

**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY  
CENTRE FOR INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE (CIQA)  
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068**

**MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE CENTRE FOR INTERNAL QUALITY  
ASSURANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026 AT 11.00 AM IN THE  
CONFERENCE ROOM, VCO BLOCK, IGNOU, MAIDAN GARHI,  
NEW DELHI-110 068.**

The following members attended the meeting:

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| 1.  | Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU        | Chairperson ( <i>Ex officio</i> )      |
| 2.  | Prof. Navin Chandra Lohani, VC of UOU             | External Member                        |
| 3.  | Prof. Shyam Sunder Pattnaik, VC of OSOU           | External Member (online mode)          |
| 4.  | Prof. Kaustuba Barik, SOSS                        | Member                                 |
| 5.  | Prof. D. Venkateshwarlu, SOE                      | Member                                 |
| 6.  | Prof. Sandeep Singh Rawat, Director, SOCIS        | Member                                 |
| 7.  | Prof. Nita Mathur, Director, SOSS                 | Member                                 |
| 8.  | Dr. Saumya, Director, SOSW                        | Member                                 |
| 9.  | Prof. Jitendra Kumar Srivastava, Registrar, Admin | Member ( <i>Ex officio</i> )           |
| 10. | Dr. Jitendra Dev Gangwar, FO, F& A                | Member ( <i>Ex officio</i> )           |
| 11. | Dr. Jyotsna Dikshit, Director, NCIDE              | Special Invitee                        |
| 12. | Dr. Manorama Singh, Director, RSD                 | Special Invitee                        |
| 13. | Prof. Vijayakumar P, Director, CIQA               | Member Secretary ( <i>Ex officio</i> ) |

Prof. Rekha Sen Sharma could not attend the meeting. Prof. Manjulika Srivastava, OSD; Dr. S. K. Pulist, Additional Director, CIQA; and Dr. Navita Abrol, Deputy Director, CIQA, attended the meeting to provide academic and administrative support to the Committee and the Member Secretary.

At the outset, Prof. Vijayakumar P., Member Secretary, welcomed the Chairperson and the members of the Committee. Thereafter, he requested the Chairperson of the Committee, Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU, to address the members.

In her opening remarks, the Chairperson expressed her appreciation to the outgoing members, namely Prof. O. P. Negi, Former Vice-Chancellor, Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani; Prof. Suhas Shetgovekar, Former Director, School of Social Sciences; and Dr. Alok Chaube, Former Registrar (Administration), IGNOU, for their valuable contributions to the deliberations and activities of the Committee. The Chairperson also extended a warm welcome to the newly inducted members, namely Prof. Navin Chandra Lohani, Vice-Chancellor, Uttarakhand Open University; Prof. Nita Mathur, Director, School of Social Sciences; and Prof. Jitendra Kumar Srivastava, Registrar (Administration), IGNOU.

Thereafter, the following Agenda Items were taken up for discussion and the decisions taken thereon are recorded as under:

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| <b>ITEM NO. 6.1.</b> | <b>To confirm the Minutes of the Fifth meeting of the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance Committee (CIQAC) and to Note the Action Taken thereon - reg.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| CIQAC 6.1.1          | <p>The Member Secretary informed the Committee that the Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance Committee held on 21st February 2025 had been circulated to all the members for their comments/observations and no comments were received from any member. Thereafter, the Action Taken Report on the Minutes was placed before the Committee for consideration.</p> <p>During the deliberations, Prof. Shyam Sunder Pattnaik suggested the integration of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) into the curriculum across disciplines. The Chairperson observed that the integration of IKS in the curriculum is being structured in accordance with the Learning Outcomes-based Curriculum Framework (LOCF) so as to ensure that it remains rooted in Indian traditions while also aligning with contemporary pedagogical and academic standards. She further emphasized that the incorporation of IKS should be systematic, meaningful, and academically integrated rather than symbolic or tokenistic in nature.</p> <p>The Committee further observed that CIQA may organise a workshop in collaboration with NCIDE for the systematic adoption and integration of IKS components in IGNOU programmes.</p> |
| CIQAC 6.1.2          | <b>Decision:</b> The Committee confirmed the Minutes of the 5 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance Committee and noted the Action Taken Report thereon.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>ITEM NO. 6.2</b>  | <b>To report the Documentation on the Implementation of NEP 2020 at IGNOU - reg.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| CIQAC 6.2.1          | <p>The Member Secretary apprised the Committee regarding the preparation of fifteen thematic documents on the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 at IGNOU. The documentation encompasses various dimensions of institutional initiatives and reforms undertaken by the University in alignment with the provisions and recommendations of NEP 2020. The thematic areas covered include faculty development, technology-enabled teaching-learning, internationalisation, research and innovation, governance and institutional development, inclusivity, sustainability, vocational education, digital education, and learner support, among others.</p> <p>The Committee appreciated the comprehensive and systematic documentation undertaken by CIQA with the active involvement and contributions of teachers, academics, and non-teaching staff of the University.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| CIQAC 6.2.2          | <b>Decision:</b> The Committee noted the documentation prepared on the implementation of NEP 2020 at IGNOU.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>ITEM NO. 6.3</b>  | <b>To report the Policy documents developed by CIQA - reg.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| CIQAC 6.3.1          | The Member Secretary informed the Committee regarding the development of five policy documents by CIQA in consultation with the concerned Divisions/Units of the University. The policy documents developed include: (i) Policy on Financial (External and Internal) Audit,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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|                     | <p>(ii) Policy on Resource Mobilisation, (iii) Policy on Welfare Measures, (iv) Policy on Promotion of Research, and (v) IGNOU Policy on Consultancy. He further apprised the Committee that these policy documents have been prepared with the objective of strengthening institutional governance, promoting transparency and accountability, enhancing research and consultancy activities, and reinforcing the quality assurance framework of the University.</p> <p>The members appreciated the initiatives undertaken by CIQA towards institutional strengthening and the development of structured policy frameworks aligned with the objectives of quality assurance and good governance.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| CIQAC 6.3.2         | <b>Decision:</b> The Committee noted the policy documents developed by CIQA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>ITEM NO. 6.4</b> | <b>To apprise the Committee regarding IGNOU's achievement of NIRF's 1<sup>st</sup> rank for 2025 under the category Open University by NBA and Submission of Data for NIRF for 2026 to NBA - reg.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| CIQAC 6.4.1         | <p>The Member Secretary apprised the Committee that the University had secured the No. 1 rank under the category of Open Universities in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for two consecutive years, viz. 2024 and 2025. He further informed the Committee that the data and application for NIRF 2026 under the category of Open Universities had been submitted to the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026 within the stipulated timeline.</p> <p>The Committee appreciated the consistent performance of the University in the NIRF rankings and acknowledged the coordinated efforts made by CIQA and all concerned Schools, Divisions, Centres, and Units in compilation, validation, and submission of the required data.</p> <p>The members congratulated the University on this significant achievement and commended the collective institutional efforts towards maintaining quality standards and enhancing the visibility of the University at the national level.</p> |
| CIQAC 6.4.2         | <b>Decision:</b> The Committee noted IGNOU's achievement of securing the No. 1 rank under the category of Open Universities in NIRF and appreciated the timely submission of data for NIRF 2026 to NBA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>ITEM NO. 6.5</b> | <b>To approve the CIQA Annual Report 2025 - reg.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| CIQAC 6.5.1         | <p>The Member Secretary apprised the Committee that CIQA has institutionalised the practice of systematically documenting its major activities and initiatives undertaken during each calendar year. In this regard, the activities carried out during the year 2025 were compiled and presented in the form of the <i>CIQA Annual Report-2025</i>.</p> <p>He highlighted that the Report encompasses various quality assurance and quality enhancement initiatives undertaken by CIQA during the year, including preparation and submission of the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR), stakeholder feedback analysis, documentation on the implementation of NEP 2020, participation in NIRF, initiatives related to the redesigning of the University website, and other institutional quality</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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|                     | <p>enhancement activities.</p> <p>The members appreciated the comprehensive documentation and the wide range of activities undertaken by CIQA during the year 2025 towards strengthening quality assurance mechanisms in the University.</p> <p>During the deliberations, Prof. Shyam Sunder Pattnaik suggested that the Annual Report should also comprehensively document the goals achieved during the reporting period in alignment with the goals and targets outlined in the Action Plan so as to provide a clearer assessment of institutional progress and outcomes.