

IQNOU

MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1996, AT 1100 HOURS IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK - 8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI 110 068.

The following were present:

1. Prof R.G. Takwale. Vice-Chancellor - Chairman
2. Dr S. Kannan
3. Prof V.V. Mandke
4. Prof M.M. Pant
5. Dr B.B. Khanna
6. Dr S.S. Dhillon
7. Dr Tilak R. Kem, Registrar - Member Secretary

Fr. T.V. Kunnunkal. Dr. L.K. Deshoande. and Smt. Malvika Karlekar could not attend the meeting.

Prof. Rakesh Khurana and Prof. Janardan Jha, Pro Vice-Chancellors and Shri C.R. Pillai, Adviser to Vice-Chancellor on Planning and Development, attended the meeting as Special Invitees.

Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rao. Dy. Registrar (Governance). was present to assist the Board.

Before the items of agenda were taken up, the Vice-Chancellor informed the Board that Prof. A.J. Kidwai, "a member of the Planning Board, passed away in December, 1995. He recalled Prof. Kidwai's long association with the University as a member of the Board of Management and later of, the Planning Board." The Board placed on record its deep appreciation of the services rendered by Prof. A.J. Kidwai to the University. The members observed a minute's silence in memory of the departed soul.

The Planning Board also placed on record its appreciation of the contribution made by the following members who completed their term of membership of the Planning Board on 4-10-1996:

Prof. J. Philip
Dr. S. Kaicker
Dr. M.C. Nigam
Prof. D.D. Joshi
Dr. S. Ramachandran

The following items were considered:

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD HELD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 1995 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON.

PB 19.1.1 The Board was informed that no comments were received from any member. The Planning Board confirmed the Minutes of the 18th Meeting held on September 15, 1995. The Board also noted the action taken on the Minutes.

ITEM NO. 2 TO CONSIDER THE DOCUMENT "IGNOU 2002 : VISION AND STRATEGY".

PB 19.2.1 The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained the salient features of the document "IGNOU 2002 : Vision and Strategy". He stated that the document was prepared by a Working Group, appointed by him, as part of the preparatory work for the Ninth Five Year Plan commencing from April 1, 1997. The document identified the goals that IGNOU would pursue during the Ninth Plan period i.e. 1997-2002 and the strategies and approaches for attaining them.

PB 19.2.2 During the discussion, it was emphasised that in its attempts to adopt new communication technologies, the printed word should not be neglected. Adequate emphasis should be given for strengthening the library system and evolving effective delivery mechanisms so as to adhere to schedules.

PB 19.2.3 In response, the Vice-Chancellor said that the University was exploring several methods for strengthening the delivery system and to improve the quality and efficiency of various services provided to the students. For instance, a number of operations have been decentralised so that the contact point for students are the Regional Centres and not the Headquarters. Similarly, computerisation, networking and development of LAN, and the introduction of a proper Management Information System with appropriate methods for effective co-ordination and monitoring of schedule of operations are some of the areas engaging the attention of the University. At the implementation level, diversification of delivery mechanism, consolidation of existing systems and adding newer methods of communications would be the focus of the University's efforts.

PB 19.2.4 The Planning Board approved the document "IGNOU 2002 : Vision and Strategy" which is placed at Appendix - 1.

ITEM NO. 3 TO CONSIDER THE SUB-GROUP'S REPORT ON NINTH FIVE YEAR PLAN.

PO 19.3.1 The Vice-Chancellor explained that he had appointed a Sub-Group to formulate the directions of development in the 9th Five Year Plan. As a follow up, the Group was entrusted the responsibility of preparing a plan indicating the programmes and activities for implementing the directions of development during the Ninth Plan period by the open learning institutions. The Vice-Chancellor also informed that the Report of the Sub-Group which is placed at Appendix - 2 was submitted to the Steering Committee of the Planning Commission for the Ninth Plan which adopted it at its meeting held on July 25, 1996.

PD 19.3.2 The Planning Board approved the Report of the Sub-Group on the Ninth Five Year Plan.

ITEM NO. 4 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE BRIEF DETAILS OF THE NEW PROGRAMMES APPROVED BY THE PLANNING BOARD AS PART OF THE PERSPECTIVE PLAN 1995-98. FORMS I & II OF THE PROGRAMME APPROVAL PROCEDURES.

PB 19.4.1 The Planning Board noted that at its last meeting held on September 15, 1995, while accepting the 'Perspective Plan' for the years 1995-98, it had desired that details in Forms I and II of the revised format should be placed before the Planning Board for its information. It was further noted that Forms I and II have been received in respect of 37 programmes out of the 56 programmes included in the Perspective Plan.

