

MINUTES OF THE 66TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 3RD AUGUST 2009 AT 3.30 P.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM, IGNOU CAMPUS.

The following were present:

7. Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai	Vice Chancellor	Chairman
8. Prof. Omprakash Mishra	Pro Vice Chancellor	Member
9. Prof. Parvin K. Sinclair	Pro Vice Chancellor	Special Member
10. Dr. Veena Vinayak Rao Thakre		Member
11. Sh. M.P. Gupta	Addl. Secretary (Retd.)	Member
12. Sh. Cherian Thomas	Finance Officer (Offg.)	Secretary

Sh. S.K. Ray, Sh. N.K. Sinha and Prof. Manohar Lal could not attend the meeting due to their preoccupation.

Mrs. Manjula Verma, Joint Registrar and Sh. T.K. Kaul, Deputy Registrar were present to assist the Committee.

The Chairman welcomed the members attending the meeting of the Finance Committee. Chairman specially welcomed Dr. Veena Vinayak Rao Thakre who attended the meeting for the first time.

The Chairman then requested the Secretary to present the agenda items.

Before taking up the regular agenda items for discussion, the Secretary informed the Committee that he has received a fax from MHRD at about 2.00 p.m. on the current agenda items and also on the items of 65th meeting of the Finance Committee. It was circulated among the members. He also informed that the copy of letter received from Ministry of Finance in response to draft EFC Memo, as stated by MHRD in their fax *ibid*, was not found enclosed. The Secretary informed that the main issues pointed out by MHRD are –

- xii) Creation of posts;
- xiii) Financial autonomy to Distance Education Council (DEC) and creation of posts in DEC;
- xiv) Nomenclature of the Institutes prefixing ‘IGNOU’ instead of ‘National’ for the three institutes of North Eastern Region;
- xv) Status of newly created institutes in North East Region within the provisions of the Act and reply furnished by Ministry in the Parliament during 2008.

These issues were discussed. The Committee was of the opinion that in so far as the creation of the additional posts are concerned, IGNOU Act and the Statutes are well defined and authorities of the IGNOU have acted under Section 5 of IGNOU Act and

Statute 7 of the University. This aspect was also clarified by MHRD earlier. **MHRD vide its letter F.5-39/97-Desk (U)(A) dated 18th June 1997, while forwarding comments on various items of 51st meeting of Board of Management has clarified in respect of difference of opinion in the matter of creation of posts by IGNOU. MHRD had referred the matter to Department of Legal Affairs and on the basis of the opinion taken from the Ministry of Finance it was communicated to the University that MHRD has no objection to the creation of posts by IGNOU as the Restrictive Clauses having financial bearing in the autonomous organizations are not applicable in the case of IGNOU.** So far as re-naming of IGNOU Institutes in NE Region are concerned, the matter will be examined separately by Registrar (Admn) & Deputy Director EDNERU. The contents of the fax received from MHRD would be kept in view while considering the agenda items. The Secretary then took up the regular agenda items.

FC 66.1 To confirm the minutes of the 65th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 25th June 2009.

66.1.1 The Secretary informed that the minutes of the 65th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 25th June 2009 were circulated to all the members of the Committee with request to send their comments, if any. No comments on the minutes have been received from any member so far. The Secretary proposed that the minutes of the 65th meeting of the Finance Committee may be confirmed.

66.1.2 Minutes of the meeting of 65th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 25th June 2009 were confirmed.

FC 66.2 Action Taken Report in respect of the recommendations of 65th Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 25th June 2009.

66.2.1 The Secretary informed that the minutes of the 65th Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 25th June 2009 had been presented to the 100th meeting of the Board of Management held on 14th July 2009. The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Management have not been received. Hence, further action on the minutes could not be taken. Action Taken Report on the recommendations of the 65th meeting of the Finance Committee will be submitted in the next meeting of the Committee.

FC 66.3 To report the action taken in Re-appropriation of funds since last meeting of the Finance Committee.

66.3.1 The Secretary informed that the re-appropriation of funds from one head of account to another head of account is being resorted to on need basis,

by the Vice-Chancellor or the Finance Officer, as per the delegation of powers.

66.3.2 The Committee noted the re-appropriation of funds carried out since the last meeting of the Finance Committee as given in Annexure 1 & 2 of the item.

FC 66.4 To consider and approve the proposal for creation of Budget Head to RIVET alongwith allocation of fund in BE 2009-10.

66.4.1 The Committee noted that the Board of Management vide its resolution 97.3.2 resolved to create Regional Institute of Vocational Education and Training (RIVET) for the East Zone at Phulbani. The Committee also noted that Regional Institute is having collaboration with CITRAP, a private organization in Phulbani. Ed.CIL has been approached to draw up the master plan and prepare an M.O.A. and supervise construction activities of the RIVET. The Committee also noted that in its resolution No. 97.3.2 Board of Management has asked for inclusion of fund allocations for RIVET in Budget Estimates 2009-10.

66.4.2 Prof. Pandav Nayak, OSD was called in and he informed the Committee that for RIVET, requirement of funds during the year 2009-10 would be Rs.57.44 lakhs only as per a note circulated by him.

66.4.3 The Finance Committee after deliberations approved Budget Estimates of Rs.57.44 lakhs for the year 2009-10 for RIVET in Plan Account. The expenditure would be made out of the grants received from MHRD and supplemented by the contribution from IGNOU.

FC 66.5 To consider and approve the proposal for creation of Faculty Positions in the Centre for the Corporate Education, Training and Consultancy (CCETC).

