

MINUTES OF THE 56TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 27TH AUGUST, 2007 AT 9.00 A.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM, IGNOU CAMPUS.

The following were present :

1. Prof. V.N. Rajsekharan Pillai	Vice Chancellor	Chairman
2. Prof. Omprakash Mishra	Pro Vice Chancellor	Member
3. Prof. Parvin Sinclair	Pro Vice Chancellor	Member
4. Prof. C.L. Anand	Member, BOM	Member
5. Sh. M.P. Gupta	Addl. Secretary (Retd.)	Member
6. Prof. N.V. Narasimham	Director (SOMS)	Member
7. Dr. D.K. Paliwal	Deputy Education Advisor MHRD	Deputised for Sh. N.K. Sinha Jt. Secretary, MHRD
8. Sh. R. Chauhan	Finance Officer	Secretary

Sh. S.K. Ray, Financial Advisor (MHRD) could not attend the meeting due to his pre-occupation.

Sh. M.S. Negi, Joint Registrar represented Sh. K. Laxman, Officiating Registrar (Admn.) who was invited as a Special Invitee.

Sh. Cherian Thomas, Joint Registrar; Mrs. Manjula Verma, Deputy Registrar; Sh. T.K. Kaul, Deputy Registrar and Sh. P.K. Vishwanathan, Asstt. Registrar were present to assist the Secretary.

The Chairman welcomed the new members - Prof. Omprakash Mishra, Pro-Vice-Chancellor; Prof. Parvin Sinclair, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Prof. N. V. Narasimham, Director (SOMS) and also the other members to the meeting of the Finance Committee. He then requested the Secretary to present the agenda items. The following items were presented.

FC 56.1 To confirm the minutes of the 55th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 29th June 2007.

56.1.1 The Secretary informed that the minutes of the 55th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 29th June 2007 were circulated to the members. No comments have been received from any member. The minutes were placed before the Board of Management in its 91st meeting held on 2nd July 2007. The Board of Management approved the minutes. The Secretary, therefore, proposed that the minutes of the 55th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 29th June 2007 may be deemed to have been confirmed.

- 56.1.2 The Finance Committee noted that no comments have been received from any member and also noted the approval of the Board of Management and confirmed the minutes with the following typographical errors pointed out by the members to be amended:
- ‘Sh. W.N. Massay, Assistant Financial Advisor attended 55th meeting of the Finance Committee in place of Sh. S.K. Ray, Financial Advisor, MHRD.’
- FC 56.2 Action Taken Report on the decisions of 55th meeting of the Finance Committee.**
- 56.2.1 The Committee noted the action taken on the decisions of the Finance Committee in its 55th meeting held on 29th June 2007 and the remaining items of 54th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 14th May 2007.
- The Committee also noted that the Item No. 4 of 54th meeting referred to in Item No. 55.1, information has been conveyed to Prof. Gracious Thomas who would be taking further necessary action. Against Item No. 55.6, the Committee also took note that the extract of the minutes had been sent to Registrar (Admn.) and AD (NEP) for initiating further action.
- FC 56.3 To ratify the action by the Vice Chancellor in re-appropriation of funds during 2006-07.**
- 56.3.1 The Committee ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in re-appropriation of funds under various Plan and Non-Plan heads during 2006-07. The details of re-appropriation are given at **Appendix-1**.
- 56.3.2 Dr. Paliwal suggested that in future as and when re-appropriations are carried out these should be reported in the next meeting of Finance Committee instead of reporting all re-appropriations carried out in a year in one go.
- 56.3.3 The Finance Committee desired that in future an agenda item showing the utilization of funds may be placed before the Finance Committee in its every meeting.
- FC 56.4 To ratify the action taken by the University in stepping up the pay of Dr. V. Venugopal Reddy and Dr. Masood Parvez with reference to their junior during the period they worked as Regional Director in the scale of pay of Rs.12000-420-18300 and to step up the pay of Dr. S.S. Jena, Regional Director, IGNOU RC, Bhubaneswar with reference to his junior.**
- 56.4.1 Item deferred for the next meeting.
- FC 56.5 To consider and approve the engagement of Institute of Public Auditors of India (IPAI), New Delhi for Internal Audit of Accounts of IGNOU Regional Centres/Headquarters as per the needs of the University to Supplement Internal Resources.**
- 56.5.1 A revised proposal was placed before the Committee. The Committee considered the revised proposal. The Committee after due deliberations and

taking note of the fact that since Institute of Public Auditors of India (IPAI) is a reputed organization and manned by retired officers of Indian Audit and Accounts Service, recommended that the work of internal audit of the accounts of IGNOU Regional Centres/Headquarters as per the need of the University may be entrusted to them. The Finance Committee entrusted the Vice-Chancellor to constitute a Committee for finalising the terms and conditions with the Institute.

FC 56.6 To consider and approve the proposal for budgetary provision towards providing partial financial support to differently abled Ph.D. scholars.

56.6.1 The Committee considered the proposal and approved the scheme for scholarship to differently abled candidates pursuing Ph.D. in IGNOU with initial budgetary provision of Rs.1 lakh under the new sub-head of the existing major head of expenditure of NCDA for the purpose.

FC 56.7 To consider and approve constitution of Investment Committee.

56.7.1 The Committee was informed about the constitution of Investment Committee as under:

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|----------------------------------------|---|----------|
| a) Vice Chancellor | - | Chairman |
| b) Pro-Vice-Chancellor | - | Member |
| c) One Director of a School of Studies | - | Member |
| d) Registrar (Admn.) | - | Member |
| e) Finance Officer | - | Member |

The Committee recommended one external expert as a member in the Investment Committee, with Pro-Vice-Chancellor; one Director of a School of Studies and one External Member to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor each year whereas Registrar (Admn.) and Finance Officer shall be ex-officio members.

