again co-opted Prof. (Mrs.) Surabhi Banerjee for a further term of three years or till she holds the position of the Vice-Chancellor of

the Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata, whichever earlier, on the Board of Management of the University in the constituency of a Vice-Chancellor of the State Open University under Clause (1)(vi)(a) of Statute 6A.

ITEM NO. 3 TO CONSIDER NOMINATION OF A MEMBER ON THE STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE, A STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT UNDER CLAUSE (ii) OF ITS COMPOSITION

BM 88.3.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Board after detailed deliberations authorized the Chairman to decide on the nomination of a member on the Standing Committee and report the matter in its next meeting.

ITEM NO. 4 TO CONSIDER THE MATTER RELATING TO FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AT IGNOU

BM 88.4.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Member-Secretary explained that the University proposes to organize an International Conference at IGNOU on a theme entitled, ‘Social Movement and the Marginalized Groups in the Era of Globalisation’. He explained that the expenditure on the event has been estimated to be of the order of Rs.10.00 Lakh of which the University may have to bear 50% approximately, the remaining amount to be generated from International/Governmental and other sources. Some assistance could also be expected from International Sociological Society. The Board approved the proposal and also the expenditure of Rs.10.00 Lakh on organizing the Conference as per the proposal.

ITEM NO. 5 TO NOTE THE DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE 36th MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON OCTOBER 23, 2006

BM 88.5.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary mentioned in brief the important decisions taken by the Academic Council at its 36th held on 23rd October, 2006. (**Appendix-2**) Regarding the MH1-07 M.A. (History) Course material, Secretary informed the Board that the Academic Council has deliberated on the matter relating to certain objectionable materials relating to the Hindu Gods and Goddesses. The Academic Council decided that the term-end examination in respect of the course shall be held in June, 2007 instead of December, 2006 so as to allow the students sufficient time to prepare themselves for the revised course material. The Council has further decided that the decision of the Review Committee to carry out the editorial changes in the Course of MHI-07, M.A.(History) should be implemented expeditiously and the revised material sent to the students and further that recurrence of such commissions be ensured.

BM 88.5.2 The Board noted the above decision of the Academic Council.

ITEM NO. 6 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 46TH MEETING OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON NOVEMBER 17, 2006

BM 88.6.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary informed the Board that the 46th Meeting of the Establishment Committee was held on 17th November, 2006 as per the dates and time approved by the Vice-Chancellor. However, the Vice-Chancellor could not chair the meeting as he was engaged on a very important meeting at Chennai. The meeting of the Establishment Committee was, therefore, held under the

chairmanship of Prof. C.L. Anand, Member, Board of Management as authorized by the Vice-Chancellor vide his fax message dated 16-11-2006 placed as **Appendix - 3**, which is also in consonance with the decision of the Board taken in its 18th Meeting held on October 05, 1989 that in the absence of the Vice-Chancellor, one of the members of the Board, present at the meeting, shall chair the meeting. Thereafter, the Secretary briefly explained the recommendations of the Establishment Committee made in its 46th Meeting held on November 17, 2006. The Minutes of the Committee are placed as **Appendix – 4**.

BM 88.6.2 The Board approved the recommendations of the Establishment Committee made at its 46th Meeting. The Board accorded specific approval to the proposals for counting of past services rendered by Shri Ajay Kumar Gupta, Ex. Assistant Production Officer, Ms. K. Dora Hynniewta, Assistant Registrar, Dr. Madhu Parhar, Reader and Dr. A. Varadharajan, Assistant Regional Director, for pensionary benefits in this University.

BM 88.6.3 As regards Items No. 5 and 9 regarding lifting of probation and confirmation of certain Teachers, Academics and Group ‘A’ officers in the University, the Board approved the recommendations of the Establishment Committee as per details in the **Appendix – 5**.

BM 88.6.4 As regards the request of Shri V.K. Arora, Director, EMPC for grant of advance increments/fixing his pay at higher stage in the scale of pay of Rs.16400-22400, the Board considered the recommendations of the Establishment Committee. The Board was of the view that the proper forum for considering a higher stage of fixation of pay or advance increments is the Selection Committee. Since in the present case no such demand was made by the official before the Selection Committee, the Board decided that there is no case for grant of advance increments nor fixation of pay at higher stage now. The Board decided that

as a matter of policy, no such request should be entertained in future.

ITEM NO. 7 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 42ND MEETING OF THE PURCHASE COMMITTEE HELD ON NOVEMBER 20, 2006

BM 88.7.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary explained in brief the important recommendations made by the Purchase Committee, a Standing Committee of the Board, in its 42nd meeting held on November 20, 2006. A copy of the Minutes is placed as **Appendix - 6**.

