

MINUTES**OF THE****51ST MEETING****OF****THE****PLANNING BOARD****HELD ON****18th DECEMBER 2024****INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068**

MINUTES OF THE 51ST MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD HELD ON 18th DECEMBER 2024 AT 11.30 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, VICE CHANCELLOR OFFICE, IGNOU, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068.

The following were present in the meeting:

1.	Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Vice Chancellor IGNOU	Chairperson
2.	Prof. Rajendra Prasad Das Vice Chancellor Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University (KKHSOU), Patgaon, Rani, Guwahati, Assam	Member
3.	Prof. V. Venkata Ramana School of Management Studies, University of Hyderabad	Member
4.	Prof. Saroj Sharma University School of Education, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Dwarka, New Delhi	Member
5.	Sh. Biswa Ketan Das CEO, IIBF Kohinoor City Commercial –II Tower I Kiroli Road, Mumbai	Member
6.	Prof. Jeetendra Pande Director, School of Computer Science & Information Technology, Uttarakhand Open University.	Member
7.	Prof. Neera Kapoor, School of Sciences, IGNOU	Member
8.	Prof. Parmod Kumar, School of Humanities IGNOU, New Delhi.	Member
9.	Prof. Nehal A. Farooquee Director, SOEDS, IGNOU, New Delhi	Member
10.	Dr. Amit Chaturvedi, Sr. Regional Director, IGNOU NOIDA Regional Centre, Sector 62 NOIDA, U.P.	Member
14.	Prof. Manjulika Srivastava Director, CIQA IGNOU, New Delhi	Special Invitee
11.	Dr. Manorma Singh, Sr. Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre–1, Block B, Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate, Badarpur New Delhi	Special Invitee
12.	Dr. Himansu Bose Registrar, SRD, IGNOU, New Delhi	Special Invitee
13.	Prof. Shachi Shah, Registrar, SED and Director, COE IGNOU, New Delhi	Special Invitee

15.	Dr. Jitendra Dev Gangwar Finance Officer, IGNOU, New Delhi	Special Invitee
15.	Dr. U.C. Pandey Director, RSD IGNOU, New Delhi	Special Invitee
16.	Dr. V.P. Rupam Director, Campus Placement Cell IGNOU, New Delhi	Special Invitee
17.	Dr. V.B. Negi OSD, SED IGNOU, New Delhi	Special Invitee
19.	Mr. Rattan Singh CPO, CMD IGNOU, New Delhi	Special Invitee
20.	Prof. Neeti Agrawal Director, P&DD IGNOU, New Delhi	Member Secretary

Dr. Alok Chaube, Registrar, IGNOU could not attend the meeting.

Dr. Sunil Kumar and Dr. Pankaj Khanna were present to provide the academic support.

At the outset, the Member Secretary welcomed the Chairperson, Member(s), and Special Invitee(s) to the 51st meeting of the Planning Board (PB) and requested the Chair for opening remarks.

The Vice Chancellor and Chairperson of the Planning Board Prof. Uma Kanjilal welcomed and introduced Prof. Rajendra Prasad Das, Prof. Venkata Ramana, Prof. Saroj Sharma, Sh. Biswa Ketan Das, Prof. Jeetendra Pande, Prof. Neera Kapoor, Prof. Parmod Kumar, Prof. Nehal A. Farooquee and Dr. Amit Chaturvedi as new members of the Planning Board and felicitated the new external members. The Chairperson also placed on records the valuable contribution by outgoing members Dr. Sujata K. Dass, Prof. V. Venkaiah, Dr. D. Subrahmanyam, Prof. Kailash Sodani, Prof. Rama Shanker Dubey, Prof. Nita Mathur, Prof. S.R. Jha, Prof. Nawal Kishor and Dr. U.C. Pandey.

She also placed on records the valuable contribution of Prof. Nageswara Rao as the Vice Chancellor and Chairperson of the Planning Board. The initiatives under his tenure has taken the university to new heights and some of the major achievements during his tenure are highlighted below:

- NAAC A++ accreditation to the University in 2021;
- Exemption from the UGC regulations for ODL and online programmes;
- Signing of around 125 MoUs including the MoUs/MoAs with international institutions and some renewals;
- 22 modules of SAMARTH made active;
- Online registrations opened from January 2020;
- Over 200 new ODL programmes launched;

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- The tally of online programmes increased from 3 in 2020 to 44 in 2024 and IGNOU has been one of the major contributor in the category of the online programmes;
- MOOCS on SWAYAM platform increased from 11 to 291;
- The fresh registration increased from 6,53,056 in 2017-18 to 7,53,181 in 2023-24;
- During Covid pandemic the tally of SWAYAM courses increased to over 300 courses and around 126 institutions like IIM's , IIT's and other Central Universities adopted IGNOU's SWAYAM courses;
- ABC started wherein the internal as well as external students can register providing them the flexibility of credit transfer;
- Channel Based Counselling in regional languages started and around 7000 counselling sessions have already been recorded;
- Around 2,50,25,625 license fee recovered from 2 Open Universities for using IGNOU's study material;
- Enrolment of International students increased from over 400 to around 4900;
- Online programmes started for 21 African countries and Afghanistan under e-Vidyabharti and e-Arogyabharti (e-VBAB) a project of Ministry of External Affairs , GOI;
- Three month online basic Hindi Awareness programme for Foreign nationals was started in 9 countries in collaboration with ICCR and CHD;
- MoAs with 14 countries to act as facilitators for promoting online programmes of the University in their region;
- Automation in examination system introduced which includes online question paper delivery system;
- Innovation and Research activities fostered during his tenure;
- 5 distinct MBAs duly approved by AICTE were launched;
- Mobile app was started for the students and till date around 25 lakh downloads have taken place;
- GOAL Guyana collaboration for offer of ODL and online programmes under Government of Guyana Scholarship Schemes.

