

Minutes of the Sixth School Board Meeting held on 18 September, 2008 at 2.00 p.m. at Tagore Bhavan, F Block SOSS, IGNOU, New Delhi-110068

The following members were present:

1. Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao, Director, SOL, IGNOU - (Chairman)
2. Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon, Member, Commission on Centre-State Relations, Government of India
3. Prof. B.B. Pande, Former Professor of Criminal Law and Criminology
4. Ms. Maja Daruwala, Director Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, New Delhi
5. Ms. Pallavi Shroff*, Partner Amarchand and Mangaldas & Suresh A Shroff & Co, New Delhi
6. Prof. Pandav Nayak, School of Social Sciences IGNOU
7. Prof. Gracious Thomas, Director National Centre for Differently Abled, IGNOU
8. Prof. Santosh Panda, STRIDE, IGNOU
9. Prof. Salil Mishra, School of Social Sciences, IGNOU
10. Prof. K. Elumalai, Professor, School of Law
11. Ms. Suneet Kashyap, Lecturer, School of Law, IGNOU
12. Ms. Gurmeet Kaur, Lecturer, School of Law, IGNOU
13. Mr. Anand Gupta, Lecturer, School of Law IGNOU
14. Ms. Manasi Sharma, Lecturer, School of Law, IGNOU
15. Mr. Sachin Malhan, Special Invitee
16. Mr. Bhavin Patel, Special Invitee
17. Mr. Alok Gupta, Advocate, Special Invitee
18. Ms. Shilpa Rajasekhar, Advocate, Special Invitee

Justice Y. Bhaskar Rao, Former Member, National Human Rights Commission could not attend the meeting. Mr. Sachin Malhan and Mr. Bhavin Patel from Ms Rainmaker T&R (Training & Recruitment) and Mr. Alok Gupta and Ms. Shilpa Rajasekhar were invited as special invitees.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the new members of the School Board of School of Law and placed on record the contributions made by the earlier members of the School Board.

The items on the agenda were taken up and the following decisions were made:

Item No 6.1: Confirmation of minutes of the Fourth School Board Meeting and take note of the decision of Fifth School Board Meeting.

SB 6.1.1 The Board was informed that the Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the School Board were circulated among the members on 28 December, 2007. As no comments were received from any of the members, it is presumed that the minutes may be deemed to have been confirmed.

SB 6.1.2 The Board confirmed the minutes.

SB 6.1.3

The Action Taken Report of the Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the the School Board was taken up and discussed. The Chairman informed that the Diploma in Legal Literacy has been renamed as **Diploma in Paralegal practice**. The Diploma in Paralegal Practice is proposed to be offered from January, 2009.

SB 6.1.4

The School Board suggested the following disciplines to be developed in the School of Law:

1. Criminal Law
2. Public Law and Governance
3. Law Science and Technology
4. Clinical Legal Education

It was decided that a sub-committee comprising of Prof. Menon, Prof. B.B. Pande, Prof. Pandav Nayak with Director, School of Law will be constituted to look in to the matter of assigning disciplines to School of Law.

Item No 6.2: To take note of shifting of PG Diploma in Intellectual Property (PGDIPR), Certificate Programme in Human Rights (CHR) and Certificate Programme in Consumer Protection Studies (CCP) to School of Law

SB 6.2.1

The Chairman informed the Board that as per the directions of the Academic Council, programmes like PG Diploma in Intellectual Property (PGDIPR) from School of Sciences and the Certificate Programme in Human Rights (CHR) and Certificate Programme in Consumer Protection Studies (CCP) from School of Social Sciences were shifted to School of Law.

SB 6.2.2

Chairman placed on record the contributions of the respective Schools and faculty in development of these courses. He also informed that programme coordinators of these courses were requested to continue as Programme Coordinators.

Item No 6.3: Selection of RTAs and constitution of Doctoral Committee

SB. 6.3.1

The Chairman informed that two RTAs have joined School of Law and a Doctoral Committee has been constituted to review their Ph.D proposals and guide them in their research

SB. 6.3.2

The Board suggested to invite subject experts as special invitees based on the research proposal of the doctoral committee.