BM 88.7.2 The Board considered and approved the recommendations of the Purchase Committee that for the purchase of conference tables and chairs for the Conventional Centre of the University, fresh bids be invited. The Board also approved the release of payment of Rs.49,83,975/- (Rupees forty-nine lakh eighty three thousand nine hundred seventy five) only to M/s Antrix Corporation Ltd towards supply, installation, commissioning etc. of 50 Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) in the North-East Region.

ITEM NO. 8 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 47TH MEETING OF THE WORKS COMMITTEE HELD ON NOVEMBER 22, 2006

BM 88.8.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary explained the various recommendations made by the Works Committee at its 47th Meeting held on November 22, 2006. A copy of the Minutes of the Meeting is placed as **Appendix - 7**.

BM 88.8.2

The Board deliberated in detail the Minutes of the Works Committee. The members felt that the recommendations of Works Committee which cover certain recommendations of major financial implications should have been circulated well in advance of the meeting of the Board of Management to allow time to the members to study and deliberate on the issues. Each item was, therefore, explained briefly by the Secretary. The Board, thereafter approved the following proposals:

- (i) Approval of the estimates amounting to Rs.9,42,200/- and NIT for Rs.6,67,978/-for the work of 'A/R & M/O IGNOU Campus, like whitewashing, distemping, etc.(WC 47.3)
- (ii) Approval of the estimate amounting to Rs.5,35,700/- and NIT amounting to Rs.5,10,154/- for the operation and maintenance of Electric Sub Station No. 4 at IGNOU Campus. (WC 47.4)
- (iii) Approval of the estimate amounting to Rs.9,03,500/- and NIT amounting to Rs.8,60,445/- for operation and comprehensive maintenance of package type AC plant. (WC47.5)
- (iv) Approval of the estimate amounting to Rs.6,59,000/- and NIT amounting to Rs.6,27,656/- for maintenance of electric installations in the campus. (WC 47.6)
- (v) Approval of estimates amounting to Rs.5,80,000/- and NIT amounting to Rs.5,52,367/- for operation and routine maintenance of Centrifugal Compressors. (WC 47.7)
- (vi) Ratification of action taken by the Vice-Chancellor for construction of compound

wall at Sub-Regional Centre, Madurai for an estimated cost of Rs.5,30,158/-. (*WC 47.8*)

- (vii) Approval of the estimates of Rs.23,27,827/- and Rs.15,75,000/- for provision of lift at Bhubaneswar and Cochin Regional Centres, respectively. (*WC 47.9*)
- (viii) Selection and approval of the Construction Agency for IGNOU Regional Centre building at Imphal. (*WC 47.10*)
- (ix) Approval of the Construction Agency for construction of IGNOU Regional Centre building at Shillong. (*WC 47.11*)
- (x) Approval of the Construction Agency for IGNOU Regional Centre building, Lucknow. (*WC 47.12*)
- (xi) Ratification of the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor to award the work to Shri Rajiv Kumar Ahluwalia and M/s. RL Electricals in connection with shifting of Regional Centre II office to new site at Rajghat incurring the expenditure of Rs.5,02,220/- and Rs.3,95,894/- respectively. (*WC 47.13*)
- (xii) Approval of the additional cost of Rs.4,70,923/- for the work relating to Dense Bituminous Concrete on internal roads of University Campus. (*WC 47.14*)

BM 88.8.3

As regards the Item No. 47.2(c), relating to the settlement of the dues with the CPWD, the Secretary informed the Board that the CPWD was requested time and again to rectify the defects and deficiencies pointed out by IGNOU, which the CPWD has so far not done. The Board approved the recommendation of the Works Committee that a final notice giving two months time to rectify the defects and efficiencies be sent to the CPWD, failing which the University shall

get the job done at the risks and costs of CPWD and the cost thereof recovered from the pending bills of CPWD.

**ITEM NO. 9 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE DRAFT
MOUS/ MOCS/ AGREEMENTS SIGNED/
ENTERED BY THE UNIVERSITY**

BM 88.9.1 The Board considered and approved the draft MOUs/MOCs/Agreements signed/to be signed by the University as detailed below:

1. Agreement with Maulana Azad National Urdu University for acquisition of reproduction rights for MA (English).
2. Agreement with Maulana Azad National Urdu University for acquisition of translation rights for MA (History).
3. Agreement with Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Andhra Pradesh for acquisition of translation rights for B.Ed. programme.
4. Renewal of Agreement with East Africa School of Management, Kenya for teaching and research in distance education.
5. MOC with Ministry of Power, Government of India for imparting training and education in developing skills for improving efficiency, etc.
6. MOU with Government of Bihar for training of in-service teachers, and other functionaries.
7. Agreement with Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology & Research Academy (SASTRA), Deemed University, Thanjavur for acquisition of reproduction rights for the instruction material of Ph.D in Education, MBA, MBF, BTCM, BTWRE, B.Ed., PGDIPR, PGDHE and PGDIBD programmes.

