

MINUTES OF THE 76th MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 12th July, 2011 AT 3.00 P.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM, NEW VICE CHANCELLOR'S BLOCK

The following were present:

1.	Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai	Vice Chancellor	Chairman
2.	Dr. Latha Pillai	Pro-Vice-Chancellor	Member
3.	Dr. Veena Vinayak Rao Thakre	Member, BOM	Member
4.	Shri M. P. Gupta	Addl. Secy. (Retd.)	Member
5.	Prof. Manohar Lal	Director, SOCIS	Member
6.	Shri L. M. Pandey	Finance Officer	Secretary

Shri Anant Kumar Singh, JS, MHRD could not attend the meeting due to his pre-occupation. Shri Navin Soi, Director IFD, MHRD attended the meeting.

Prof. Parvin Sinclair, PVC and Shri U.S. Tolia, Registrar (Admn) attended the meeting as Special Invitees.

Shri T. K. Kaul, Deputy Registrar; Shri S. K. Sharma, Deputy Registrar and Shri Kamaldeep Singh Bhatia, Asstt Registrar were present to assist the Committee.

The Chairman welcomed the members attending the meeting of the Finance Committee and thereafter requested the Secretary to present the agenda items. The following agenda items were presented :

FC 76.1 To confirm the minutes of the 75th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 25th May, 2011.

- 76.1.1 The Secretary informed the Finance Committee that a letter dated 4th July, 2011 has been received from MHRD with reference to Item No. 75.7 wherein the minutes states that “BOM had taken a decision in its 93rd meeting held on 7th January, 2008 which needs to be implemented. Hence the item was not taken up.” With this contention, it is understood that the Finance Committee did not approve the proposal for creation of non-academic positions for i-CAT, Cochin.
- 76.1.2 The Chairman informed the Committee that the BOM in its 93rd meeting held on 7th January, 2008 had taken a decision which needs to be implemented. It has been also pointed out that this item was not taken up by the Finance Committee. The Chairman has also brought to the notice of Finance Committee that the decision of Finance Committee has correctly been recorded that the item under reference was not taken up by the Finance Committee. Finance Committee has decided that clarification to this effect needs to be issued by Secretary, Finance Committee. The Finance Committee thereafter confirmed the minutes of the 75th meeting of the Finance Committee with incorporation of relevant contents of the letter dated 4th July, 2011 of MHRD in respect of Item No. 75.7.
- 76.2 To consider and approve the Annual Accounts of the University for the year 2010-11 to be submitted to DGACE for Audit.**
- 76.2.1 The Finance Officer gave a presentation on the Annual Accounts 2010-11 of the University and showed the trend in Receipts and Expenditure under various major heads for the last five years. One of the members suggested that as the receipts have shown consistent growth, it becomes necessary to show number of students enrolled alongwith the Receipts of the University. Also the committed expenditure of the University for the next five years need also be given. Overall the members of the Finance Committee were appreciative of the compilation of the accounts directly through the ODL system and the presentation comprising comparable analysis of the receipt and expenditure under major heads of preceding four financial years (2006-07 to 2009-10).
- 76.2.2 The Secretary informed the Finance Committee that Rs. 16,77,09,722 have got misclassified into ‘Printing and Stationery’ instead of ‘Purchase of Paper’. Also in Schedule 5, Item No. 152, a sum of Rs. 12,95,543 is actually available in PG Diploma in HIV Medicines, rather than recoverable. These have been noticed after the compilation and circulation of Accounts.

76.2.3 The Finance Committee recommend for approval of the Annual Accounts 2010-11 of the University by the Board of Management subject to corrections mentioned above for two items.

76.3 Action Taken Reports in respect of the recommendations of 73rd (two items only) & 74th meetings of the Finance Committee held on 28th December, 2010 and 5th April, 2011 respectively.

76.3.1 The Finance Committee noted the action taken report against the decisions taken in the 73rd (73.2 and 73.4) and 74th meeting held on 28th December, 2010 and 5th April, 2011 respectively. With reference to the item on CSD, it was mentioned that as suggested by Shri Anant Kumar Singh, JS, MHRD, the positions were approved by the School Board.

The following tabled items were presented with the approval of the Chairman.

