

IGNOU

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD OF INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD IN THE UNIVERSITY'S OFFICE AT YMCA CULTURAL CENTRE, JAI SINGH ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001 ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1987 AT 1100 HOURS

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The following were present:-

Prof. G Ram Reddy, V.C. - Chairman

Prof. E .V. Chitnis, Member

Prof. W.V. Pylee, Member

Prof. M. Santappa, Member

Dr. (Mrs) Jyoti H. Trivedi, Member

Shri K. Narayanan, Member- Secretary

Prof. B.S. Sharma and Shri S.C. Vajpeyi, Pro-Vice-Chancellors attended by special invitation.

The following matters were considered:-

ITEM 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING HELD ON 28th SEPTEMBER, 1987

- 5.1.1. The minutes of the 4th meeting of the Planning Board held on September 28th, 1987 were confirmed.
- 5.1.2. The Chairman informed the members of the developments in regard to the setting up of the Asian Association of Open Universities, which was done at the instance and support of the UNESCO, Bangkok. The Association is co-sponsored by STOU, Thailand and UNU, Japan. The Association will presently consist of 7 members and the membership is likely to go up to 11 in the future. The first meeting was held in Bangkok in November '87 and was followed by a meeting in Tokyo in the same month. The Chairman also informed the members of the Planning Board that Japanese Government has agreed to give financial assistance to the Association and assistance from ADB is also expected for setting up of a Regional Resource Centre. The Headquarters of the Association would be in Bangkok. The President of the Association is the Rector of STOU and Prof. G. Ram Reddy has been elected as the Secretary General. The

main objects of setting up the Association are (1) to organise training programmes for member countries, (2) to establish a Regional Resource Centre with a view to make available at one place the entire information on all courses launched by the various Open Universities in the member countries, (3) joint production of courses and (4) adoption of the existing courses by other members. Members noted these developments.

- 5.1.3. Members also noted the information given by the Chairman regarding an agreement reached in principle at the Commonwealth Prime Minister's Conference for setting up a network of Open Universities/distance teaching institutions in the Commonwealth.

ITEM NO 2 TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN ON EARLIER DECISIONS

- 5.2.1. Noted

- 5.2.2. The Planning Board noted that the report of the Expert Committee on Continuing Education and Extension for open learning was awaited from the Chairman, which, as decided earlier, will be circulated to the concerned institutions on receipt. It was also noted that the views of the Planning Board on the interim report had been conveyed to the Chairman.

ITEM No 3 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE OF THE STARTING OF NEW SCHOOLS OF STUDIES

- 5.3.1. The Planning Board considered the proposal and resolved that following new Schools of Studies may be set up:-

1. School of Engineering and Technology, and
2. School of Health Sciences

Starting of School of Defence Studies and School of Fine Arts may be taken up depending upon the requirements.

- 5.3.2. It was further resolved that these Schools would generally start courses in 1990. However, if possible, efforts will be made to commence some courses in 1989. The Chairman suggested that a small group should be constituted to examine the courses to be started by the School of Engineering & Technology and the School of Health Sciences.

ITEM 4 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE OF THE POLICY NOTE ON ASPECTS OF QUALITY CONTROL

- 5.4.1. The Policy Note on the aspects of quality control was considered. Prof. B.S. Sharma, Pro-Vice-Chancellor explained in brief the main features of the Policy

Note. While approving the Policy Note, the Planning Board noted that the steps proposed therein imposed on ourselves a rigour to ensure the quality of material, student services and examinations that will be conducted so that the same could be made applicable to the State Open Universities when they begin their operations. The Planning Board was of the view that it would be necessary that the institutes of correspondence education in traditional Universities are closed down when the Open Universities are set up in the States. The Chairman explained that this matter has already been taken up by him with the Government and the UGC and it was their view that for the present the IGNOU should concentrate on the open universities, and later on take up the question of the quality in the institutes of correspondence education in traditional Universities.

ITEM No 5 TO CONSIDER AND RECOMMEND THE PROPOSAL FOR SETTING UP LABORATORY FACILITIES AT REGIONAL CENTRES

- 5.5.1. The proposal on the setting up of laboratory facilities at Regional Centres was earlier referred to the Finance Committee which desired that the same be examined by the Planning Board. Accordingly the proposal now before the Planning Board was considered. The Chairman explained that the proposal for setting up of laboratories at Regional Centres was largely for the purpose of training of tutors and it was proposed to have such laboratories only at 4 Regional Centres for the present. The question of strengthening the laboratory facilities at the Study Centres also was considered and it was decided that the IGNOU should not only provide compensation to colleges for use of their facilities but also augment facilities by supply of equipment wherever it is considered necessary.
- 5.5.2. The suggestion that the laboratory should be built up in an innovative manner with the object of optimisation of the facility was noted.
- 5.5.3. The Planning Board while approving the proposal, noted that all possible help from the State Governments for setting up the laboratories at the Regional Centres should be obtained.

ITEM No 6 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE OF THE SYLLABI OF ELECTIVE COURSES FOR BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMME

- 5.6.1. The Planning Board considered and approved of the syllabi for the two elective courses of four credits each viz. Commerce I - Business Organisation and Commerce II - Accountancy as per the proposal submitted to the Planning Board.

ITEM No 7 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE OF CONCESSIONS TO BLIND OR VISUALLY HANDICAPPED STUDENTS

5.7.1. The Planning Board considered the proposal for providing concessions to blind or visually handicapped students and approved of the University adopting the procedure outlined in Jawaharlal Nehru University for admission of physically handicapped persons being followed with the condition that the certificates of physical disability may be obtained from any registered medical practitioner and not necessarily from Government Hospitals.'

ITEM No 8 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE OF THE CUT-OFF POINT FOR PASSING THE ENTRANCE TEST FOR THE NON-10+2 STREAM FOR ADMISSION TO UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

5.8.1. The Planning Board considered the recommendation regarding the cut-off point *vir.* 33% for passing the test for non-10+2 students for admission to Bachelor's Degree Programme and approved the same. The Planning Board noted that 10,235 students had been admitted to the Bachelor's Degree Programme from the non-10+2 stream.

ITEM No 9 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED TO CONSIDER VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE ELIGIBILITY TEST FOR THE POST OF LECTURER IN THE UNIVERSITY

5.9.1. The Planning Board considered the recommendations of the Committee constituted to examine various aspects of the eligibility test for the post of Lecturer in the University. The salient features of the same was explained by Prof. B.S. Sharma, Pro-Vice-Chancellor. It was noted that the Ability Test (Paper II) would be of three hours duration. The Planning Board while noting the above, suggested that a sample question paper may be sent to the Planning Board members for their information.

OTHER MATTERS

5.10.1. The brochure on two stage National Architectural Competition circulated to the members of the Planning Board at the meeting was considered. Shri S.C. Vajpeyi, Pro-Vice-Chancellor informed the members of the Board of the present status of the Architectural Competition. Only five architects have been selected for presenting the final design of the University.

**NEXT MEETING**

**It was decided that the next meeting of the Planning Board will be held in the second week of March, 1988 or in the first week of April, 1988 according to the Chairman's convenience:**

**The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair**

Sd/-  
(G. Ram Reddy)  
Vice-Chancellor &  
Chairman