8. MOU with The Power Finance Corporation Ltd. for developing and conducting training and education programmes for human resource development in the power sector.
9. MOU with Government of Uttaranchal, Dehradun for strengthening the educational promotion in the Uttaranchal State.
10. MOC with Insurance Institute of India (III), Mumbai for development of insurance education.
11. MOU with Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, New Delhi for extension of education programmes for agricultural exports.
12. Two License Agreements with National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN) for licensing of 103 IGNOU courses to the NOUN.
13. Agreement with Rani Durgavati Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur, M.P., for bulk purchase.
14. Agreement with Nalanda Open University, Bihar, for bulk purchase.
15. Agreement with SRM University, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu for acquisition of reproduction rights of IGNOU's Instructional materials for B.Com, BCA, B.Sc.(N),B.Sc.(Hosp. & Hotel Admn), MBA, MCA and M.Com programmes.
16. Agreement with Directorate of Distance Education, Kurukshetra University.
17. Agreement with Uttaranchal Open University, Bhotia Parao, Haldwani.

18. Agreement with SRM University, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu for acquisition of reproduction rights of IGNOU's Instructional materials for B.Com, BCA, B.Sc.(N),B.Sc.(Hosp. & Hotel Admn), MBA, MCA and M.Com programmes.
19. Agreement with Directorate of Distance Education, Kurukshetra University.
20. Agreement with Uttaranchal Open University, Bhotia Parao, Haldwani.

ITEM NO. 10 TO CONSIDER THE ISSUE OF CAREER ADVANCEMENT FOR ACADEMICS OF THE UNIVERSITY

BM 88.10.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary informed the Board that the Ordinance on the career advancement of the academics of the University, made by the Board in its meeting held on July 01, 2002, was pending with the MHRD, awaiting the approval of the Visitor in terms of provisions under Section 40 of IGNOU Act read with provisions under Statute 26(4). Though a period of over four years has elapsed, the approval is still awaited.

BM 88.10.2 The Board deliberated on the issue in detail. Since the matter was pending with the Ministry, the Board authorized the Vice-Chancellor to take proactive action to resolve the matter with the Ministry at higher level.

ITEM NO. 11 TO CONSIDER THE ISSUE OF OPERATION OF PANEL

BM 88.11.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary explained the provisions of the Ordinance on the subject. The Board after detailed deliberations approved that the validity period of the panel be decided as per rules.

ITEM NO. 12 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE A SCHEME OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO VISUALLY IMPAIRED TEACHERS

BM 88.12.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary highlighted the salient points of the Scheme framed by the University Grants Commission for financial assistance to the visually impaired teachers in the University. The Board considered and approved the proposal and decided that the model of the University Grants Commission shall be adopted in the case.

ITEM NO. 13 TO CONSIDER THE APPEAL SUBMITTED BY SHRI RAJIV GIRDHAR, SECTION OFFICER (PUBLICATION) AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY

BM 88.13.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary briefly explained the case. The Board after consideration and taking a lenient view of the case decided that in view of the unconditional regret and apology tendered by him for writing letters in ignorance of the related provisions, the major penalty imposed on Shri Rajiv Girdhar, Section Officer (Publication) be withdrawn retrospectively. However, the Board noted the involvement of the official with the forum (IGNOU EFACLA) as Secretary, and particularly, writing letters to the higher authorities including, the Visitor of the University and the Ministries with a view to defame

the authorities of the University and decided that the official should be censured with suitable notes being kept in his service records.

ITEM NO. 14 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEES

BM 88.14.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. However, the Chairman informed the Board that he has not been able to study the cases. The Board authorized the Chairman to scrutinize the recommendations of the various Selection Committees for recruitment/career advancement for teachers, academics and also authorized the chairman to take further action and report the matter to the Board.

BM 88.14.2 The Chairman scrutinized the recommendations of the Selection Committees for appointment/career advancement of teachers and found the following cases for appointment/career advancement, in order:

Date of the Meeting	Positions	Name(s) Recommended	Wait List (if any)
25-09-2006	Recruitment to the post of Lecturer in Mathematics	No candidate attended the interview	
26-09-2006	Placement of Lecturer(s) in English in the Senior Scale under CAS	1. Ms. Pema Eden Samdup 2. Ms. Mridula Rashmi Kindo	Nil
26-09-2006	Placement of Lecturer(s) in Management in the Senior Scale under CAS	1. Shri T.V. Vijay Kumar 2. Shri Gopal 3. Ms. A.C. Ramteke	Nil
26-09-2006	Placement of Analyst in STRIDE in the Senior Scale under CAS	Ms. G. Mythili	Nil

26-09-2006	Placement of Producer(s) in EMPC in the Selection Grade under CAS	Shri S. Ravi Shankar	Nil
21-11-2006	Promotion to the Cadre of Professor in English under CAS.	Dr. S.S. Sharma	Nil
21-11-2006	Promotion to the post of Reader in English/ placement in Selection Grade under CAS	Dr. Neera Singh	Nil

BM 88.14.3 It was informed that Selection Committee for promotion to the post of Deputy Director (RSD) could not be held as Visitor's nominee could not make it convenient to attend the meeting.