76.4 To consider the Restructuring of computer cadre and rationalization of existing cadre structure.

76.4.1 Sh. U.S. Tolia, Registrar (Admn) presented the agenda item. The Finance Committee was informed that the Vice-Chancellor had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. K.R. Srivathsan, PVC for suggesting appropriate action for removing stagnation amongst the Computer Staff of IGNOU. Another Committee was constituted for giving recommendations for restructuring of the Computer Cadre Staff. The Committee in order to rationalize the present Computer Cadre Structure suggested for upgradation of 54 posts of DEO to DPAs and 5 posts of DPAs to Software Engineer and 3 posts of Software Engineers to Senior Software Engineers (equivalent to Deputy Director) and 4 posts of Senior Software Engineers (Deputy Directors) to Joint Director.

76.4.2 The Finance Committee after detailed discussion recommended for approval by the Board, restructuring the entire Computer Cadre and as per the report submitted for removing stagnation with the condition as under:

- (i) There would be no change in the overall number of sanctioned posts in the Computer Cadre.
- (ii) The qualification and experience for the upgraded positions would be as per revised R&P rules.

- 76.5 To consider and approve the payment norms for the Diploma in Critical Care Nursing (DCCN) of School of Health Sciences.**
- 76.5.1 Prof. Pity Kaul of SOHS was called to present the agenda item. She informed that the SOHS is launching Diploma Programme in Critical Care Nursing from July 2011 for which payment norms have been proposed for approval. She also informed that the suggested norms were similar to the existing programmes of SOHS.
- 76.5.2 The Finance Committee after deliberations recommended for approval of the payment norms for Diploma Programme in Critical Care Nursing of SOHS as given in the Annexure. These norms are subject to the condition that the programme becomes sustainable.
- 76.6 To consider Appropriation Account for the period 2010-11: Plan and Non-Plan.**
- 76.6.1 The Secretary presented the Appropriation Account 2010-11 (Plan & Non-Plan) to the Finance Committee alongwith the variance and the variance percentage. A statement of actual receipts during the year 2010-11 as compared with the Budget estimates for Plan and Non-Plan was also presented.
- 76.6.2 The Finance Committee noted that the expenditure incurred out of budget allocation had been much less than expected. The Committee desired that all the Divisions/Schools/Centres/Units of the University should project a realistic budget. They need to project only that much which they can utilize during the year. With these observations Finance Committee noted the Appropriation Account 2010-11. It has been decided that the Directors of Schools/HODs/Head of Centres be suitably informed by the F&A Division.
- 76.7 To consider 24X7 Student Assistance Helpline System for IGNOU for providing effective and comprehensive services to the student population.**
- 76.7.1 Dr. Jaishree Kurup, Director SSC was called to present the agenda. She informed that in the 73rd meeting, Finance Committee approved proposal for undertaking research study to outline the existing information and student support structure of IGNOU. EdCIL (India) Ltd. has undertaken this job and has submitted the report with various alternatives. She also submitted that the project be given to EdCIL on turn key basis.
- 76.7.2 The Committee after deliberations recommended to form a task force of about 5 members to be constituted by the Vice Chancellor consisting at

least one representation each from Finance Committee, Administration, Student Support and a few experts who will examine the various models and recommend amongst the alternative to be adopted by the IGNOU. The Committee also desired the University to ensure that in Selection of Consultant(s) or Vendor(s) by EdCIL, there may not be any conflict of interest. With these observations, the Finance Committee recommended that this be given to EdCIL on turn key basis who may follow the laid down procedure in selection of vendor(s)/Consultant(s).

76.8 To consider and approve budget for the project on “GYAN VIGYAN MAIL - IGNOU SPECIAL.”

76.8.1 Prof. A.K. Jha, Director P&DD and Shri Rastogi, Consultant in P&DD were called to present the agenda. Shri Rastogi informed that Department of Science & Technology in collaboration with Govt. of Germany launched ‘Science Express’ in 2007 which focused on Science & Technology for school students on custom-built 16 Coach AC train. In ‘Gyan Vigyan Mail-IGNOU Special’, the project would be undertaken by IGNOU in collaboration with DST, Govt. of India. The availability of Coaches in the train would be as under:

10 Coaches	:	Knowledge exhibits (IGNOU)
1 Coach	:	Climate change (DST)
1 Coach	:	Science & Technology (DST)
1 Coach	:	Accommodation

Operational/Administrative responsibilities would be discharged by IGNOU, DST & Indian Railways. ‘The Gyan Vigyan Mail-IGNOU Special’ would run for 7 months and halt at about 70 stations. Total financial implications would be Rs. 20.70 crores, out of which Rs. 11 crores would be met by DST. It has also been informed that the expected direct beneficiaries would be approximately 5 lakh youths. It has further been emphasized that through publicity and dissemination of information about the GVM, the indirect impact of the project would in terms of creating knowledge awareness and scientific temper in the area of the GVM movement.