Prof. Nageshwar Rao took significant step towards translating programmes in regional languages, as a move to make higher education more accessible in Indian languages and mother tongue. IGNOU has collaborated with AICTE to translate MBA courses in 12 Indian languages. The Chairperson informed the house that the translation work in Hindi and Odiya has been completed. She also informed that during his tenure IGNOU in alignment with the National Education Policy, 2020, not only promoted Indian languages, arts, and culture but also provided stand-alone courses in Kashmiri, Nepali, and Meitei Lon (Manipuri).

The University offers a diverse range of undergraduate courses in various Indian languages. IGNOU has introduced live online classes in 13 Indian languages through Six SWAYAM PRABHA TV Channels, catering to learners in their mother tongue. The students were given option to go for digital material. As of now more than 23% Students have adopted the university's e-course material with 15% discount in the programme fee since 2019. During his tenure 23 undergraduate programmes were offered under the FYUP framework in the Multi-disciplinary, Major categories which will further contribute to the GER in Higher Education.

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The University has forged partnerships with prominent organizations like NSDC and NCVET to offer skill-based certificates and degrees. Additionally, collaborative efforts with DTNBWED and the Ministry of Skill Development aim to enhance skill development and vocational education during his tenure. His contribution towards providing access, quality, equity and affordability and fostering inclusivity is highly acknowledged.

The Chairperson placed on records the recent developments in the University which are as follows:

- The University has enrolled 5.33 lakh new learners in the July 2024 admission cycle, which is about 4.5% higher than the enrolment in July 2023. In addition, 4.16 lakh learners of UG/PG Programmes have re-registered in their next semester/year in the July 2024 session, taking the total student load in July 2024 to 9.49 lakh.
- Around 9600 learners have enrolled in the 44 Online Programmes offered.
- As many as 161 learners have availed the Lateral Entry facility to enroll directly in the second year of the PG Programmes in the July 2024 session.
- In fresh admission, female participation has reached 54.07%, the highest so far.
- The participation of SC and ST is 18.5 %. The participation of all the disadvantaged groups put together (SC, ST, OBC, EWS) is as high as 62.49%.
- Rural participation has reached 56.48%.
- About 25% of the learners enrolled in July 2024 have opted for digital study material in place of printed material. Earlier this figure was around 20%.
- In July 2024, the contribution of UG and PG Programmes is 83.1%. Diploma and Certificate programmes have contributed the remaining 16.9% (PG Diploma+Diploma – 13.35%, Certificate – 3.55%)
- The University has launched 5 specially designed skill-based Bachelor Degree Programmes for the Agniveers of the Defense Forces. In July 2024, 2788 Agniveers from the Indian Air Force have enrolled in these programmes. From January 2025, the Agniveers of the Indian Navy shall also be enrolling in these Programmes.
- The University is offering a specially designed Certificate Programme to the teachers of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) for building their competencies, since July 2022 admission cycle. In July 2024, 1022 teachers of NVS have enrolled in the Programme.
- The University is actively participating in the E-Vidyabharati Scheme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India under which it is enrolling learners from 21 African countries and Afghanistan. In July 2024 382 learners from Afghanistan have been enrolled. The total number of learners enrolled under the Scheme is 4080.

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- The University has implemented FYUP from January 2024, and as many as 23 undergraduate programmes have been launched under the FYUP Framework.
- The University has launched 43 new programmes (including FYUP programmes) in January and July 2024.
- The January 2025 admission and re-registration cycle has commenced from 12th December 2024. The admission portal of the University has been connected with UGC through an API for implementing the DEB ID in the admission process. In the last 5 days, more than 23000 prospective learners have registered on the admission portal and more than 2000 have submitted their application along with their DEB ID.
- The average percentage of marks of the learners (July 2024) in the qualifying examination was 64.68%. More than 14500 learners have scored 90% and above in the qualifying examination.
- The convention centre and EMPC has been upgraded with the help of HEFA loan received from MOE, GOI and the Smart Classrooms has been set up in the Head quarters along with upgradation of the meeting rooms in the VCO and Radha Krishna Block
- The 11th Overseas Coordinators Consortium Meet of Indira Gandhi National Open University took place on September 23-24, at IGNOU Headquartes for strengthenning partnership with Oveseas study centres and exchange of ideas.
- The 3rd batch of three months Basic Awareness course in Hindi for foreign national was conducted in collaboration wit Indian council for Cultural Relations (ICSSR), and Central Hindi Directorate (CHD) during 21st August, 2024 to 06th November, 2024 with registration from 42 countries.
- The University has entered into a strategic partnership with Kenya Open University.
- The University has been approved to set up the UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC).

The Chairperson apprised the board that the University has been awarded first rank in NIRF ranking under the category of Open and Distance Learning.

The Chairperson then welcomed the external members for their comments. All the members appreciated the efforts made by the University. The Chairperson then invited the Member Secretary to start the proceedings.

The Member Secretary informed that the last Planning Board meeting was conducted on 08th September 2022. Since then, seven meetings of Academic Programme Committee (APC) a Standing Committee of the Planning Board were convened. She also breifed the new initiatives taken by the university on the recommendations of the Planning Board.

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The Member Secretary thereafter presented the agenda items with the permission of the Chair. She informed that there are 15 agenda items including three additional items.