ITEM NO. 15 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF DR. PRAVAKAR RATH, READER IN LIBRARY SCIENCE, BY WAIVING OFF THE NOTICE PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS

BM 88.15.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in accepting the resignation of Dr. Pravakar Rath from the post of Lecturer in Library Science with effect from 9-8-2006 (AN) after waiving off the notice period of three months in accordance with the provisions of Statute 17(11) as amended from time to time.

ITEM NO. 16 **TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN REPATRIATING DR.(MRS.) VIJAYALAKSHMI BASAVARAJ, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CENTRE FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED TO HER PARENT ORGANIZATION**

BM 88.16.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in repatriating Dr. (Mrs.) Vijayalakshmi Basavaraj to her parent organization, viz. Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai, and relieving her from the services of the University with effect from 31-8-2006 afternoon.

ITEM NO. 17 **TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN LENDING THE SERVICES OF DR. S. KISHORE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, IGNOU REGIONAL CENTRE, CHENNAI TO JOIN SHANMUGHA ARTS, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH ACADEMY (SASTRA), THANJAVUR, TAMIL NADU ON STANDARD DEPUTATION TERMS**

BM 88.17.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in lending the services of Dr. S. Kishore to SASTRA, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu for a period of three years to help in establishing the Directorate of Distance Education in that Academy.

ITEM NO. 18 **TO CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL THE MATTER RELATING TO THE EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF DEPUTATION OF DR. JAYASHREE MENON KURUP, ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR THE FIFTH YEAR**

BM 88.18.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Board approved the extension of the term of deputation of Dr. Jayashree Menon Kurup, Assistant Regional Director in this University for the 5th year with effect

from 6-1-2007 for which deputation allowance will not be admissible as per the standard terms and conditions of deputation.

ITEM NO. 19 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE SCALING UP OF OPERATIONS AT UNIVERSAL EMPIRE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (UEIT), IGNOU PARTNER INSTITUTE, DUBAI AND THE APPOINTMENT OF AN EXECUTIVE NODAL OFFICER AT DUBAI

BM 88.19.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary explained the item in detail. After detailed deliberations, the Board decided that model guidelines on the subject including the justification for appointments of a Executive Nodal Officer may be evolved and placed before it for consideration.

ITEM NO. 20 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL TO SLIGHTLY MODIFY THE RESOLUTION NO.85.17.3 OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF ITS 85TH MEETING HELD ON 24-12-2005 REGARDING RE-EMPLOYMENT OF PROF. VED P. GOEL, PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION

BM 88.20.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary explained the item in details. The Board approved the adoption of the word, “Re-employment” in place of the word, “Extend” in the Resolution No. BM 85.17.3. The Board, however, noted that Prof. Ved P. Goel has resigned from the services of the University and has requested for relief from the University with effect from 15-12-2006 (vide Item No. 24 of the agenda). The Board further noted that

there was shortfall in the notice period and Prof. Goel has requested for waiving off the shortfall in the notice period. The Board approved waiving off the shortfall in the notice period subject to the condition that the issues relating to his appointment to the post and other related matters shall be examined by the Chairman.

ITEM NO. 21 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 52nd MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON NOVEMBER 21, 2006

BM 88.21.1 The Minutes of the 52nd meeting of the Finance Committee were taken up for consideration by the Board.

BM 88.21.2 The Secretary explained the main recommendations of the Finance Committee. The Board deliberated on the Minutes of the Finance Committee in detail. The Board approved the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 21st November, 2006. The Board specifically approved the following:

- (i) The Revised Estimates 2006-2007
- (ii) Budget Estimates 2007-2008 of the University as detailed below:

(i) Plan

Revised Estimates 2006-2007 - Rs.114.00 Crores

Budget Estimates 2007-2008 - Rs.160.00 Crores

(ii) Non-Plan

Revised Estimates 2006-2007 - Rs.192.00 Crores

Budget Estimates 2007-2008 - Rs.199.50 Crores

BM 88.21.3 The Board further approved the replies to the audit paras on the Annual Accounts of the University for the year 2004-2005 and authorized their submission to the Ministry as per the provisions of the Act.

BM 88.21.4 While deliberating on the Budget Estimates of the University, the members were of the view that the Budget Estimates of the University should reflect the aspirations and the strategies of the University for the financial year ahead and should not be a mere data and details of figures. It was good that the University has funds. However, the University has to strengthen the infrastructure and logistics commensurate with the student enrollment. This may also be a reason for deficiencies in the support to the distant learners by the University, which should be a cause of major concern. The Chairman mentioned that he shares the concern expressed by the members of the Board of Management, particularly, towards the improvement in the Student Support Services, which was attracting his attention. He agreed that the University is primarily meant for students and the funds generated by the University should be utilized towards strengthening the student support systems, growth plans and innovations. After detailed deliberations the Board decided that a lump sum provision of Rs.50 Crores, subject to availability of funds, may be made for growth plans in the budget for 2007-2008. A copy of the recommendations of the Finance Committee is placed at **Appendix -8**.

