

MINUTES OF THE 67TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 8TH OCTOBER 2009 AT 3.00 P.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM, IGNOU CAMPUS.

The following were present:

1. Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai Vice Chancellor Chairman
2. Prof. Omprakash Mishra Pro Vice Chancellor Member
3. Prof. Parvin K. Sinclair Pro Vice Chancellor Special Member
4. Dr. Veena Vinayak Rao Thakre Member
5. Sh. M.P. Gupta Addl. Secretary (Retd.) Member
6. Prof. Manohar Lal Director, SOCIS Member
7. Sh. Cherian Thomas Finance Officer (Offg.) Secretary

Sh. U.S. Tolia, Registrar (Admn.) attended the meeting as a Special Invitee.

Sh. S.K. Ray, AS & FA, MHRD and Sh. N.K. Sinha, JS (DL), MHRD 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 and then requested the Secretary to present the agenda items. The following items were presented.

FC 67.1 To confirm the minutes of the 66th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 3rd August 2009.

67.1.1 The Secretary informed that the minutes of the 66th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 3rd August 2009 were circulated to all members of the Committee with request to send their comments, if any. The Secretary informed that no comments were received from any member of the Committee but a letter bearing No. 5-51/2009-DL dated 4th September 2009 raising observations on certain items has been received from MHRD. Response to each para of the letter *ibid* is given in the agenda note. After discussions, it was decided that a clarificatory letter be sent to MHRD on all the points raised in the letter.

67.1.2 The Secretary thereafter proposed that the minutes of the 66th meeting of the Finance Committee may be confirmed.

67.1.3 Minutes of the meeting of 66th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 3rd August 2009 were confirmed.

FC 67.2 Action Taken Report in respect of the recommendations of 65th & 66th meetings of the Finance Committee held on 25th June & 3rd August, 2009.

67.2.1 The Secretary informed that the minutes of the 65th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 25th June 2009 were approved by the Board of Management in its 100th meeting held on 14th July 2009 and that of 66th meeting of the Finance Committee were approved by the Board of Management in its 101st meeting held on 12th August 2009. Action Taken Report on each item of the minutes of 65th and 66th meeting of the Finance Committee has been presented in the agenda note.

67.2.2 The Committee noted the Action Taken Report on the minutes of 65th and 66th meeting of the Finance Committee.

FC 67.3 To report the action taken in Re-appropriation of funds since last meeting of the Finance Committee.

67.3.1 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, with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor or the Finance Officer, as per the delegation of powers.

67.3.2 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 67.4 Changeover from CPF Scheme to GPF Scheme in respect of 34 (Thirty-four) Employees who did not opt for GPF Scheme earlier.

67.4.1 The matter for changeover from CPF Scheme to GPF Scheme in respect of 34 employees who did not opt for GPF Scheme earlier was considered by the Finance Committee. The Secretary circulated the letter bearing No. 30(2)/2009-IFD dated 8th October 2009 received from MHRD stating that the present proposal for switching over from CPF to GPF-cum-Pension Scheme is not permissible in terms of the instructions issued to all Autonomous Bodies under the Ministry's letter No. F.19-20/2005-IFD dated 22.2.2006. The Committee noted that the Govt. has made major changes in the pension scheme from 1st January 2004 onwards.

67.4.2 It was informed to the Committee that some of the employees of IGNOU were allowed to switchover to GPF-cum-Pension Scheme after 1.1.2004. The Committee desired to know the details of all cases of IGNOU who were allowed to shift from CPF Scheme to GPF-cum-Pension Scheme after 1st January 2004 alongwith the basis of switchover. In view of these facts and the letter from the MHRD, the CPF to GPF changeover was not recommended. It was recommended to review the decision of the Board of Management also in this context.

FC 67.5 To report the decisions of the Vice Chancellor for hiring of building for Regional Centres.