66.5.1 The Finance Committee noted that Academic Council in its 45th meeting held on 24th October 2008 approved creation of CCETC in the University. The minutes of the Academic Council were considered by the Board of Management in its 97th meeting held on 19th November 2008. The Committee also noted that at present only two faculty members – one Deputy Director and one Assistant Professor (Senior Scale) are working in CCETC. The centre is introducing one year Post Graduate Diploma Programme in Corporate Governance in the next academic session and has already signed MOUs with Cochin International Airport Ltd., WLC College India, Centum Learning Ltd. and M/s Core Technologies Pvt. Ltd. and the discussions are going on with Institute of Rail Transport, Food Safety & Standards Authority of India, NIS Sparta Ltd., FLDL etc. Apart from two faculty positions already working, the centre requires two positions each of Professor and Assistant Professor and Senior Consultant (Full Time). The Finance Committee after the deliberations recommended for approval of the

academic positions which have been recommended by the Academic Council.

FC 66.6 To consider and approve the creation of Budget Head “Purchase of Software” under the Capital Expenditure in CPU.

66.6.1 The Finance Committee noted that in its 58th meeting held on 31st March 2008 it was decided that purchase of software below Rs.15000/- may be treated as revenue expenditure and above it as capital

expenditure. The budget head for purchase of software is available in revenue account but not in capital account. School of Computer & Information Science (SOCIS) proposes to purchase ‘Qualnet’ Network Simulator for Rs.4,99,000/-.

66.6.2 The Committee after deliberations approved creation of budget head Purchase of Software under Capital Account with allocation of Rs.50 lakhs in Non-Plan Budget Estimates 2009-10. The expenditure on this will be met out of the internal resources of IGNOU.

FC 66.7 To report approval of Annual Account of the University 2008-09 by circulation to the members of the Finance Committee.

66.7.1 The Secretary circulated a comprehensive note as per Appendix 1 on the comments of Sh. M.P. Gupta which included the progress in transferring the New Pension Scheme to Pension Regulatory Authority of India. Members were satisfied with the inputs given in the note.

66.7.2 The Committee noted that as per the decision taken by the Finance Committee in its 65th meeting held on 25th June 2009 the Annual Accounts were circulated to the members. Majority of the members of the Finance Committee approved it and the item was forwarded for placing before the Board of Management in its 100th meeting held on 4th July 2009.

FC 66.8 To consider and approve the Engagement of Ms. Bina Chaturvedi, Translation Officer (Ret’d) as a Jr. Consultant for the Translation Cell, SOH.

66.8.1 The Finance Committee after deliberations recommended engagement of Mrs. Bina Chaturvedi as a Consultant for the Translation Cell. On the suggestion of Prof. Parvin Sinclair, the Committee agreed to pay monthly remuneration of Rs.22,500/- p.m. to her.

FC 66.9 To consider and approve the proposal for grant of Financial Autonomy to the Distance Education Council (DEC).

66.9.1 Vice-Chancellor informed the Committee that the proposal is not for granting of financial autonomy to DEC as the subject suggests, but decentralization of disbursement of payments to DEC.

- 66.9.2 The Committee noted that Distance Education Council (DEC) in its 13th meeting held on 3rd July 1997 approved the restructuring of DEC within the framework of IGNOU Act. The Committee also noted that from 1st April 2009 disbursement of payments have been decentralized in respect of Schools and Centres. On the pattern of decentralization of disbursement powers to Schools and Centres, the Finance Committee recommends for the decentralization of disbursement powers to DEC also. DEC shall maintain relevant records.
- FC 66.10 To report the minutes of the meeting of the Investment Committee held on 14th July 2009.**
- 66.10.1 The Finance Committee noted the minutes of the meeting of the Investment Committee held on 14th July 2009.
- FC 66.11 To report the summary of expenditure/utilization of funds under Plan & Non-Plan.**
- 66.11.1 The Committee noted the utilization of funds upto 24th July 2009 under Plan & Non-Plan. The Committee also desired that while preparing the summary of expenditure of Plan under four main heads, the allocation of funds may also be shown.
- FC 66.12 To consider and approve the creation of Non-Academic Posts for the Centre for Corporate Education, Training and Consultancy (CCTEC).**
- 66.12.1 The Committee after deliberations recommends for creation of a post of Assistant Registrar and a Senior Assistant for CCTEC. Other Non-academic positions will be considered when the academic activity of the centre picks up and the faculty positions are filled up on contractual basis.
- FC 66.13 Creation of a budget head and fund allocation for the release of rent for the Office-cum-Godown of the Southern Zonal/Regional Printing Centre at Coimbatore.**
- Transfer of funds allocated for the Printing work undertaken by the Southern Zonal/Regional Printing.**
- 66.13.1 The Committee was informed that in pursuance to the Board of Management decision in its 96th meeting held on 17th September 2008, decentralization of printing has been started from the Southern Zone. An Office-cum-Godown at Coimbatore has also been hired, which is at present under the overall control of Regional Centre, Madurai. Reprinting work of MBA & MCA programmes have also been initiated for July 2009 session.

66.13.2 The Committee after deliberations recommends for creation of budget head under Regional Centre Madurai for release of rent for Office-cum-Godown at Coimbatore and allocation of funds for payment of rent and for printing purposes from allocations made in BE 2009-10 under different head of accounts for Zonal/Regional Printing.

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

**(V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai)
Vice-Chancellor & Chairman, FC**