ITEM NO. 22 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 24TH MEETING OF THE STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON OCTOBER 17, 2006

BM 88.22.1 The Secretary explained the item in details. The Board considered the Minutes of the Student Support Services Committee made in its 24th Meeting held on October 17, 2006. The copies of the recommendations are placed as **Appendix - 9**.

BM 88.22.2 The Board approved the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The Board specifically accorded approval to the proposal for upgradation of Sub-Regional Centre, Durbhanga to a full-fledged Regional Centre of the University. With regard to closure of Regional Centres at IGNOU Air Force Educational Project and the CRPF Centres, the Board desired that the matter may be monitored further and authorized the Vice Chancellor to take a decision in the matter.

ITEM NO. 23 TO REPORT ON PROCUREMENT OF COMPUTER BOOKS FOR SCHOOL OF COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES

BM 88.23.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary informed the brief reasons for the University in resorting to purchase of computer books from Publishers for supply to the students. The Board ratified the action taken by the University in purchasing the Computer Books from M/s. Tata Mc Graw Hills Publishing Co. Ltd. for a total amount of Rs.50,50,147.14/- (Rupees fifty lakh fifty thousand one hundred forty seven and fourteen paise) only.

ITEM NO. 24 TO CONSIDER THE RESIGNATION OF PROF. VED P. GOEL, PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION FROM THE SERVICES OF THE UNIVERSITY AND THE REQUEST FOR RELIEF FROM 15-12-2006 AND WAIVER OFF THE SHORTFALL IN THE NOTICE PERIOD OF 38 DAYS

BM 88.24.1 The item was considered and decided by the Board alongwith Item No. 20 of the agenda.

ITEM NO. 25 **TO CONSIDER RATIFICATION OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION TENDERED BY DR. R. PANCHALAN, LECTURER (SENIOR SCALE) IN COMMERCE BY WAIVING OF THE SHORTFALL OF 6 DAYS IN THE NOTICE PERIOD**

BM 88.25.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Board approved the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in accepting the resignation submitted by Dr. R.Panchalan from the post of Lecturer in Commerce with effect from 15-09-2006 (AN) after waiving off the shortfall of six days in the notice period.

ITEM NO. 26 **TO REPORT ON PROCUREMENT OF OFFSET PRINTING PAPER (70GSM)**

BM 88.26.1 The Secretary explained the proposal. The Board considered the issue and approved the proposal for purchase of 2400 MT of paper in a lot of 600 MT each at a total cost of Rs.8,33,75,750/- (Rupees eight crore thirty-three lakh seventy five thousand seven hundred fifty) only from M/s. Sikka Paper Ltd., Shamli. The Board noted that the Paper Mill has furnished the requisite bank guarantee against the supply order for 600 MT which will be used as a revolving bank guarantee for the subsequent supplies.

ITEM NO. 27 **TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT OF IGNOU HOUSE ALLOTMENT RULES REGARDING THE REVISION OF DAMAGE CHARGES FOR OVERSTAYAL IN A HOUSE**

BM 88.27.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary briefed the Board of the item. The Board approved the amendments to Clause 21 of the IGNOU House Allotment Rules relating to the

revision of rates of damage charges for overstayal in a house from Rs.72/- per sq. mt. of living area per month for Type I to III and Rs.105/- per sq. mt. of living area per month for Type IV and V to Rs.75/- for Type I to IV and Rs.110/- for Type IV Special and above respectively.

ITEM NO. 28 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE GUIDELINES ON STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESERVATION POLICY OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN ADMISSION AND RECRUITMENT IN TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING POSTS IN IGNOU

BM 88.28.1 The Secretary explained the item. The Board considered and approved the proposal for adoption of the Reservation Policy of the Central Government in admission and recruitments in the Teaching and the Non-Teaching posts in IGNOU as per the guidelines issued by the University Grants Commission. **(Appendix - 10)** The Board noted that in cases where there is only one post available, there shall be no reservation.

ITEM NO. 29 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR DECEMBER, 2006 TERM-END EXAMINATION

BM 88.29.1 The item was taken up for consideration. Registrar, SRE made a detailed presentation of the preparations of the University for conduct of the University term-end examinations commencing from 1st December, 2006. He informed the Board that about 2,55,342 students shall be appearing in the term-end examinations at 539 Examination Centres through out the country. The Board noted with satisfaction the elaborate arrangements made for conduct of the examinations by the University and approved the expenditure of Rs.71,52,000/- towards the

arrangements for the December, 2006 term-end examinations.