67.5.1 The Secretary informed that RSD has submitted through agenda note that office buildings for 9 Regional Centres – RC Delhi-3; RC Noida; RC Delhi-1; RC Chandigarh; RC Panjim (Goa); RC Trivandrum; RC Nagpur; RC Pune and RC Hyderabad have been hired on monthly rent as under:

- i. RC Delhi-3 Rs.11,57,040/-
- ii. RC Noida Rs. 2,40,000/-
- iii. RC Delhi-1 Rs.10,18,929/-
- iv. RC Chandigarh Rs. 1,79,505/-
- v. RC Panjim (Goa) Rs. 1,28,550/-
- vi. RC Trivandrum Rs. 2,13,600/-
- vii. RC Nagpur Rs. 59,416/-
- viii. RC Pune Rs. 2,28,990/-
- ix. RC Hyderabad Rs. 2,34,500/-

67.5.2 The Committee noted the rent being paid for hiring office buildings for Regional Centres at nine stations and recommends for placing it before the Board of Management for reporting.

67.5.3 The Finance Committee however asked the matter of payment of rent etc. for RC building Mumbai may be brought to its notice in next meeting.

FC 67.6 To consider and approve payment of second instalment of arrears on account of implementation of 6th Central Pay Commission recommendations.

67.6.1 The Secretary informed the Committee that the recommendations of 6th Central Pay Commission as notified by the Govt. of India has been implemented for Group B, C and D positions and that of the recommendations of the Pay Committee of UGC as approved and notified by the Govt. of India have been implemented for Group A positions including teachers. This was approved by the Finance Committee in its 61st meeting held on 12th September 2008. Accordingly, 40% of the arrears on account of revision of pay had been released to the employees and pensioners of IGNOU in 2008-09. Now, Govt. of India has issued instructions for payment of the balance 60% of the arrears which are also payable to IGNOU employees. The Secretary also informed that provisions under salary heads have been made in the Budget Estimates 2009-10 for payment of

arrears also. The financial implications for 60% arrears would be around Rs.25 crores at Hqrs. and Regional Centres.

67.6.2 The Finance Committee recommended for approval by Board of Management the payment of 2nd instalment i.e. 60% of arrears to be paid to the employees and pensioners of IGNOU during the current financial year.

67.6.3 The Committee suggested that the University may approach MHRD for seeking financial assistance for payment of arrears on account of revision of salary to employees.

FC 67.7 To consider and approve the creation of posts in International Division.

67.7.1 Director I/c, International Division was called by the Committee to explain the position. The Committee noted that fee remittances from students abroad has touched Rs.8.50 crores and the number of students abroad registering for IGNOU programmes are showing increasing trend. The Committee after deliberations recommended for approval of following additional positions for International Division.

- i. Section Officer - 1
- ii. Stenographer - 1
- iii. DEO Grade 'C' - 1
- iv. Assistant - 1
- v. JAT - 1

FC 67.8 To consider proposal by 'Khoj India', for consideration of their 24 hour TV Channel as a knowledge platform, and for dissemination of information for IGNOU.

67.8.1 Item was discussed in detail and it was observed that Central Govt. organizations like ISRO and DRDO have made agreements with the Signet Communications Pvt. Ltd. for development of programmes. It was also brought to the notice that the programme development by Signet Communications Pvt. Ltd. on IGNOU would be meant primarily for non-IGNOU students and would act as advertisement/projection of IGNOU to outsiders.

67.8.2 The Committee after deliberations wanted that the proposals submitted by Signet Communications Pvt. Ltd. need to be technically examined by a technical team to be constituted for the purpose so that the proposed programmes on IGNOU or showcasing IGNOU by the company should not be in conflict with the activities of EMPC. The Vice-Chancellor is authorized to examine this with the help of a technical committee and if feasible implement it as a pilot for one year following the DRDO/ISRO MOU.

FC 67.9 To consider the draft MOU between IGNOU and Government of Bihar for Capacity Building of School Teachers, Govt. Employees, Anganwadi Workers and Skill Development of Youths of Bihar.

67.9.1 The Chairman gave the background of the proposed collaborative project between IGNOU and Govt. of Bihar for Capacity Building of School Teachers, Govt. Employees, Anganwadi Workers and Skill Development of Youths of Bihar which was approved by the Board of Management at its 97th meeting held on 19th November 2008. Sh. Sanjay Kumar, Assistant Director, Govt. of Bihar who represented Bihar Govt. was called in by the Committee when this item was taken up for seeking clarification on certain points. It was also noted that the collaboration and the draft MOU was approved by the Bihar Cabinet.

