

Minutes of the 14th meeting of the Equivalence Committee held online on 1st February, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. through Google Meet.

The 14th meeting of the Equivalence Committee was held online on 1st February, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. through Google Meet. The following were present:

Prof. R P Das, PVC	Chairperson
Prof. Ashish Agarwal, Dir (SOET)	Member
Prof. S R Jha, SOS	Member
Shri Kuldeep Dagar, Dy. Secy., AIU	Special Invitee
Dr Himansu K. Bose, Registrar (SRD)	Convener

Dr S K Pulist, Deputy Director, SRD was present to provide academic inputs to the Committee.

At the outset, the Chairperson Prof. R P Das, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU welcomed the members to the meeting. Thereafter, on the request of the Registrar (SRD), Dr S K Pulist, Deputy Director, SRD presented the Agenda Items one by one for discussion.

The following items were taken up for consideration and decision:

- 14.1 **Minutes of the 13th meeting of the Equivalence Committee**
 - 14.1.1 The Minutes of the 13th meeting of the Equivalence Committee held on 6th April, 2021 were presented before the members for confirmation. The members noted that the Minutes of the Committee were placed for approval before the Academic Council in its 77th meeting held on 28th December, 2021. The Academic Council had made some observations on the Minutes which were discussed along with the relevant Agenda Item.
- 14.2 **To consider and approve the recognition of Technical Examinations conducted by various Professional Institutions (as per MHRD's letter F No. 11-15/2011- AR (TS.II) dated 6-12-2012) for the purpose of academic pursuit in IGNOU.**
 - 14.2.1 The Equivalence Committee in its 13th meeting had recommended for recognition of the certificates issued by the following professional bodies/

institutes which had their permanent recognition upto 31st May, 2013, based on the Public Notice No. P&AP/10(04)/2017 dated 31-10-2017 issued by The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), New Delhi which states as under:

“.... the Council in its 52nd Emergent Meeting held on August 03, 2017 decided to recognize equivalence for all purposes including Higher Education & Employment to Technical Courses conducted by various Professional Bodies/Institutions which were duly recognized by MHRD with permanent recognition upto 31st May 2013. Thus all those students who were enrolled with these institutions with permanent recognition up to 31.05.2013, stand recognized.”

- 1) Institution of Civil Engineers, Ludhiana, Punjab
- 2) Institute of Mechanical Engineers (India), Mumbai
- 3) Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers, New Delhi
- 4) Institute of Fire Engineering, India, New Delhi
- 5) The Institution of Surveyors, New Delhi
- 6) Tool Room and Training Centre, Wazirpur, Delhi
- 7) College of Military Engineering, Pune
- 8) National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology, (NIELIT), New Delhi
- 9) National Institute for Training in Industrial Engineering, Bombay
- 10) Indian Institute of Ceramics, Kolkata.

14.2.2 The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), New Delhi vide another Circular F. No. 13-56/PC/ODL-Mode/AICTE/2020 dated 23rd November, 2020 has reiterated the same recognition status of the certificates issued by the above mentioned institutions.

14.2.3 While considering the Minutes of the 13th meeting of the Equivalence Committee for approval, the Academic Council observed the following:

“After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council reverted back the Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the Equivalence Committee for further examination and ensuring qualifications offered by the aforementioned Institutions have been recognized by concerned apex body(ies).”