ITEM NO. 30 TO CONSIDER INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENT FOR SAKSHAT PORTAL

BM 88.30.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary explained that Sakshat is a One-Stop Educational Portal of Ministry of Human Resource Development which was inaugurated by the Hon'ble President of India on 30th October, 2006. The Portal aims at providing one-stop solution to all the educational needs of the students, the teachers, the life-long learners and the society at large. The Ministry has entrusted the responsibility for creating the portal to this University. The University has initiated the activities at the eGyankosh of IGNOU with the available infrastructure. It is proposed to have electronic content of all the possible discipline areas and topics on life skills, vocational education and entrepreneurship. The activity is an ongoing process and requires the augmentation of the infrastructure at eGyankosh. The total expenditure on the hardware, software and bandwidth requirement is likely to be of the tune of Rs.1,84,40,800/- (Rupees one crore eighty four lakh, forty thousand eight hundred) only.

BM 88.30.2 The item was discussed in detail. The Board appreciated that the facilities proposed to be created under the educational portal shall be of tremendous use to the learners, the educationists and approved the proposal. However, the Board desired that the detailed estimate of the funds required for hardware, the software and bandwidth may first be put up to the Finance Committee for its consideration and the recommendations of the Finance Committee submitted to the Board for a decision.

BM 88.30.3 A brief covering the main objects of the portal is placed at **Appendix - 11**.

ITEM NO. 31 TO NOTE THE DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE 37TH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON NOVEMBER 22 , 2006

BM 88.31.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary explained the main decisions of the Academic Council. The Board noted the decisions of the Academic Council meeting held on November 22, 2006. A copy of the Minutes of the Academic Council is placed at **Appendix - 12**.

ITEM NO. 32 TO CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTORS HELD DURING 12TH-14TH NOVEMBER, 2006

BM 88.32.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary briefly explained the recommendations made in the meeting. The Board considered the recommendations made at the 3 days meeting of the Regional Directors held during 12th-14th November, 2006 which was chaired by the Vice-Chancellor. The Board approved the recommendations of the meeting placed as **Appendix - 13**. The Board approved the proposals relating to Central Library and Regional Centre Libraries. The Board, however, directed that the specific proposals relating to the decisions taken in the meeting should be processed by the different Committees/Divisions/Schools for consideration and approval of the concerned authority such as, the Academic Council, the Planning Board, the Finance Committee, etc. wherever required, may be taken.

ITEM NO. 33 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT OF IGNOU EMPLOYEES WELFARE FUND RULES

BM 88.33.1 The Secretary briefly explained the item. The Board considered and approved the amendments to Clause (3) of the IGNOU Employees Welfare Fund Rules for

providing financial assistance of Rs.5000/- as a goodwill gesture to the staff members retiring on superannuation. (Appendix - 14)

ITEM NO. 34 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENTAL PROMOTION COMMITTEE MEETING FOR PLACEMENT OF NON-ACADEMIC STAFF IN THE NEXT HIGHER SCALE

BM 88.34.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Board, authorized the Vice-Chancellor to take a decision after scrutiny of the recommendations of the Departmental Promotion Committee. The Vice-Chancellor scrutinized the cases. The following cases have been found to be in order for promotion under the Upward Movement Scheme:

Date of the Meeting	Positions	Names Recommended
21-09-2006	Placement of Assistant Registrars in the Senior Scale	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shri V.B. Negi 2. Ms. Jyoti Kumar 3. Shri V.S. Patwal 4. Shri Sandeep Kumar 5. Shri Vivek Kumar Sharma 6. Shri Ashok Sharma
21-09-2006	Placement of Group 'B' Officers in the next higher scale under Upward Movement Scheme of the University	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shri Z.F. Rehman 2. Shri D.K. Verma 3. Shri R. Sivaraj 4. Shri P.V. Rao 5. Shri C.V. Anand 6. Ms. Veena Sharma 7. Shri Nand Ram 8. Shri Ramesh Sharma 9. Shri S. Senthil Raj 10. Shri Sunil Kumar 11. Shri Ravinder Singh Saini

21-09-2006	Placement of Group ‘B’ Officer in the next higher scale under 1 st and 2 nd Upward Movement Scheme	Shri R. Sekhar, Senior Cameraman
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ITEM NO. 35 TO CONSIDER THE STATUS OF MATERIAL DESPATCH OF JULY, 2006 CYCLE (DECEMBER, 2006 EXAMINATION) AND CONSIDER MEASURES FOR IMPROVEMENT IN DESPATCH