P.B.51.1	To confirm the minutes of the 50th meeting of the Planning Board, held on 08th September 2022 and the Action Taken Reports (ATRs)
P.B.51.1.1	The Member Secretary informed that the Minutes of the 50 th Meeting of the Planning Board held on 08 th September 2022 were circulated to the Members of the Board for comments/observations. No comments were received from the members. She apprised the action taken reports on the recommendations of the Planning Board.
P.B.51.1.2	The Board confirmed the minutes of the 50th meeting of the Planning Board and noted the action thereon.
P.B. 51.2	To consider and approve the minutes of the i) 65th Academic Programme Committee Meeting held on 07th December 2022. ii) 66th Academic Programme Committee Meeting held on 15th March 2023. iii) 67th Academic Programme Committee Meeting held on 01st June February 2023. iv) 68th Academic Programme Committee Meeting held on 12th September 2023. v) 69th Academic Programme Committee Meeting held on 17th November 2023. vi) 70th Academic Programme Committee Meeting held on 30th January 2024. vii) 71st Academic Programme Committee Meeting held on 29th May 2024.
P.B. 51.2.1	<p>The Member Secretary reported that seven meetings (65th to 71st) of the Academic Programme Committee (APC), a Standing Committee of the Planning Board were held since the last meeting of the Planning Board. The APC recommended approval of following new academic programmes and activities/initiatives. The recommendations of the APC were placed for approval of the Planning Board.</p> <p>List of the programmes recommended for approval of Planning Board by the 65th Academic Programme Committee Meeting held on 07th December 2022.</p> <p><u>Programme Proposal Form (PPF):</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. M.A. (Journalism and Digital Media). 2. M.A. (Journalism and Electronic Media). 3. M.A. (Development Journalism). 4. M.A. (Migration and Diaspora). 5. B.A. (Applied Hindi) 6. B.A. (Applied Sanskrit) 7. B.A. (Applied Urdu)

Programme Launch Form (PLF):

1. M.A. (Journalism and Electronic Media)
2. M.A. (Development Journalism).
3. भारतीय कालगणना में प्रमाणपत्र
4. Post Graduate Diploma in Geoinformatics.
5. Post Graduate Diploma in Advertising and Integrated Communications
6. Post Graduate Certificate in Advertising and Integrated Communications
7. Post Graduate Diploma in Human Resources Management
8. Post Graduate Diploma in Financial Management
9. Post Graduate Diploma in Marketing Management
10. Post Graduate Diploma in Operation Management
11. Post Graduate Diploma in Environment Management and Law.
12. M.A. (Environmental Studies).

Online Programmes:

1. M.A. (Sustainable Science).

Programmes referred back:

1. Two credit course on "Persons with Disabilities and their Rights"

Other Items

1. Proposal for developing Integrated Teacher Education Programmes (ITEP), namely, B.A. B.Ed, B.Sc. B.Ed. and B.Com B.Ed. in face-to-face mode from the Academic Session July 2023-24.
2. Launching of Bachelor Degree Programmes (Applied) with embedded skill and apprenticeship component in collaboration with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).

List of the academic programmes recommended for approval of Planning Board by the 66th Meeting of the Academic Programme Committee held on 15th March 2023:

Programme Proposal Form (PPF):

1. Diploma in Digital Humanities.
2. Diploma in Fashion Design and Retailing
3. M.A. (Korean)
4. B.Com (Applied)
5. M.A. (Hindu Studies)
6. M.A. (Performance Studies)

Programme Launch Form (PLF):

1. M.A. (French)
2. B.A. (Applied Sanskrit)

3. B.A. (Applied Hindi)
4. B.A. (Applied Urdu)
5. B.A. (Gender Studies)
6. M.A. (Migration and Diaspora)
7. B.A. (Hons.) (Journalism and New Media Studies).

Programmes referred back:

1. Post Graduate Diploma in Yoga

Other Items

1. The University Proposal to National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) for acting as a Data Validation and Verification Agency for HEIs.
2. The fee waiver scheme for SC/ST for various programmes for January 2023 session as part of the utilization grants for SCSP and TSP funds.
3. The rationalization of fee from January 2023 session for different academic programmes.

List of the academic programmes recommended for approval of Planning Board by the 67th Meeting of the Academic Programme Committee held on 01st June 2023:

Programme Proposal Form (PPF):

1. Post Graduate Diploma in Waste Management .
2. M.Sc. (Climate Change).
3. Diploma in Agricultural Cost Management.
4. Post Graduate Diploma in Services Management
5. Bachelor of Business Administration.
6. B.A.(Vocational)
7. B.Com.(Vocational)
8. B.Sc.(Vocational)
9. B.A. (Tourism Management) (Vocational)
10. B.A. (MSME) (Vocational)

Programme Launch Form (PLF):

1. M.Sc. (Geography)
2. M.Sc.(Geoinformatics)
3. M.Sc. (Applied Statistics)
4. संस्कृत साहित्य में विज्ञान में स्नातकोत्तर डिप्लोमा
5. Post Graduate Diploma in Population and Family Health Studies
6. M.Sc.(Physics)
7. M.A. (Hindu Studies)
8. Post Graduate Diploma in Services Management

Online Programmes:

1. M.A. (Sanskrit)

Programmes referred back:

1. M.A. (Japanese).

Other Items

1. The rationalization of fee of academic programmes w.e.f. July 2023 admission cycle.
2. The fee waiver scheme for SC/ST students for various academic programmes for July 2023 session admission cycle as part of the utilization grants under SCSP and TSP components.

List of the academic programmes recommended for approval of Planning Board by the 68th Meeting of the Academic Programme Committee held on 12th September 2023:

Programme Proposal Form (PPF):

1. M.A. (Population and Family Health Studies).
2. Post Graduate Diploma in Tribal Studies.
3. Post Graduate Diploma in Environmental Studies.
4. Programmes of School of Continuing Education (SOCE)
 - i) Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Hearing Impairment)
 - ii) Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Cerebral Palsy)
 - iii) Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Intellectual Disability)
 - iv) Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Visual Impairment)
 - v) Awareness cum Training package in Disability (Hearing Impairment)
 - vi) Awareness cum Training package in Disability (Cerebral Palsy)
 - vii) Awareness cum Training package in Disability (Intellectual Disability)
 - viii) Awareness cum Training package in Disability (Visual Impairment)
5. Diploma in Apparel Merchandising
6. Diploma in Apparel Merchandising (Applied)
7. M.Sc. (Data Science and Analytics)
8. M.Sc. (Industrial Safety)
9. M.Sc. (Analytical Chemistry)
10. B.A. B.Ed.
11. B.Sc. B.Ed.
12. B.Com. B.Ed.