67.9.2 After deliberations the Committee approved the tentative fee structure for following Govt. sponsored skill development programmes and the MOU to be signed between IGNOU and Govt.of Bihar.

Learner's Profile	Fee/ Learner
Diploma in Primary Teaching – DPE for Untrained Primary Teachers – 220 Hrs.	Rs.2,500
Diploma in Primary Teaching – DPE for Graduate Youth Aspiring to become Primary Teachers in Bihar under SSA School Expansion Program – 220 Hrs.	Rs.5,250
Different Domain Trainings for In-service Senior School Teachers – 150 to 200 Hrs.	Rs.4,200
Basic Soft Skills & IT + Other Domain Trainings for Government Employees – 100-120 Hrs.	Rs.5,500
6 month Vocational Courses in Retail/English speaking/Hospitality & other programs under Govt. of India – SDIS Program	Rs.5,000
12 month Vocational Courses in Retail/English speaking/Hospitality & other programs under Govt. of India – SDIS Program	Rs.6,500

FC 67.10 To consider Restructuring of Hindi Translation Cadre as Translation Cell and Official Language Cell.

67.10.1 The Committee noted that the Establishment Committee in its 58th meeting held on 5th October 2009 has recommended for restructuring the Hindi Translation cadre. The cadre has been bifurcated into Translation Cell and Official Language Cell. With the restructuring and bifurcation, 14 posts in place of 13 at present have been suggested with additional financial implication of approximately Rs.6 lakhs per annum.

67.10.2 The Finance Committee after deliberations recommended for approval of restructuring and bifurcation of the existing Hindi Translation cadre into Translation Cell and Official Language Cell with total no. of positions in both the Cells as 14 in different capacities as given in the agenda note.

FC 67.11 Revision of Rates for conduct of Entrance Test.

67.11.1 The Committee decided to consider the item in the next meeting alongwith details of the revised rates for Term-end Examination.

FC 67.12 To consider and approve the revised Advertisement budget of Rs.15 crore from the present Rs.10 crore.

67.12.1 The Committee after consideration approved additional allocation of Rs.5 crores to the Advertisement head raising it from Rs.10 crores to Rs.15 crores in the Budget Estimates 2009-10.

FC 67.13 To report the summary of expenditure/utilization of funds under Plan & Non-Plan.

67.13.1 The Committee noted the expenditure under Plan and Non-Plan accounts as given in Annexure 1 and 2 to the agenda item.

67.13.2 The Committee desired that quarterly accounts of the University may also be submitted to the Finance Committee. The Secretary informed that Finance & Accounts Division is at a crucial stage in implementing ERP in ODL Soft System and the staff members who got trained in the new system were transferred out in bulk on promotion etc. which created sudden vacuum in certain areas. Replacements against those positions were not readily available. The Committee approved that persons on contract may be hired either by Walk-in interview or by agency etc. on appropriate salary with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

FC 67.14 To consider and approve an amount of Rs.49,00,000/- to CEE under Plan in BE 2009-10.

67.14.1 The Committee noted that in 2009 all the academic programmes proposed by CEE were shifted back from SOEDS. CEE requires budgetary provisions in 2009-10 for carrying out the development processes of those programmes.

67.14.2 The Committee after consideration approved allocation of Rs.49 lakhs with details as given below in BE 2009-10 for CEE under Plan.

Sl. No.	Programmes	Amount/Budget
1.	Certificate in Communication Skills for BPOs, ITeS and related Sectors	Rs.10,00,000
2.	Diploma in Lifelong Learning	Rs. 6,00,000
3.	Diploma in Population and Development Studies	Rs. 5,00,000
4.	M.A. in Participatory Development Studies	Rs. 5,00,000
5.	Diploma in Telecentre/Village Knowledge Centre Management	Rs. 3,00,000
6.	Ph.D. Programmes (New)	Rs. 5,00,000
7.	Mother Tongue Teaching Project	Rs. 5,00,000
8.	Conference/Workshops/Seminars	Rs. 5,00,000
9.	Extension Council meeting	Rs. 5,00,000
	Total	Rs.49,00,000

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

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