

## IGNOU

**MINUTES OF THE 26<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD ON JANUARY 09, 2002 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK NO-8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068**

The following were present:-

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|----|---|------------------|
| 1. | Prof. H.P. Dikshit, Vice-Chancellor     | Chairman         |
| 2. | Dr. R.N. Salhan                         |                  |
| 3. | Prof. R. Chakrabarti                    |                  |
| 4. | Prof. N.V. Narasimhan.                  |                  |
| 5. | Dr. Anju Sehgal Gupta                   |                  |
| 6. | Dr. Tribhuwan Kapur                     |                  |
| 7. | Prof. Ram Pratap                        |                  |
| 8. | Shri Vikram Chandra, Registrar (Acting) | Member-Secretary |

Mr. Vinod Dhall, Prof. D.M Pestonjee and Prof. K. Gopalan could not attend the meeting.

Shri D.C. Pant, Advisor and Prof. S.C. Garg, Member, BOM attended the meeting as special invitees.

Dr. C.G. Naidu, Dy. Director (Planning) was present to assist the Member-Secretary.

At the outset, the Vice-Chancellor extended a warm welcome to the members. The Vice-Chancellor introduced Shri D.C. Pant to the members who has recently joined IGNOU as Advisor. The Planning Board recorded its appreciation to the contribution made by the outgoing members of the Planning Board. The Planning Board members congratulated the Vice-Chancellor for the Srinivasa Ramanujam Birth Centenary Award conferred on him by the Prime Minister of India at the inauguration of Annual meeting of the Indian Science Congress at Lucknow on 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2002. Thereafter, the following items were considered.

**ITEM NO:1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 25<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD HELD ON MAY 21,2001 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON.**

- PB 26.1.1 The item was considered. The Registrar informed that no comments were received from the members on the minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of Planning Board held on 21, May 2001.

PB 26.1.2 The minutes of 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of Planning Board held on May 21, 2001 were confirmed. The Planning Board also took note of the action taken on the Minutes.

**ITEM NO:2 TO CONSIDER AND CONFIRM THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 11<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMME COMMITTEE HELD ON JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> 2001.**

PB 26.2.1 The item was considered. On the Vice-Chancellor's request the Director (P&DD) gave a brief on the minutes of the Academic Programme Committee, a Standing Committee of the Planning Board. The following observations were made on the development of new foundation courses.

With regard to the launching of new foundation courses in Sanskrit, Sindhi and Nepali languages under BDP, the development of Sanskrit language course be taken up on priority. Prof. R. Chakrabarti suggested that there should be a collaboration between IGNOU and Ramakrishna Mission Kolkatta, for the development of this course. The Vice-Chancellor while agreeing to the suggestion, explained the importance of Sanskrit in Science and Technology and indicated that the University should take up this course with utmost priority. He also highlighted the significant contributions made by Lalbahadur Shastri Academy of Sanskrit and Department of Science and Technology in this regard.

The Chairman also suggested that gaining from the experience in the development of the Courses in Sanskrit language, the course in other languages would be taken up for development. Thereafter, the Planning Board authorized the VC to consider, prioritise and approve the launch of other programmes.

PB 26.2.2 With the above observations, the minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Academic Programme Committee meeting were approved.

**ITEM NO.3 TO CONSIDER AND CONFIRM THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 12<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMME COMMITTEE HELD ON AUGUST 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2001.**

PB 26.3.1 Director (P&DD) explained about the academic programmes considered in this meeting and the recommendations made by the Academic Programme Committee thereon.

PB 26.3.2 With regard to the proposal of Veterinary Council of India for Post-Graduate Diploma in Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science Management, the Vice-Chancellor suggested that efforts should be made to get funds from various agencies like Veterinary Council of India and

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(foundation  
courses in  
languages)

Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) etc. for the development of the programme. The members of the Planning Board agreed to this suggestion.

PB 26.3.3 With regard to the MA (Public Administration) programme, Prof. R. Chakrabarti suggested that there should be collaboration between Public Administration discipline and the School of Management of IGNOU in developing this programme. The members of the Planning Board agreed to this suggestion.

PB 26.3.4 With the above observations the Planning Board considered and approved the recommendations of the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Academic Programme Committee.