FC 56.8 To consider and approve Revision in rates of payment for editing course material.

56.8.1 The Committee considered and approved the enhancement in the honorarium by 50% of the existing rates of content editing for 3/4 credit courses as per the details given in **Appendix-2**.

FC 56.9 To consider and approve the Proposal to hire AIR 5 KW FM Transmitter for Gyan Vani, Mumbai.

56.9.1 Dr. Paliwal opined that an impact study on Gyan Vani and Gyan Darshan programmes of IGNOU should be carried out. Director (EMPC), in reply to a query from Chairman, informed that the rates have been fixed by Prasar Bharati based on costing by following a due procedure.

56.9.2 The Committee considered the proposal and approved hiring of AIR 5 KW FM Transmitters for Gyan Vani, Mumbai @ Rs.2665/- per hour plus service charges for four hours per day which may increase as per the need of the University.

FC 56.10 To consider and approve Setting up of 15 New Gyan Vani FM Channels by IGNOU.

56.10.1 The matter was discussed in detail. Director, EMPC provided the requisite information. The Committee after thorough deliberation decided to approve the proposal in principle and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to constitute a Task Force of experts and officers from EMPC, F&A and others for going into all aspects of the proposal and make recommendations.

FC 56.11 To consider and approve the decentralization of Budget and Delegation of Powers to Regional Directors for meeting the expenditure towards Procurement and Repairs of DTH System.

56.11.1 The Committee considered the proposal for decentralization of budget and delegation of powers to Regional Directors for meeting the expenditure towards procurement and maintenance of DTH System and approved it in principle. However, budgetary provision need to be reworked out with reference to the number of places for which DTH System is to be provided.

FC 56.12 To ratify the action taken by the Vice Chancellor to release of payment towards placement of GD channels – GD-I and GD-II/Edusat on DTH platform of Doordarshan.

56.12.1 The Committee ratified the action of the Vice Chancellor for payment of carriage fee of Rs.50 lakhs to Prasar Bharati for two GD (Gyan Darshan) channels instead of Rs.50 lakhs per channel as was approved earlier.

Item Nos. 16 and 17 were taken up by the Committee before Item Nos. 13, 14 and 15.

FC 56.16 Creation of Core Faculty positions and minimum Administrative posts for the newly created Schools.

56.16.1 The Committee took note that establishment of the following 9 new schools have been approved by the President of India in her capacity as the Visitor of the University.

1. School of Journalism and New Media Studies.
2. School of Gender and Development Studies.
3. School of Social Work
4. School of Tourism, Hospitality and Service Sectoral Management.
5. School of Extension and Development Studies.
6. School of Vocational Education and Training.
7. School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies.
8. School of Translation Studies and Training.
9. School of Foreign Languages.

56.16.2 The Committee also noted that Rs.1 crore has been allocated in the current year for new schools. During the discussion, Dr. D.K. Paliwal was of the opinion that for creation of each position, the University need prior approval of the MHRD. The Chairman informed Dr. Paliwal and the members of the Committee that as

per Statute 7 (2) (a), the Board of Management is empowered to create teaching and other academic positions and as per the Statute 7 (2) (i), the Board of Management is empowered to create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts after taking into account the recommendations of the Finance Committee. Dr. D.K. Paliwal also suggested that a detailed proposal about these schools and the financial implications may be sent to the Ministry to facilitate these schools to move from Plan to Non Plan account.

56.16.3 The Committee noted the proposed expenditure for the creation of the following academic and administrative positions for each of these 9 schools.

Academic Positions

1. One Professor (Rs.16400 – 22400)
2. Two Readers (Rs.12000 – 18300)
3. Four Lecturers (Rs.8000 – 13500)

Administrative Positions

1. One Assistant Registrar (Rs.8000 – 15200)
2. One Sr. Personal Assistant (Rs.6500 – 10500)
3. Data Entry Operator Grade-D (Rs.5500 – 9000) or DEO G-C (Rs.5000-8000)
4. One Assistant (Rs.4000 – 6000)
5. One Attendant (Rs.2550 – 3200)

The committee was also informed that the creation of these positions are in line with the recommendations of various Expert Committees, Academic Council and the Board of Management.

FC 56.17 Enhanced Financial Allocation and means of additional revenue.

56.17.1 The Committee deliberated on the issues in the agenda and after deliberations, approved as under:

- i) 10% enhancement of fee for all the courses from January 2008 session onwards. Actual fee for each Course/Programme need to be rounded off with the approval of the Vice Chancellor.
- ii) The Committee took note of the fact that at present MHRD does not provide any financial assistance to the University under Non Plan expenditure. The committee approved the proposal to request MHRD for providing Non Plan grants to IGNOU under the same pattern as in the case of the other Central Universities.
- iii) The Committee observed that the University has no permanent building for housing its administrative offices. The present temporary structures are having asbestos roof which is being objected to by the Environmentalists. These have also outlived and may have to be demolished in due course. The Committee, therefore, approved requesting MHRD to provide one time allocation of Rs.75 crores for a permanent administrative building.

- FC 56.13** **To consider and approve Creation of non-academic position for the new Schools of Studies notified on 22.08.2007.**
- 56.13.1 A part of the Item was taken up as Item No. 16 which was considered earlier. The other part of the Item could not be taken up and hence deferred.
- FC 56.14** **To consider and approve the rationalization of Translation Staff of the University.**
- 56.14.1 The Item could not be taken up and hence it was deferred for the next meeting.
- FC 56.15** **To consider extension of benefits of two advance increments to Section Officer (Publication).**
- 56.15.1 The Item could not be taken up and hence it was deferred for the next meeting.
- The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.**

(V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai)
Chairman