Item No 6.4: Information of Launching of PGCCCL in ODL/Online

SB. 6.4.1

Chairman informed that about 234 students have taken admission in the PGCCCL offered through distance learning and 16 students in the online mode. He informed that special programme study centres have

been set up in association with National law schools and law colleges based on students enrolment.

SB. 6.4.2: As far as the evaluation for PGCCCL is concerned, assignments will carry 30% weightage, while 70% weightage will be given for term-end examinations as per the university norms. It was suggested that for the online mode 50% weightage for assignments and 50% weightage for research paper may be given. The Board members suggested to follow the same norms of ODL to the online mode also. As the examination pattern has already been announced, the board may permit the July, 2008 batch students and same norms for ODL and online be followed from January 2009 onwards.

Item No.6.5: To consider and approve Phase 3 Form of Post Graduate Diploma in Criminal Justice

SB. 6.5.1 The Chairman informed the Board that the Phase 1 and 2 has been approved by School Board of School of Law and Academic Programme Committee respectively. The Expert Committee finalized the curriculum and materials are in the process of development. Approval of School Board is required for the Phase 3 form of the Post Graduate Diploma in Criminal Justice so that the same could be submitted to the Academic Council for approval.

SB. 6.5.2 The Board members suggested to have Course 1 to 6 of 4 credits each and Course 7 of 8 Credits for the Post Graduate Diploma in Criminal Justice.

The evaluation methodology of continuous assignments 30% and 70% weightage will be given for term-end examination.

It was also suggested that duration of the programme may be changed to Maximum of 4 years instead of 2 years.

SB. 6.5.3 The Board members discussed about the eligibility conditions for Post Graduate Diploma in Criminal Justice

SB. 6.5.4 The chairman informed that PG Diploma in Criminal Justice was offered to graduates in law, criminology, social work and functionaries of Criminal Justice, Administration to upgrade their skills, knowledge and awareness.

SB. 6.5.5 The Board considered and approved the Phase 3 Form of Post Graduate Diploma in Criminal Justice.

Item No. 6.6: To consider and approve Phase 3 Form of Masters in Intellectual Property.

SB. 6.6.1 The Chairman informed the Board that the Phase 1 and 2 has been approved by School Board of School of Law and Academic Programme Committee respectively. The Expert Committee has met

on 12 September, 2008 and finalized the curriculum. The materials have been received from the Queensland University and will be modified accordingly. The fee for the programme is Rs. 30,000.

SB. 6.6.2

The board suggested to have minimum duration of the programme is 2 years and maximum 5 years. As far as the evaluation methodology is concerned, continuous assignments will carry 30% weightage, while 70% weightage will be given for term-end examination that is as per the university norms.

SB.6.6.3

The chairman informed the Board about the modifications that have been made in the courses as per the minutes of the first meeting of the expert Committee Masters Programme in Intellectual Property Law held on 12th September, 2008.

SB. 6.6.4

The Board considered and approved the Phase 3 form of the Masters in Intellectual Property Law with the above modifications.

Item No.6.7: To consider and approve Phase 3 Form of Professional Diploma in Legislative Drafting

SB. 6.7.1

Prof. K. Elumalai, Programme Coordinator of this programme informed that the Phase 1 and Phase 2 forms for this programme had already been approved by the School Board of School of Law and Academic Programme Committee respectively. The Materials have already been received from the Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada and IGNOU has become the licensee to use this Material. The School is in the process of identifying suitable experts to contextualize the Material to Indian context.

SB.6.7.2

The Board considered and approved.

Item No.6.8: To consider and approve Ph.D. Rules and Regulations

SB. 6.8.1

The Chairman informed that the Ph.D. rules and regulations pertaining to School of Law have been prepared in consonance with the Ph.D and RTA rules and regulations of IGNOU. The Ph.D. programme will have 3 courses.