PB 19.4.2 In the discussion that followed, the following views were expressed:

(i) The Planning Board may consider Forms I & II of only those programmes to which it had already given approval.

(ii) A suggestion was made that programmes designed as awareness programmes which do not earn any certification, may not to be brought before the Planning Board.

- (iii) Effective laboratory component should be ensured for programmes which have laboratory component.
- (iv) Provisions may be made For video demonstration of laboratory experiments For wider viewership.
- (v) There were certain discrepancies in the number of programmes proposed in the Perspective Plan and the Programmes as reflected in the revised Forms I and II in the case of some Schools.

PB 19.4.3

After a detailed discussion, the Planning Board -

- (i) noted that the programme approval procedure approved by it earlier envisages five stages, namely, Phase 0, Phase I, Phase II, Phase III and Phase IV, and that the submission of Forms I & II complete Phase II in respect of these programmes to which they relate and that the processes envisaged in Phases III & IV may now be initiated;
- (ii) noted that the Courses and Programmes, as proposed in Forms I and II in respect of various programmes generally corresponded to the Courses and Programmes as reflected in the Perspective Plan;
- (iii) noted the reasons put forth by the School of Computer and Information Sciences for not submitting Forms I and II in respect of Computer Courses. The Planning Board also took note of the paper circulated at the Meeting by the School of Computer and Information Sciences;
- (iv) approved Forms I & II in respect of 37 programmes, a list of which is placed at Appendix - 3; and
- (v) decided that in respect of the remaining 19 programmes, all development work should be subject to submission of the relevant details and authorised the Chairman, Planning Board to receive and approve Forms I and II for them.

ITEM NO. 5 TO REPORT ON THE SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY HELD ON **MAY 11, 1996.**

PB 19.5.1 The Planning Board noted that the Seventh **Annual** Convocation of IGNOU was held on May 11, 1996 and that the **Convocation** was simultaneously held at five Regional Centres, namely, Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Calcutta, Hyderabad and Madras through **tele-conferencing** mode via satellite.

ITEM NO. 6 TO REPORT FOR INFORMATION THE COMMENTS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES ON THE REPORT OF THE REVIEW **COMMITTEE** ON MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES.

PB 19.6.1 The **Vice-Chancellor** informed the Planning Board that the Report of the Review Committee was considered by the School Board of the School of Management Studies at its meeting held in January, 1996 and that the comments of the School Board are now placed before the Planning Board. The **Vice-Chancellor**, thereafter, requested Dr. Madhulika **Kaushik**, Director, School of Management Studies and Prof. **R.K. Grover**, former Director of the School, who were **speciall**y invited to the **meeting**, to apprise the Planning Board in brief of the comments of the School Board.

PB 19.6.2 In their presentation, the Director, School of **Management** Studies and Prof. R.K. Grover **gave** a brief account of what was recommended by the Review Committee and the **observations/comments** of the School Board on those recommendations. **They** stated that the School Board was generally in agreement with all the recommendations made by the Review Committee, and that the re-structuring of the programmes would be completed by 1998 and they would be on offer from the session commencing in 1999. So far as the recommendations of the Review Committee concerning the autonomous status for the School is concerned, it was stated that the School Board was of the view that the matter should be considered in a wider perspective and requires the consideration of the appropriate policy making bodies keeping the overall interest of the University in view.

PB 19.6.3 In the discussion that followed, the following views were expressed:

- (i) The formulation of policy for **autonomy** needs careful consideration as the issue has wider implications.

- (ii) The academic content of the new course materials needs to be updated.
- (iii) The School Board has not made any observation on the recommendations of the Review Committee for setting up an Advisory Committee.
- (iv) While discussing the question of autonomy for the School of Management Studies, the points that must be kept in view are the enrolment figures, the number of courses on offer (around 40 courses) and resultant operational problems.
- (v) One of the ways of progressing towards autonomy would be to draw up the proposal as a project and gradually built it into the system.

PB 19.6.4

The Planning Board, having considered the comments received from the School Board and the views expressed at the meeting, decided that:

- (i) The School may implement the recommendations made by the Review Committee and accepted by it progressively; and
- (ii) So far as the matter concerning autonomy for the School is concerned, a detailed paper may be submitted to the Vice-Chancellor defining the concept of autonomy and the modalities for operationalising it so that the matter could be considered by the appropriate bodies at the appropriate time.

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

(R.G. TAKWALE)
Vice-Chancellor