Programme Launch Form (PLF):

1. Post Graduate Diploma in Environmental Studies
2. Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion-Visual Impairment.

3. Diploma in Apparel Merchandising
4. Diploma in Apparel Merchandising (Applied)
5. B.A.(Applied Skills)
6. B.Com.(Applied Skills)
7. B.Sc.(Applied Skills)
8. B.A. (Applied Skills) Tourism Management
9. B.A. (Applied Skills) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
10. Diploma in Apparel Merchandising (Applied) with NSDC
11. M.Sc. (Zoology)

Programmes referred back:

1. Ph.D in Applied Energy Science
2. M.A. (Indian Knowledge System)

List of the academic programmes recommended for approval of Planning Board by the 69th Meeting of the Academic Programme Committee held on 17th November 2023:

Programme Proposal Form (PPF):

1. M.A. in Human Value and Ethics
2. P.G. Diploma in Human Values and Ethics
3. B.A. (Fabric and Apparel Design)
4. B.Sc. (Multidisciplinary) under FYUP
5. B.Sc. (Honours) Mathematics under FYUP
6. B.Sc. (Honours) Biochemistry under FYUP
7. P.G. Diploma in Climate Change
8. Bachelor of Rural Studies
9. Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) under FYUP
10. MBA (Health and Hospital Management)
11. MBA (Construction Management)
12. MBA (Logistics & Supply Chain Management)
13. Programmes of School of Humanities (SOH)
 - i) B.A (Hons.) (English)
 - ii) B.A (Hons.) (Hindi)
 - iii) B.A (Hons.) (Sanskrit)
 - iv) B.A (Hons.) (Urdu)
14. Bachelor Degree Programme (Honours) Philosophy under FYUP

Programme Launch Form (PLF):

1. B.A. B.Ed.
2. B.Sc. B.Ed.
3. B.Com. B.Ed.
4. M.Sc. (Biochemistry)
5. M.Sc. (Chemistry)
6. M.Sc. (Analytical Chemistry)
7. B.Sc. (Applied Science – Energy)

Other Items

1. The recovery of license fee from Odisha State Open University (OSOU) for using IGNOU's study materials.
2. The recovery of license fee from Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University (YCMOU) for using IGNOU's study materials.

List of the academic programmes recommended for approval of Planning Board by the 70th Meeting of the Academic Programme Committee held on 30th January 2024:

Programme Proposal Form (PPF):

1. M.A. (Lifelong learning)
2. M.A. (Bhagwadgita) with an exit option as P.G. Diploma.
3. MLIS (Integrated).
4. MBA(Agribusiness Management)
5. Post Graduate Diploma in Media and Information Literacy
6. Post Graduate Diploma in Rehabilitation Psychology
7. B.Voc. (Tourism Management)
8. Bachelor of Tourism & Travel Management (FYUP).

Programme Launch Form (PLF):

1. M.A. (Population and Family Health Studies)
2. M.A. (Spanish)
3. B.A. (Philosophy) (FYUP).
4. Bachelor of Social Work (FYUP).
5. B.A. (English) (FYUP)
6. B.A. (Hindi) (FYUP)
7. B.A. (Sanskrit) (FYUP)
8. B.A. (Urdu) (FYUP)
9. Diploma in Agriculture Cost Management.
10. Awareness-cum-Training Package for Parents (Visual Impairment).
11. M.Sc.(Industrial Safety).
12. Certificate in Event Management
13. B.A. (Journalism and Digital Media) under FYUP.
14. B.Sc.
15. B.Sc. (Bio-Chemistry).
16. B.Com (FYUP)
17. B.A (Multidisciplinary) (FYUP)
18. B.A. (Facility and Service Management) (FYUP).

Programmes referred back:

1. Certificate Programme in Life Skill Education

Other Items

1. The scheme of fee support to the IGNOU students belonging to SC/ST categories seeking fresh admissions and re-registration in

- January 2024 admission cycle under DAPSC/STC grants
2. The rationalization of fee of academic programmes w.e.f. January 2024 admission cycle.
3. The SOPs for course adoption/adaption from different Schools of Studies.

List of programmes approved at the 71st Meeting of the Academic Programme Committee held on 29th May 2024:

Programme Proposal Form (PPF):

1. B.A. (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) (FYUP)
2. B.Sc. (Hons) (Food and Nutrition) (FYUP)
3. B.A. (Hons.) (Home Science) (FYUP)
4. Diploma in Yoga
5. B.A. (Education) leading to B.A. (Education) Major, and Honours with Research (FYUP)
6. Masters in Performing Arts-Dance (Bharatanatyam)
7. Masters of Performing Arts (Theatre)
8. M.Sc. (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning).
9. Post Graduate Diploma in Labour codes and Social Welfare
10. B.A.(Performing Arts) Hindustani Music Hons. (BAPFHHM) according to NEP 2020 framework

Programme Launch Form (PLF):

1. M.A. (Applied Urdu).
2. B.Sc. (Food Safety and Quality Management) (FYUP)
3. Post Graduate Diploma in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
4. M.Sc. (Home Science) Community Development and Extension Management
5. i) MBA (Construction Management)
ii) MBA (Logistics and Supply Chain Management)
6. M.A. (Bhagavadgita Studies)
7. Diploma in Fashion Design and Retail.
8. B.A (Tourism Management)(FYUP)
9. Awareness Cum Training Package for Parents of Children with Disability (Intellectual Disability)
10. Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Intellectual Disability)
11. Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education Enabling Inclusion (Hearing Impairment)
12. Post Graduate Diploma in Rehabilitation Psychology
13. Master of Business Administration (Agribusiness Management)
14. Bachelor of Tourism and Travel Management