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| CIQAC 6.5.2         | <b>Decision:</b> The Committee approved the CIQA Annual Report-2025 and appreciated the qualitative and quantitative efforts undertaken by CIQA towards institutional quality assurance and enhancement.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>ITEM NO. 6.6</b> | <b>To report the status of NAAC Accreditation - reg.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| CIQAC 6.6.1         | <p>The Member Secretary informed the Committee regarding the present status of NAAC Accreditation of the University and apprised that the existing accreditation status of the University shall continue till the launch and implementation of the revised accreditation framework by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The members discussed the preparedness required for the second cycle of accreditation and emphasized the need for continued strengthening of quality assurance mechanisms.</p> <p>During the discussions, the Chairperson apprised the Committee that, in view of the proposed <i>Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishtan (VBSA) Bill, 2025</i>, NAAC and NBA are likely to be integrated into a unified accreditation vertical in the future. Consequently, all Higher Education Institutions, including Open Universities, may be assessed on common accreditation parameters and standards. In this context, she emphasized that the University should proactively prepare itself for the evolving accreditation ecosystem and align its systems and processes accordingly.</p> |
| CIQAC 6.6.2         | <b>Decision:</b> The Committee noted the status of NAAC Accreditation and advised the University to remain prepared for the Second Cycle of Accreditation under the revised accreditation framework.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>ITEM NO. 6.7</b> | <b>To report the initiation of Academic and Administrative Audit of the University - reg.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| CIQAC 6.7.1         | <p>The Member Secretary apprised the Committee regarding the initiation of the Academic and Administrative Audit of the University and informed the members about the activities undertaken by the Committee constituted for this purpose. He briefed the Committee on the preparatory work initiated towards developing the audit framework, identification of parameters and indicators, and collection of relevant information from the Schools, Divisions, Centres, Units, and Cells of the University.</p> <p>The members appreciated the systematic and structured efforts undertaken for initiating the Academic and Administrative Audit process in the University as an important quality assurance and institutional strengthening exercise.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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|                     | During the deliberations, the Finance Officer observed that the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) prescribed for Higher Education Institutions should also be taken into consideration while undertaking the Academic and Administrative Audit of the University. It was further emphasized that the Audit Report should clearly identify and reflect the existing gaps and areas requiring improvement across the Schools, Divisions, Centres, Units, and Cells so as to facilitate evidence-based quality enhancement measures.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| CIQAC 6.7.2         | <b>Decision:</b> The Committee noted the progress made towards Academic and Administrative Audit of the University and appreciated the efforts undertaken by the Committee constituted for this purpose.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>ITEM NO. 6.8</b> | <b>To report the action taken by the University for seeking International Quality Accreditation through Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA), UK - reg.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| CIQAC 6.8.1         | <p>The Member Secretary apprised the Committee regarding the initiatives undertaken by the University for seeking International Quality Accreditation through the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA), United Kingdom.</p> <p>The members appreciated the initiative undertaken by the University and observed that obtaining International Quality Accreditation through QAA would significantly strengthen the international visibility, academic credibility, and global recognition of the University in the domain of Open and Distance Learning.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| CIQAC 6.8.2         | <b>Decision:</b> The Committee noted the action taken by the University for seeking International Quality Accreditation through QAA, UK and appreciated the initiatives undertaken by the University.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>ITEM NO. 6.9</b> | <b><i>Tabled Item: To consider and approve the Feedback Tools developed for stakeholders (2025-26) – reg.</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| CIQAC 6.9.1         | <p>The Member Secretary apprised the Committee that the University undertakes stakeholder feedback studies annually for different categories of stakeholders, viz. Teachers, Academics, Learners, Academic Counsellors, and Subject Experts, focusing on specific broad areas/themes related to the teaching-learning process in accordance with the quality assurance requirements of NAAC.</p> <p>He further informed the Committee that the broad thematic area identified for the Academic Year 2025–26 is "<i>Integration and Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Teaching-Learning Process in Open, Distance and Digital Learning (ODDL)</i>". In this regard, stakeholder-specific feedback tools have been developed by CIQA to assess the extent of awareness, adoption, effectiveness, and institutional preparedness relating to the integration of AI in teaching-learning and learner support systems.</p> <p>The members appreciated the contemporary and relevant theme selected for the current academic year and observed that the initiative would help the University in understanding stakeholder perspectives regarding the integration of Artificial Intelligence in the ODDL system and in planning appropriate capacity-building and policy interventions.</p> |

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| CIQAC 6.9.2     | <b>Decision:</b> The Committee appreciated the theme selected for the Academic Year 2025–26 and approved the feedback tools developed by CIQA for various stakeholders.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>ITEM NO.</b> | <b>Any other Item – reg.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                 | <p>The Chairperson invited suggestions from the members for further strengthening the quality assurance and quality enhancement mechanisms of the University.</p> <p>During the deliberations, it was suggested that CIQA may organise a brainstorming session involving various Open Universities with the objective of deliberating upon measures for making the Open, Distance and Digital Learning (ODDL) system more inclusive and accessible for learners with special needs, particularly Persons with Disabilities (PWD).</p> <p>The members observed that such an initiative would facilitate the sharing of best practices, innovative approaches, and collaborative strategies for enhancing inclusivity, accessibility, learner support, and equitable educational opportunities in the ODDL system.</p> |

The meeting ended on a positive and constructive note with a vote of thanks to the Chair and all the members present.

  
**Prof. Vijayakumar P**  
**Member Secretary**