BM 88.35.1 The item was discussed. The Chairman observed that there has been reports of delay in despatch of the study material to the students registered for the July, 2006 cycle of admission. The Vice-Chancellor also informed that he has been receiving hundreds of representations from the students regarding the non-receipt of study materials for the July, 2006 session from the day of assumption of his office as Vice-Chancellor. These were forwarded to the Registrar (Evaluation) and Registrar (MPDD) for sorting out the issue expediently. The Directors of Schools were also advised to attend to this issue and furnish study materials if they are yet to be finalized from the Schools. It was also noted that for certain courses, course materials were yet to be prepared. He informed the Board that through his letter dated 20-11-2006 circulated to all the Heads of Schools/Centres and Heads of Divisions, namely, Registrar(MPDD), Registrar(Administration) and Registrar (SRE) he has emphasized that the arrangement may be made to deliver the print material immediately and further to ensure that no new programmes shall be launched in future where the print material is not ready for despatch to the students. If, however, major part of the course material is ready, the new programme may be launched on the written assurance of the faculty to undertake the responsibility of getting the print material ready for despatch on due dates to the

students. The Chairman explained that he was constrained to take such a drastic measure in view of the numerous complaints he has been receiving from the students regarding non-receipt of the course material even though the examinations for the Semester were being held. He then placed before the Board the following chronological details for information of the Board and its intervention to see that the system is improved such that in future such grave deficiencies do not occur:

- (i) The Technical Advisory and Paper Purchase Committee (TAPPC) was constituted only on 02-08-2006 for the materials to be printed and distributed for the July, 2006 session.
- (ii) TAPPC met on 10-8-2006 and made recommendations.
- (iii) The recommendations of TAPPC were approved by the Vice-Chancellor on 22-08-2006.
- (iv) The file was sent for concurrence to F & A Division on 23-08-2006.
- (v) The file was returned by F & A Division to MPDD on 30-08-2006.
- (vi) The proposal was concurred by the F & A Division on 4-9-2006.
- (vii) The proposal was approved by the Finance Committee on 6-9-2006.
- (viii) The proposal was approved by the Vice-Chancellor on 7-9-2006.
- (ix) Supply Order for July, 2006 cycle was issued on 8-9-2006.

- (x) The University got supply of paper on 30-9-2006.

BM 88.35.2

The Board deliberated the reasons for the inordinate delay in detail. The Board further noted the chronological events that led to the purchase of papers in this lot and observed that there was delay at each and every level of decision making and implementation which led to a situation that the paper could not be procured in time for the course material for the July session. The Board, particularly, noted that the meeting of the Technical Advisory and Paper Purchase Committee was held on 10-08-2006. **(Appendix-15)** The negotiations were held with the Firm, M/s. Sikka Paper Ltd., Shamli. The firm requested that bank guarantee for the supply should not be insisted upon as it was not part of the present tender. The firm further argued that the University had not insisted for a bank guarantee. Also, the DGS&D clarified that the bank guarantee was not part of the rate contract finalized by them in this case and as such they cannot enforce this condition on the firm. These negotiations took time and finally the University placed orders for supply of 600 MT of paper to be supplied by 30th November, 2006 with a provision to utilize rotating bank guarantee and to accept the complete requirement of 2400 MT of printing paper in 3 lots of 600 MT each by 30-12-2006, 31-03-2007 and 30-04-2007. Several suggestions came from the members to ensure clearance of the bottleneck responsible for the delays. Registrar (SRE) explained the reasons for delays in compilation of data and its generation and the Registrar (MPDD) explained the delays in procurement of the paper for printing of the course material.

BM 88.35.3

The Board shared the concern of the Vice-Chancellor and appreciated the steps for decisive action in the matter. The Board directed that the concerned Heads of Divisions should ponder together and work out ways to ensure that the present crisis is managed

immediately and the course material is despatched to the students in time. The Board endorsed the decision of the Vice-Chancellor that launch of new courses may be included in the prospectus of the University only if the print material is ready or on the written assurance from the Director of the School concerned that the material will be ready for despatch well before the due dates. It was also decided that more expedient mechanisms to be evolved in the University to avoid any such crisis in future.

ITEM NO. 36
(Tabled Item
No. 1a)

TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF TRAINING IN APPLICATION OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY FOR ENHANCED EFFICIENCY IN THE DIVISIONS OF ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, EXAMINATION AND STUDENT SUPPORT IN THE DELHI MAIN OFFICE AND THE REGIONAL CENTRES

BM 88.36.1

The Chairman informed the Board that after assuming the charge of the Vice-Chancellor, he has interacted with academic and non-academic staff and discussed the various activities being performed by the University. The Chairman then suggested that the University should evolve a mechanism for creating the necessary Information and Office Management and ICT infrastructure for an effective Management Information System (MIS) and for continuous short-term and long-term training of administrative and technical staff. A copy of the proposal is enclosed as **Appendix - 16**. He suggested the following steps for achieving the above objectives in a phased manner for the next five years:

- (i) Creating the necessary physical and information/ Office Management infrastructure for enhancing the efficiency of the administrative staff, their office units, systems and delivery mechanisms.