Programmes referred back:

1. Bachelor of Rural Studies
2. Ph.D (Applied Energy Science)

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	<p><u>Other Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The scheme of fee support to the IGNOU students belonging to SC/ST categories seeking fresh admissions and re-registration in July 2024 admission cycle under DAPSC/STC grants 2. The rationalization of fee of academic programmes w.e.f. July 2024 admission cycle 3. The SOPs for course adoption/adaption from different Schools of Studies.
P.B. 51.2.2	<p>The Planning Board considered and approved the recommendations of the Academic Programme Committee(s) made in 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, and 71st Meetings respectively and actions taken thereon in launching these academic programmes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: P&DD)</p>
P.B. 51. 3	<p>To report the status of IGNOU's permanent Infrastructure facilities at State Level – Own Buildings for Regional Centres.</p>
P.B. 51.3.1	<p>The CMD, CPO informed that IGNOU has a network of 57 Regional Centres (RCs) spread across the nation out of which nine are situated in North-East Region. There is at least one regional centre in each state. States with high population or large geographical area have more than one regional centre to meet the demand of higher education.</p> <p>As on date, IGNOU has its permanent building for 21 Regional Centres viz. Agartala, Ahmedabad, Aizawl, Bangalore, Jodhpur, Bhubaneshwar, Bhopal, Cochin, Jammu, Jaipur, Karnal, Lucknow, Madurai, Noida, Patna, Pune, Portblair, Raipur, Rajkot, Shillong, Trivandrum.</p>
P.B. 51.3.2	<p>After the detailed deliberations, the members advised to include the details of permanent building of the Regional Centre situated at Khanna (Punjab) in the status report of the permanent infrastructure facilities at Regional Centres. This building was donated by the State Government of Punjab. The Chair also briefed the progress made in the direction of having a permanent Administrative Block at the Headquarters. The Ministry of Education, GOI sanctioned HEFA loan worth 50 crores for construction of the administrative building at the Headquarters.</p>
P.B. 51.3.3	<p>The Board noted the status of permanent Infrastructure facilities for Regional Centers at State level.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: CMD)</p>
P.B. 51.4	<p>To report the SOPs for course adoption/adaption from different Schools of Studies.</p>

P.B. 51.4.1	<p>The Board was informed that a committee was constituted vide notification No. 62 dated 26th February 2024 issued by Planning and Development Division to look into the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for course adoption/adaption by the Schools of Studies. The SOPs were circulated to all the Schools of studies for feedback/comments. The comments were received from SOSS and SOTHSM which were then incorporated. Minor modifications were suggested by the members which were noted.</p> <p>The SoPs for course adoption/adaption were considered and approved in the 71st Meeting of APC held on 29th May 2024 vide item No. 71.15. The SOPs for course adoption/adaption were notified by Planning and Development Division vide Notification No. 67 dated 12th August 2024.</p>
P.B. 51.4.2	<p>The Board noted the SOPs for course adoption/adaption from different Schools of Studies.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action:P&DD)</p>
P.B. 51. 5	<p>To report the revised fee of academic programmes based on recommendations of the Committee(s) on rationalization of fee.</p>
P.B. 51.5.1	<p>The Board was informed that the Committee on rationalization of fee held its meeting on 26th November 2024 and noted the past development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The University has been rationalizing the fee twice every year - before the commencement of the admission cycles in January and July admission cycles. • The last exercise was undertaken for July 2024 admission cycle, wherein the fee was enhanced for 58 Academic programmes at Under Graduate and Post Graduate levels. This included the academic programmes launched under the FYUP framework in January 2024 admission cycle. • The Committee held its meeting on 18th June 2024 to rationalize fee of following new academic programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. B.Sc. (Food Safety and Quality Management) – (SOA). b. M.Ed Special Education – (SOE). c. MBA (Health Care and Hospital Management) – (SOHS). <p>The Committee was of the view that fee should be revised once a year to avoid operational difficulties. Since the last revision was done for July 2024 admission cycle, the Committee made the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The next revision may be done before the commencement of July 2025 admission cycle. b. Status quo may be maintained in respect of programme fee, registration fee and development fee.

P.B. 51.5.2	<p>The Board noted the revised fee of academic programmes based on the recommendations of the committee on rationalization of fee.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Action: P&DD)</i></p>
P.B. 51.6	<p>To approve / ratify the Programme Launch Forms (PLFs) of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) B.A. Multidisciplinary (Vocational) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (FYUP) (SOVET). ii) Bachelor of Tourism and Travel Management – BFTTM (FYUP) (SOTHSM). iii) Post Graduate Diploma in Waste Management (SOITS). iv) B.Sc. (Mathematics) under UGC- FYUP (SOS). v) M.A. (Environmental and Occupational Health) (SOITS) vi) P.G. Diploma in Environmental and Occupational Health (PGDENOH) (SOITS) vii) P.G. Diploma in Environmental and Occupational Health (Online) with multiple / lateral entry and exit option. (SOITS) viii) B.A (Education) (FYUP)SOE ix) B.Com. (Online) (SOMS)
P.B. 51.6.1	<p>The Member Secretary informed that the Planning Board received Programme Launch Forms(PLFs) of the following programmes from different Schools of Studies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) B.A. Multidisciplinary (Vocational) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (FYUP) (SOVET). ii) Bachelor of Tourism and Travel Management – BFTTM (FYUP) (SOTHSM). iii) Post Graduate Diploma in Waste Management (SOITS). iv) B.Sc. (Mathematics) under UGC- FYUP (SOS). v) M.A. (Environmental and Occupational Health) (SOITS) vi) P.G. Diploma in Environmental and Occupational Health (PGDENOH) (SOITS) vii) P.G. Diploma in Environmental and Occupational Health (Online) with multiple / lateral entry and exit option. (SOITS) viii) B.A. (Education) (FYUP)SOE ix) B.Com. (Online) (SOMS) <p>The academic programmes at S.No. i),ii),iv),v),vi),vii) and viii) have already been notified for launch from January 2025 admission cycle with due approvals of the Competent Authority.The launch of these programmes are placed for ratification.</p> <p>The PLFs of Academic programmes at S.No. ii) and ix) is placed for consideration and approval of the Planning Board.</p>
P.B. 51.6.2	<p>After the detailed deliberations the Board ratified/approved the</p>