-
- 14.2.4 In view of the observations of the Academic Council, the Equivalence Committee re-considered the item. One of the members asked to correct the name of the Institution available at Sr. No. 9 (National Institute for Training in Industrial Engineering, Bombay) under Point No.14.2.1 above.
- 14.2.5 After detailed deliberations, the Committee decided that the following information may be sought from AICTE and AIU about the technical programmes offered by the above mentioned professional bodies/institutes:
- a) Correct name of National Institute for Training in Industrial Engineering, Bombay
 - b) Names of the institutes and details of the technical programmes of all the institutes which have been recognised by the AICTE as per Public Notice No. P&AP/10(04)/2017 dated 31-10-2017
 - b) Level of the programmes
 - c) Entry level qualification for admission to these programmes
 - d) Equivalence of these programmes with the programmes offered by other universities in India.
- 14.2.6 The members desired that the matter along with the above information may be placed before the Committee in its subsequent meeting so that the recognition along with equivalence of the technical programmes offered by these professional bodies/institutes may be considered and accordingly, recommendations may be made to statutory body of IGNOU for approval.
- 14.3 **To consider the request of School of Humanities to recognise Urdu Courses from various Madrasa Boards on the lines of AMU, Aligarh; JMI, New Delhi; and MANUU, Hyderabad**
- 14.3.1 The Note forwarded by the School of Humanities for recognition of various Madrasa Boards functioning in different parts of the country, was placed before the Committee. The School of Humanities had recommended that, since these Madrasa Boards have already been recognised by Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh; Jamaia Millia Islamia, New Delhi; and Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad; IGNOU may also recognise them on similar lines.

- 14.3.2 The members were also informed that the University has already received requests from the following Madrasa Boards for recognition of their programmes for admission to IGNOU programmes:

Sl.No.	Name of Madrasa Board
1.	Urdu Education Board, New Delhi
2.	Odisha State Board of Madrasa Education, Odisha
3.	Uttarakhand Madrasa Education Board, Dehradun
4.	Bihar State Madrasa Education Board, Patna
5.	State Madrassa Education Board, Assam
6.	Jharkhand Academic Council, Ranchi

- 14.3.3. However, a letter F. No. 16-227/2016/Sch.3 dated 5th June, 2017 issued by Ministry of Human Resource Development while raising a question on recognition of the certificates issued by Urdu Education Board, Delhi *inter alia* stated as under:

“2.. Urdu Education Board (UEB), Delhi has been granted the status of a Minority Educational Institution by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) and not as a Minority Education Board, and as such it cannot conduct public examinations and issue certificates for Secondary and Senior Secondary levels.”

*“3. However, till date if any public examination(s) conducted and consequently any certificates for Secondary and Senior Secondary level issued by UEB, shall be treated as **Fake/cancelled.**”*

- 14.3.4 In view of the above, SRD has written to the Education Departments of the respective State Governments in regard to the above Madrasa Education Boards for clarification regarding recognition status of their certificates in their states. The required information is yet to be received from any of the State Governments. The updated information as above as soon as received, will be placed before the Equivalence Committee in its subsequent meeting for consideration.

- 14.3.5 External Expert Shri Kuldeep Dagar, Deputy Secretary, AIU, informed that AIU has been recently mandated to decide the equivalence of the qualifications at 10+2 level awarded by different School Boards in the country. The equivalence of certificates issued by these Madrasa Boards also come under the purview of AIU. The AIU has already initiated the

equivalence process. Once the process is over, the information will be shared with IGNOU.

14.3.6 In view of the above, the Committee decided that SRD may keep on following up the matter with the concerned State Governments. At the same time, AIU may also be requested to provide the status of recognition of these Madrasa Boards. The matter with the updated information may be placed before the Committee in its subsequent meeting.

14.4 **To Report the Recognition Status of IGNOU Degrees by Sister Universities**

14.4.1 The Committee was informed that the following sister universities/Institutions have recognised IGNOU degrees as equivalent to their respective degrees:

SI No.	Name of University	Recognition accorded to IGNOU Degrees
1.	2.	3.
01	Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala	MSW degree of IGNOU, New Delhi has been recognized as equivalent to MSW Degree of the Mahatma Gandhi University for the purpose of higher studies.
02	Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS), Kozhikode, Kerala	MA Psychology Degree of IGNOU has been recognized for the purpose of academic pursuit.

14.4.2 The members noted the status as above.

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



(R P DAS)
Pro-Vice-Chancellor &
Chairperson,
Equivalence Committee