- (ii) Making provisions to see that every year from 2007 onwards at least 10% of the administrative staff of the University undergoes a focused on-the-job training in using ICT and for effectively involving in the modern automated Management Information System (MIS). The level and duration of the training would be on a need basis looking both at the enhancement of the potentials of the individuals and the requirements of the University system. Suitable work arrangements and provision of extra manpower requirements to take care of the substitute arrangements in office have to be facilitated.
- (iii) Depending on the nature, quality and quantity of the on-job training and assessing the knowledge and skill-enhancement of the particular course/training the staff undergoing in-house or in established service training institutes, IGNOU may consider certification at the Certificate/ Diploma levels after due deliberations of the concerned Schools.
- (iv) Taking steps for gradual automation of the core processes in office management, academic delivery and student support systems like the administration of the entire Student Life Cycle from Registration to Award of Degree and Alumni Management, academic management, Materials Production and Distribution, Planning Regional Services, managing processes of pre-training, training and post-training, Digitizing Archives and Files, Financial Management and Creation of administrative, academic and financial data centers, etc. An Executive Summary of the necessary steps and processes involved in

the Total Quality Management of the Administrative Functions and Networking of the University is enclosed.

BM 88.36.2 The Board appreciated the idea and approved the proposal for initiating and executing the processes in an expedient way following statutory administrative and financial procedures. It was also recommended that a detailed study of the entire University functions for this purpose by a credible consultancy agency (engaged by the Governmental Organizations) be conducted for preparing a business – reengineering plan for implementation of the proposal.

ITEM NO. 37 **TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR**
(Tabled Item **INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM FOR**
No. 2a) **FACILITATING INTERDISCIPLINARY AND**
TRANS-DISCIPLINARY INTERACTIONS,
INTERSECTORAL DIALOGUES, DISCUSSION
MEETINGS ON POLICY PERSPECTIVES,
ETC. – INSTITUTION OF CHAIRS

BM 88.37.1 It was proposed to institute different Chairs to be coordinated by the various Schools for the above academic activities. The Chairman recommended coordination of the following Chairs by the Schools indicated against each. In addition the following Chairs will be instituted in other Schools eliciting proposals from them.

- (i) Tagore Chair for Indian Literature - School of Humanities
- (ii) Raman Chair for Science Education - School of Sciences
- (iii) Chair for Technology-Enabled Education - School of Education
- (iv) Chair for Industry-Academy Interfacing - School of Management

- (v) Chair for Sustainable Development – University level coordination.
- (vi) MHRD Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Contemporary Studies – University level coordination.

He also informed the Board that CBCI Chair for School of Continuing Education already exists and the proposals for co-ordination of Chairs by other Schools are being considered.

BM 88.37.2

The Board approved the proposal and applauded the idea. The Board further authorized the Chairman to consider and initiate steps for establishing similar coordination mechanism for the rest of the Schools.

ITEM NO. 38 TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED BY THE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF THE APPEAL OF DR. K.K. BHAT AGAINST THE PENALTY IMPOSED ON HIM

BM 88.38.1

The item was taken up for consideration. The Secretary informed the Board the genesis of the case and the penalty imposed on Dr. K.K. Bhat. He further informed the Board that Dr. Bhat filed an appeal in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and the Court has directed that the representation of Dr. Bhat may be considered by the Appellate Authority, i.e., the Board of Management sans the Vice-Chancellor.

BM 88.38.2

The Board considered the matter. A view, however, emerged that technically there is no Board without the Vice-Chancellor and the Board has no *locus standi* without the Chairman, i.e., the Vice-Chancellor of the University. The Board, therefore, decided that the Hon'ble High Court may be requested whether the intention of the Hon'ble High Court is to conduct a meeting of the members of the Board of Management excluding the Vice-Chancellor (Chairman). The Court

may also be apprised of the fact that a new Vice-Chancellor has taken over and whether the meeting may be held under his Chairmanship.

ITEM NO. 39 TO CONSIDER A PAPER ON NATIONAL MISSION IN EDUCATION THROUGH DISTANCE LEARNING – AN ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES OF THE 88TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

BM 88.39.1 The Chairman informed the Board the broad outlines of the proposed Mission paper received from the Ministry. **(Appendix-17)** The Chairman emphasized that the country needed to leverage its knowledge resources to attain and sustain the competitive edge. The world was changing very fast and we have to rise to the contemporary needs of the society at large. The country has large human resources of high intellectual caliber which have to be harnessed to achieve sustainable growth. Our ambition to become a knowledge super power, however, faces certain difficulties, which have to be remedied, to achieve the goal in this direction.

BM 88.39.2 The item was discussed. The Board noted the broad details and the magnitude of the problem, on the one hand and the huge assets available in the country in the form of human resource, the expert faculty, the huge up-coming middle class, technological advancement in the field of communication and pedagogy, etc. The Board noted the details in the mission paper and desired that in view of the paramount importance of the matter, the issues involved needed to be discussed in detail involving the experts and other stakeholders in the field and a concrete proposal placed before the Board for its consideration.

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

(V.N. RAJASEKHARAN PILLAI)
Chairman