	<p>following academic programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) B.A. Multidisciplinary (Vocational) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (FYUP) (SOVET). ii) Bachelor of Tourism and Travel Management – BFTTM (FYUP) (SOTHSM). iii) Post Graduate Diploma in Waste Management (SOITS). iv) B.Sc. (Mathematics) under UGC- FYUP (SOS). v) M.A. (Environmental and Occupational Health) (SOITS) vi) P.G. Diploma in Environmental and Occupational Health (PGDENOH) (SOITS) vii) P.G. Diploma in Environmental and Occupational Health (Online) with multiple / lateral entry and exit option. (SOITS) viii) B.A.(Education) (FYUP)(SOE) ix) B.Com. (Online) (SOMS) <p>The Board recommended that the School of studies must ensure that SLMs of academic programmes shall be available on e-gyankosh platform prior to launch.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: SOVET, SOTHSM, SOITS, SOS, SOE, SOMS)</p>
P.B. 51.7	To formulate a policy for determination of payment norms prior to programme launch by a Joint committee of the officials of the University.
P.B. 51.7.1	The Director, Regional Services Division (RSD) presented a proposal for formulation of a policy for determinining payment norms prior to launch of academic programme through a Joint committee of the officials of the University. The committee will comprise officials from RSD, SRD, P&DD, F&A and concerned school of studies. The Board was apprised about the rationale for framing the policy.
P.B. 51.7.2	The Board was also informed that a committee was constituted vide notification No. 72 dated 29 th Novemembr 2024 issued by Planning & Development Division to recommend the payment norms for the M.Sc. Programmes in different disciplines having practical components/course. The first meeting of the committee was held on 12 th December 2024 and the minutes of the same were placed for approval as the mater related to the proposal. However, a member raised concerns regarding disparity in payment norms for disciplines like Zoology.
P.B. 51.7.3	<p>After the detailed deliberations, the board referred back the item and directed RSD to place the proposal before the Committee.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: RSD/P&DD)</p>
P.B. 51.8	To consider and approve the Institution's Innovation and Startup Policy (IISP).
P.B. 51.8.1	NCIDE presented the item and informed that as per directions of the

	<p>Ministry of Education (MOE) Innovation Cell (MIC) all the HEIs are required to formulate their Institution's Innovation and Startups Policy (IISP) on the basis of the National Innovation and Startup Policy (NISP) developed by the MOE and AICTE.</p> <p>Accordingly, a Committee was constituted to formulate Institution's Innovation and Startup Policy for IGNOU. The report on Institution's Innovation and Startup Policy (IISP) was approved by the Academic Council in the 79th and 80th Meetings held on 20th December, 2022 and 04th July 2023 respectively.</p>
P.B. 51.8.2	<p>After detailed deliberations, the board directed NCIDE to include the following points in the policy before placing it in BOM:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mechanism for doing an impact assessment 2. Timeline for the policy 3. Time period of policy review (3 years or 5 years) 4. Novel and unique points for framing the policy. 5. Mechanism to coordinate with the schools for its programmes. 6. Alignment with NIRF ranking. 7. Alignment with the recommendations with Niti Ayog
P.B. 51.8.3	<p>The Board noted and approved the Institution's Innovation and Startup Policy (IISP) and directed NCIDE to place it in Board of Management (BOM).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: NCIDE)</p>
P.B. 51.9	<p>To consider and approve the establishment of Patent Facilitation Unit.</p>
P.B. 51.9.1	<p>NCIDE submitted that there is a need to develop a conducive environment for imparting knowledge of patents, Copyrights, Geographical Indications and other IPRs to the IGNOU students and innovators to empower them to work on innovations and enable them to protect their intellectual Property Rights including their innovation and creativity. In view of this, a Patent Facilitation Unit at IGNOU was set up at IGNOU to facilitate and guide the students and faculty to apply for patents and protect copyright of their intellectual property. The National Innovation and Startup Policy (NISP) of MoE also suggest the formulation of a Patent Facilitation Unit in the University. This is also one of the essential sub-parameters considered for the ARIIA/ NIRF-Innovation ranking.</p> <p>The main objectives of the Patent Facilitation Unit at IGNOU are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) To create an awareness and understanding relating to IPR, especially patents, registration process for filing patents, and about IPR protection among the University student innovators and faculty members. ii) To facilitate IP Protection of innovations emanating from the University. iii) To provide legal, technical and financial assistance to the