1. Legal education and Curriculum Development
2. Constitution and Legal Philosophy
3. Legal Research

SB. 6.8.2

The Board members discussed about the eligibility conditions. It was decided that M.Phil in law or Masters Degree in law with 5 years of teaching experience or professional experience would be eligible to do the Ph.D. in Law.

SB. 6.8.3

The Board considered and approved the Ph.D rules and regulations.

Item No 6.9: To consider and approve Phase 1 Form of Diploma in Right to Information.

SB. 6.9.1 The Chairman submitted before the Board the phase 1 form of Diploma in Right to Information in association with Central Information Commission. This is to prepare well-informed citizens in the area of right to information and to enhance the competencies of the professionals already working in the area of right to information.

SB. 6.9.2 The Board considered and approved the Phase 1 form.

Item No.6.10: To consider and approve Phase 1 Form of PG Diploma in Mediation.

SB. 6.10.1 Prof. K. Elumalai submitted before the Board that the primary objective of this programme inter-alia is to develop professionals in the field of mediation, promote the knowledge and skills of mediation.

SB. 6.10.2 The Board considered and approved the Phase 1 form.

Item No 6.11: To consider and approve Phase 1 Form of PG Diploma in Legal Process Outsourcing

SB. 6.11.1 The Chairman explained that the Diploma in Legal Process Outsourcing aims to train law graduates in the existing legal practices predominantly useful for LPO industry in India.

SB.6.11.2 The Chairman invited Mr Sachin Malhan and Mr. Bhavin Patel to the meeting and requested them to explain about the programme. Mr. Sachin Malhan and Mr. Bhavin Patel explained to the Board Members about the programme that trains law graduates to ensure a perfect fit in existing legal practices in India, focusing predominantly on the Legal Process Outsourcing ("LPO") industry. It aims to train law graduates in enhancing their employability, and at the industry level, so that employers can be assured of the quality of their prospective recruits.

SB.6.11.3 They informed that this programme has been developed with industry requirements in mind, in order to completely ensure trainees and employer satisfaction. This training programme will support a number of Indian law graduates to attain employability in the LPO industry.

SB. 6.11.4 The Board appreciated the idea of this programme and approved the Phase 1 form of PG Diploma in Legal Process Outsourcing.

Item No 6.12: To consider and approve Phase 1 form of Certificate in Functional Literacy for prisoners

SB. 6.12.1 The Chairman apprised the Board that a proposal for developing Certificate in Functional Literacy for prisoners to prepare them as prison paralegals. The proposed certificate programme will provide functional literacy and vocational skills to prisoners transform them as responsible citizens and provide livelihood after release from prisons.

SB.6.12.2 The Board appreciated the idea of this programme and approved the Phase 1 form of Certificate in Functional Literacy for prisoners.

Item No. 6.13: Research Programmes

SB.6.13.1 Chairman informed the Board members that School of Law will be collaborating with IBSA (*IBSA is a trilateral, developmental initiative between India, Brazil and South Africa to promote South-South cooperation and exchange.*) in the International research study on comparative visions of access Justice.

SB. 6.13.2 The Board appreciated the idea and suggested to promote research and scholarship in emerging areas of law.

11. Mr. Suresh Kashyap, Lecturer, School of Law, IGNOU
12. Mr. Gurmeet Kaur, Lecturer, School of Law, IGNOU
13. Mr. Anand Gupta, Lecturer, School of Law, IGNOU
14. Ms. Manasi Sharma, Lecturer, School of Law, IGNOU
15. Mr. Sachin Malhan, Special In-vice
16. Mr. Bhavin Patel, Special In-vice
17. Mr. Alok Gupta, Advocate, Special In-vice
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Item No 6.1: Confirmation of minutes of the Fourth School Board Meeting and take note of the decision of Fifth School Board Meeting.

SB.6.1.1 The Board was informed that the Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the School Board were circulated among the members on 23 December, 2007. As no comments were received from any of the members, it is presumed that the minutes may be deemed to have been confirmed.

SB.6.1.2 The Board confirmed the minutes.