76.8.2 The Finance Committee after deliberations recommended for approval of the project and desired that there should be follow-up activities which need to be organized. At the halt stations, the Regional Centres and/or Study Centres need to be activated so that maximum number of people from all walks of life can see the exhibits in the train including potential learners of IGNOU.

- 76.9 To report the status of some of the employees of the University who were granted the benefit of changeover from CPF to GPF Scheme.**
- 76.9.1 Registrar (Admn) presented the agenda and informed about the background of the case. The Committee was informed that changeover from CPF to GPF in respect of the 46 employees which were approved by the Board of Management were annulled by MHRD. Now MHRD has sought status report of some more employees which were granted change over from CPF to GPF in 1994, 2001 & 2002 allegedly in violation of the statutes.
- 76.9.2 The Finance Committee after deliberations desired that the draft status report as asked by MHRD as placed before the Committee may be sent to MHRD enclosing therewith copies of relevant evidences as are available on record.
- 76.10 Proposal for Establishment of Gyan Deep Centre of Excellence in collaboration with Directorate of Personnel Services Adjutant General's Branch Integrated Hqrs., Ministry of Defence (Army), New Delhi.**
- 76.10.1 Under Gyan Deep Project, the Indian Army jawans are registered for Associate Degree under Community College Scheme with a fee of Rs. 750 per person. Around 2.78 lakh jawans have registered so far with fee aggregating to Rs. 21 crores. It is expected that 3-4 lakh Jawans would register every year under the project. In addition, each Associate Degree holder can register for BA/B.Com in 3rd year with fee of Rs. 1,600/- and B.Sc. with fee of Rs. 2,800. The proposal is to set up 'Gyan Deep Centre of Excellence' with financial implications of Rs. 27 crores (in three phases) and will be met from the revenue generated from Gyan Deep project.
- 76.10.2 The Finance Committee after deliberations recommended for setting up 'Centre for Excellence' for Gyan Deep in collaboration with Directorate of Personnel services Adjutant General Branch, Integrated Hqrs., Ministry of Defence (Army).
- 76.11 Creation of an Independent, autonomous Centre – CERAMS at IGNOU Bangalore Campus**

- 76.11.1 Prof. K.R. Srivathsan, PVC and Dr. B. S. Sudhindra, Director, RSD were called to present the agenda. It was submitted that Bangalore Regional Centre has developed a unique B.Tech in Aircraft Technology & Maintenance which is capable of making manpower available in the maintenance area of Aircraft industry. The programme has been prepared by AERO Experts at Bangalore. The launching of the programme would require around Rs. 1 crores annually as recurring expenditure on Core Faculty, Admn Staff etc. and Rs. 5 crores (over a period of 4 years) for establishing necessary laboratory facilities.
- 76.11.2 The Finance Committee after discussion desired that approvals of all authorities including DGCA for running the programme be obtained and be placed before the BOM alongwith the detailed agenda.
- 76.12 To consider and approve creation of 100 Fellowships for full time research students (other than RTA fellowships) @ Rs. 5,000 p.m.**
- 76.12.1 Dr. V.V. Reddy, Director, Research Unit was called to present the agenda item. He informed that Research Scholars in Science, Humanities, Social Science etc. are joining the University to pursue M.Phil/Ph.D. Students registered for M.Phil/Ph.D, under this scheme (other than RTA) do not get any fellowship automatically as and when they register with the University. In the 17th Research Council meeting held on 28th December, 2010, 100 fellowships for full time research students (other than RTA) @ Rs. 5,000 p.m. was approved with estimated expenditure would be Rs. 60 lakhs in the first year and Rs. 1.80 crores after three years.
- 76.12.2 The Finance Committee after discussion recommended for approval of fellowship to research students (other than RTA) @ Rs. 5,000 p.m. for 100 students in IGNOU. The fellowship would be restricted to a maximum period of 3 years and those getting fellowships for any other source shall not be eligible for this fellowship.

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

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