	<p>innovators for protecting their IP.</p> <p>iv) To encourage faculty members and scholars to go for patentable works.</p> <p>v) To facilitate students and faculty in filing and conducting searches of related IPR.</p> <p>vi) To disseminate knowledge on patents, patent regime in India and abroad, and also the patent filing processes through workshops, seminars and training programmes on IPR.</p> <p>vii) To workout modalities on behalf of university for commercialization of patented technologies.</p> <p>viii) To take suitable measures for the protection of ideas, technological innovation and knowledge-driven business strategies developed by the students and faculty for their commercialization and effective utilization of IPR tools.</p>
P.B. 51.9.2	<p>The Board deliberated on the matter and advised to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change the terminology of Patent Facilitation Unit as “Patent Unit” and this unit will be housed in NCIDE and work in collaboration with P&DD and RU; • Make it applicable for all faculty/academics/staff of the University; • Replace words like “should” with “shall” wherever applicable; • Incorporate the following points in the proposal: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.The need for the establishment of Patent Unit; 2. The process of its linkage with awards like ARIIA etc.; 2. Mechanism for generating funds; 3. Consultancy mechanism for faculty, workshop /orientation plan; 4. Coordinate with Research Unit to Orient the new research scholars during the workshop on Research and Publication Ethics(RPE); 5. The applicability of schemes like Kapila provided by the Innovation cell of MOE (MIC), Government of India; 6. Alignment with UGC guidelines for Research and Development in Innovation. <p>The Board appreciated the efforts made by NCIDE in the field of Innovation and research.</p>
P.B. 51.9.3	<p>The Board recommended and approved the proposal of the establishment of Patent Facilitation Unit renamed as Patent Unit with above modifications and directed NCIDE to place it for consideration of the Finance Committee and Board of Management(BOM).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: NCIDE)</p>
P.B. 51.10	<p>To consider and approve the Scheme of Mentoring for Startups for IGNOU students and alumni.</p>
P.B. 51.10.1	<p>NCIDE submitted that to nurture Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Startups among IGNOU students and alumni, the National Centre for Innovations in Distance Education (NCIDE), has been undertaking</p>

	<p>various types of activities. These initiatives have yielded rich outcomes with IGNOU being recognized as the Topmost Performer in ARIIA rankings and awarded Five Star by the Ministry of Education (MoE) Innovation Cell (MIC). In the NIRF-Innovation ranking of Higher Education Institutions in India-2023, Indira Gandhi National Open University emerged among the top 230 Institutions among all the higher education institutions in the country, both technical and non-technical including the IITs, NITs, IIITs and IIMs, etc. The IGNOU's innovation and Startup policy also emphasizes on guiding and supporting the students and faculty for their Startup initiatives. This is also one of the important parameters in getting NIRF-Innovation Ranking.</p> <p>The main aim of the "Mentoring for Startups" scheme is to provide personalised guidance and support to the selected students/alumni of IGNOU aimed at supporting the students and alumni in converting their ideas, prototypes, innovations, business plans, or businesses into startups. Students/alumni will be attached with experienced mentors – both internal and external who will provide guidance on the process of starting a business, from idea development to launch.</p> <p>The objectives of the "Mentoring of Startups" scheme are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide personalised guidance and one-to one mentoring to the selected students in developing their Startup Ideas and Business Plans, Support students in identifying and accessing resources such as funding, legal assistance, and mentorship, etc. and Develop a community of student entrepreneurs and mentors.
P.B. 51.10.2	The Planning Board Members appreciated the scheme of Mentoring for startup for IGNOU students and alumni with the instruction to provide a detailed draft policy and SOPs for the same.
P.B. 51.10.3	<p>The Board approved the scheme of Mentoring for startups for IGNOU students and alumni and directed NCIDE to seek approval of Finance Committee regarding the financial provisions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: NCIDE)</p>
P.B. 51.11	To consider and approve setting up of "Incubation Centre at IGNOU Headquarter and Innovation Hubs at RCs" for IGNOU students, and alumni for supporting them in Converting their Business Ideas to Startups.
P.B. 51.11.1	NCIDE submitted that through the National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE), IGNOU has been providing pre-incubation facilities for several years by identifying, recognizing, nurturing, promoting, supporting IGNOU learners interested in innovations, startups and setting up their own enterprise. NCIDE is a facility for promoting, supporting, re-engineering and disseminating innovations in Open and Distance Learning system. Further, its aim is to strengthen

	<p>the innovation ecosystem of the University by encouraging various Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I&E) activities among the students. NCIDE has identified more than 2500 students and alumni interested in (I&E) activities. It was noticed that many IGNOU learners are interested in developing their enterprises and they need continuous mentoring, hand holding and initial financial support. NCIDE has also nurtured hundreds of IGNOU students and alumni in their journey from idea to startup who are at various Technology Readiness Levels through various student empowerment programmes. Many students of IGNOU are in the process of setting up their Startups and require IGNOU to provide them incubation facilities. The NCIDE has also put in place the policy for I&E. It has also set up a Patent Facilitation Unit for IPR Protection. IGNOU has conducted 542 activities and programmes in the field of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and IPR. More than 250 ideas have been generated by the students and faculty, and more than 75 innovations/prototypes have been developed by the students and faculty. Additionally, more than 60 business plans have been developed by the students, and 65 startups /ventures have also been established by IGNOU students. The IGNOU students and faculty also have 19 patents.</p>
P.B. 51.11.2	<p>The Board deliberated on the matter in detail and directed NCIDE to include the following parameters in the description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Space - Budget - Government Scheme for Consideration under the centre - Plan of Action
P.B. 51.11.3	<p>The Board approved the proposal for setting up of “Incubation Centre at IGNOU Headquarter and Innovation Hubs at RCs” for IGNOU students, and alumni for supporting them in Converting their Business Ideas to Startups and directed NCIDE to place it for consideration of the Finance Committee and Board of Management(BOM).</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Action: NCIDE)</i></p>
P.B. 51.12	<p>To consider and approve the draft Renewal and Amendment to MoU with Maharashtra Knowledge Corporation Ltd. (MKCL) to offer work based Bachelor of Business Administration.</p>
P.B. 51.12.1	<p>The Member Secretary informed that the School of Management Studies (SOMS) has submitted the draft Renewal and Amendment to MoU with Maharashtra Knowledge Corporation Ltd. (MKCL) to offer work based Bachelor of Business Administration.</p> <p>The Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor has approved the MoU for legal and financial vetting. The matter was placed before the School Board in its 55th Meeting held on 25th October, 2025. The School Board ‘in-principle’ approved the renewal and amendment of the MoU with MKCL. The relevant extracts of the minutes of the 55th Meeting of School Board held on 25th October, 2025 were enclosed.</p>