**ITEM NO:4 TO REPORT THE EXTRACTS PERTAINING TO OPEN LEARNING AND DISTANCE EDUCATION AND IGNOU FROM THE X PLAN PROPOSAL (2002-2007) AS FINALISED BY THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, GOVT. OF INDIA.**

PB 26.4.1 On the Vice-Chancellor's request Shri D.C. Pant, Advisor explained to the members about the interaction of IGNOU with MHRD on X Plan in a meeting in MHRD held on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2001. He said that currently the student growth rate is about 5% in the conventional system and about 15% in the Open Education System. Since, one cannot expect the conventional system to grow beyond this rate of 5%, the emphasis should be given on the Open Education System and one expects 20% to 30% growth rate during the X Plan period. Taking this view in account, the MHRD has increased the X Plan allocation to Rs. 890 crores from Rs.206 crores in the IX plan. Since the vocational and skill development courses cannot be taken up by the conventional education system on a large scale, the open education system should fill the gap by laying more emphasis on the development of the programmes related to vocational and skill development.

PB 26.4.2 Prof. S.C. Garg explained the new initiatives taken up by IGNOU in this direction. IGNOU has developed skill development programmes in computer literacy and training of teachers in IT for launching in North Eastern part of India.

PB 26.4.3 The members of the Planning Board, commended the initiatives taken up by the Vice-Chancellor to increase the X plan outlay to Rs.890 crores.

PB 26.4.4 Dr. R.N. Salhan appreciated the University for its commendable job in getting Rs.890 crores as allocation for X Plan. He suggested steps should

be initiated by the IGNOU to get all the money indicated in the MHRD document.

- PB 26.4.5** Prof. **Ram** Pratap proposed that the VC may kindly constitute a sub-committee for the implementation of the X Plan and the initiatives under the Mission and Vision document (under preparation). Accordingly, the Planning Board authorized the Vice-Chancellor to constitute a sub-committee for the implementation of the X Plan. The Chairman agreed to the suggestion and indicated that the committee may comprise three or four members of the Planning Board/Academic Programme Committee and some members co-opted from the Board of Management.
- PB 26.4.6** The VC suggested that the University should explore the possibility of getting funds from different Ministries and other Agencies for the development and delivery of IGNOU Programmes.
- PB 26.4.7** Prof. **Narsimham** while sharing his experiences with French Ministry during his recent visit to France explained the potential of IGNOU in launching programmes in foreign languages especially French, Spanish, German and Japanese to cater to the needs of Indian manpower migrating to these countries for studies and better employment opportunities. The VC agreed to his suggestion and mentioned that the University may also take up initiatives in launching programmes in Working English/ Speaking English to cater to the needs of non-English speaking people in China and in other Asian countries in addition to developing courses in French, Spanish and German languages.
- PB 26.4.8** With the above observations, the Planning Board endorsed the discussion on X Plan proposals.

**ITEM NO.5 TO REPORT OVERALL PROGRESS MADE DURING THE IX PLAN.**

- PB 26.5.1** Prof. Ram Pratap explained the achievements of IGNOU during IX Plan both as a University and as an Apex Body of Open Education System in India. He also recalled the concerns on the maintenance of IGNOU programmes, access to disadvantaged groups, meeting the market demand, adopting flexibility norms and maintenance of quality in Open Education system. He explained that most of these concerns have been taken care in the X plan proposals. He also explained that the University is already telecasting the programmes through Gyan Darshan Channel, 24 hours a day. And, now the University has set-up FM Radio Stations (under Gyan Vani initiative) in Allahabad and Bangalore, and soon Coimbatore and

Vishakhapatnam will also have these FM stations. In all 40 FM Stations will be established.

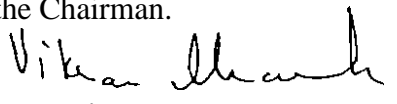
**PB 26.5.2** Dr. **Salhan** appreciated the commendable job done by the University during the IX Plan period. Prof. S.C. Garg highlighted the need for taking specific measures in attending to the quality concerns of student support services. The Board agreed with the suggestion.

**PB 26.5.3** Following information was shared with the Board by the VC for seeking approval.

- (i) While appreciating the initiatives by an individual or School/Division, he suggested that the overhead charges, for the better management and execution of project, should be at least 15% of the total grant for the project.
- (ii) He also highlighted the need for an Inter University Consortium for Virtual Initiatives. Many conventional Universities including IITs are showing interest in having collaboration with IGNOU in this direction. An Inter University Consortium is also required to be set-up for the development of course material in 'Hindi', and subsequently in other languages.
- (iii) The IT Ministry, Govt. of India has suggested IGNOU to set-up a National Resource Centre for software development and offered to provide grants upto a sum of Rs. 10 crores for this purpose.

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

These minutes are issued with the approval of the Chairman.

  
**Registrar**