	It was submitted that the MoU with MKCL has already lapsed on 16.10.2024; hence, the MKCL and SRD have been informed to keep the admission process on hold till the renewal of MoU. The admissions for January 2025 admission cycle are to be notified soon.
P.B. 51.12.2	After the detailed deliberations, the Board members suggested that the the MoU after renewal to be placed in the Board of Manangement (BOM).
P.B. 51.12.3	The Board took note of renewal of draft MoU with Maharashtra Knowledge Corporation Ltd. (MKCL) to offer work based Bachelor of Business Administration by the School Board of SOMS and directed the School to place the MOU before the Board of Management for its approval (BOM). (Action: SOMS)
P.B. 51.13	Necessity of bifurcation of fee in different components
P.B. 51.13.1	<p>The Finance Officer briefed that as per the present practice, the academic programme-wise fee as one figure. During recent audit a query was raised as to what is the cost of study material component included in the programme fee. In the absence of any cost break-up of this component in the fee, it was not possible for Finance and Account Division to respond to the query. This is likely to be an audit observation in the forth coming balance sheet audit report.</p> <p>Secondly, in the absence of knowledge of study material component included in the fee, even the study material cost goes unrecovered in the cases of fee waivers to certain eligible categories. Otherwise cost of study material requires to be recovered from all the learners on actual cost basis.</p> <p>To streamline the things and also to ensure that study material cost doesn't get erroneously waived-off along with academic programme fee it is required that academic fee for each programme must be bifurcated in the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) University development fee. (ii) Academic fee. (iii) Cost of study material.
P.B. 51.13.2	The board members deliberated on the matter and suggested that a committee may be constituted to formulate the policy and approved the agenda item. (Action: F&AD)
P.B. 51.14	To report the setting up of UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC) at IGNOU
P.B. 51.14.1	The Member Secretary submitted that the STRIDE has submitted the

	approval of setting up of UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC) at IGNOU.
P.B. 51.14.2	<p>The Board was apprised that the Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MMTTP) was re-launched on 5.9.2023 as a Central Sector Scheme with the objective of enhancing the capacity and training of teachers/faculty to achieve the goal of quality education and to promote national development. The scheme aims to implement the recommendations of the National Education Policy 2020. Under the MMTTP, the needs of teachers would be addressed through Faculty Induction Programme, Short Term Programmes, Refresher Courses, NEP Orientation and Sensitization Programmes.</p> <p>IGNOU has been approved as UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC) by the Project Approval Board(PAB), Ministry of Education (MoE) in its first meeting held on 30th January, 2024 and communicated vide UGC letter dated 22nd Feb., 2024.</p> <p>MMTTP has been housed in STRIDE with Director, STRIDE being nominated as Programme Director MMTTC. The Finance Officer IGNOU has been nominated as CNA/TSA Account Holder MMTTC. In accordance with the Guidelines of UGC-MMTTP, an Advisory Academic Committee(AAC) has been constituted. During the period April to November 2024, MMTTC IGNOU has completed 16 programmes and certified 1281 participants from various HIEs.</p>
P.B. 51.14.3	<p>The Board noted the setting up of UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC) at IGNOU.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: STRIDE)</p>
P.B. 51.15	To report the status of NSQF compliant Skill Qualifications being developed by IGNOU.
P.B. 51.15.1	<p>The Board was briefed that IGNOU is in the process of designing National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) compliant qualifications. It is to inform that the National Council of Vocational Education Training (NCVET) established by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, is a regulatory body for setting standards and formulating comprehensive regulations for the vocational education, training and skill ecosystem for improving quality and outcomes. IGNOU is in the process of designing and developing National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) compliant skill programmes through different Schools of study for being duly approved by the NCVET, under the coordination of STRIDE and SOVET.</p> <p>There are four qualifications that were are being designed as NSQF compliant which are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nurse Manager at NSQF level 5.5 in Healthcare sector (School of Health Sciences) 2. Executive-Emergency Healthcare at NSQF level 4.5 in Healthcare sector(School of Health Sciences) 3. Fundamentals of Plastic Waste Management level 4.5 in

	<p>Environment Science(School of Interdisciplinary and Trans disciplinary Studies)</p> <p>4. Fundamentals of Environmental Ethics level 5Environment Science(School of Interdisciplinary and Trans disciplinary Studies)</p> <p>It is to inform that the above four qualifications have been duly approved by the 82nd meeting of the Academic Council, IGNOU held on 28th June, 2024 and subsequently these qualifications were submitted to NCVET for approval. Based upon discussion/suggestions of NCVET, the qualifications have been amended by the respective schools.</p> <p>It is to report that two qualifications namely Nurse Manager and Executive- Emergency Healthcare were placed in the 40thNational Skills Qualifications Committee(NSQC) meeting held on 22nd Oct., 2024 and were duly approved by the NSQC. The other two qualifications are under approval process of NCVET.</p>
P.B. 51.15.3	<p>After detailed deliberations the board recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A nodal agency should be set up for all the Operational puposes; • This agency should be housed in SOVET as all the skill based activities are being operated through the School.
P.B. 51.15.4	<p>The Board noted and appreciated the status of NSQF compliant skill qualifications courses are being developed and offered by IGNOU.</p> <p>(Action: STRIDE/SOVET)</p>

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair and the Members

Neeti Agrawal
(Prof. Neeti Agrawal)
 Director (P&DD)
 Member Secretary-PB