

**Minutes of the Eighth meeting of the re-constituted Equivalence Committee held on 15.02.2012 at 2.30 p.m. in Board Room of VCO Complex, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110 068.**

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Following members were present:

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| 1. Prof. M.Asam, Vice-Chancellor                                      | - Chairperson     |
| 2. Prof. A.R.Khan, Head, Defence Unit                                 | - Member          |
| 3. Prof. S.V.S.Chaudhary, M.Ed. Programme Coordinator                 | - Member          |
| 4. Prof. B.B. Khanna, Director (I/c), SOMS and Discipline Coordinator | - Member          |
| 5. Prof. Gopinath Pradhan, Director, SOSS                             | - Member          |
| 6. Dr. Geeta Kaicker, Director, SOS                                   | - Member          |
| 7. Prof. Vibha Joshi, Director, SOE                                   | - Member          |
| 8. Prof. T.K.Jena, Director, SOHS                                     | - Member          |
| 9. Prof. Satyakam (represented Director, SOH)                         | - Member          |
| 10. Prof. C.B.Sharma, Programme Coordinator Ph.D. Edn.                | - Member          |
| 11. Prof. Sunita Malhotra, Programme Coordinator Ph.D. Chemistry      | - Member          |
| 12. Prof. Anju Seghal Gupta, Programme Coordinator, M.A. English      | - Member          |
| 13. Dr. Bagur Prakash, B.A. Programme Coordinator                     | - Member          |
| 14. Prof. Ravindra Kumar, Director, Research Unit                     | - Special Invitee |
| 15. Shri Sambhav Srivastava, Evaluation Officer, AIU                  | - Special Invitee |
| 16. Dr. Pankaj Khare, Registrar, SRD                                  | - Secretary       |

Prof. A.K. Agarwal, SOHS, and Prof. M.C. Sharma, B.Ed. Programme Coordinator, could not attend the meeting.

Shri K.K.Kutty, Dy.Registrar, who is handling with Equivalence/Recognition matters in SRD was present to assist the Secretary.

At the outset the Chairman welcomed the Members of the Committee. He deliberated on the importance of Equivalence in a university system. Chairman emphasized on the reciprocal equivalence of degree/diplomas of other accredited educational institutions by communicating with them for the benefit of learners, particularly with overseas educational institutes. He showed his concern over delay in convening the meeting (last meeting was held on 08.04.2011). It was informed that a proper **Equivalence Cell, though notified, is yet to be created** within SRD, hence delay in convening the meeting.

The Chairman desired to expand the functions of Equivalence Committee in accordance with the needs and incorporate it in the Ordinance accordingly in due course.

The following items were taken up for consideration and decision.

Item No.VIII.1

- VIII.1.1 To note the Action Taken Report on the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Equivalence Committee held on 08.04.2011.
- VIII.1.2 The Committee noted the Action Taken Report on the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.04.2011.

- VIII.2.1 Recognition of **LT degree in Teaching** awarded by **Shiksha Vibagh, Uttar Pradesh**, as **equivalent to B.Ed.** for purposes of admission to IGNOU's M.Ed. Programme.
- VIII.2.2 During discussion, the faculty members of School of Education were of the opinion that **LT degree in Teaching** awarded by Shiksha Vibagh, Uttar Pradesh, is **not a degree** but a **Diploma (लाइसेन्शिफ्ट इन टीचिंग)**, hence can not be equated with B.Ed. It was also emphasized that admissions in M.Ed. programme are governed by the norms of NCTE.
- VIII.2.3 The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council that **LT degree in Teaching (लाइसेन्शिफ्ट इन टीचिंग)** awarded by Shiksha Vibagh, Uttar Pradesh, be **not recognized as equivalent to B.Ed.** for purposes of admission to IGNOU's M.Ed. programme.
- VIII.3.1 Non-recognition of the "**Higher Course**" of **Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education (SAICE), Pondicherry**, for purposes of admission to IGNOU's Post-graduate programmes.
- VIII.3.2 During discussion, the committee felt that the detailed syllabus and evaluation methodology of the "**Higher Course**" offered by **SAICE** needs to be examined in the first instance in order to take a decision for granting equivalence/recognition or otherwise. A discussion also took place on regularization of admissions of two students who took admission in IGNOU's M.A. English programme on the basis of SAICE's **Higher Course**.
- VIII.3.3 The Equivalence Committee authorized the Chairman to **constitute a Sub-Committee** to develop a mechanism to examine the detailed curriculum and evaluation methodology of all such courses wherein equivalence and/or recognition is sought for.
- VIII.3.4 It was also resolved to keep the action on admission of two students in abeyance till the Sub-Committee's recommendations are considered by the Equivalence Committee and subsequently by Academic Council.
- VIII.4.1 Equivalence of **Diploma of Associateship Exam. of Institution of Chemists (India), Kolkata**, with **M.Sc. degree** for purposes of Ph.D. admission in Chemistry.
- VIII.4.2 During discussion, the committee felt that the detailed syllabus and evaluation methodology of **Diploma of Associateship Exam.** offered by **Institution of Chemists (India), Kolkata**, needs to be examined in the first instance in order to take a decision of granting equivalence.
- VIII.4.3 The Equivalence Committee resolved as per VIII.3.3.

- VIII.5.1 Recognition of Degree of **M.Phil.** awarded by **Ganpat University, Mehsana, Gujarat, a Private University** established under the State Legislature Act of Gujarat, for admission to IGNOU's Ph.D. in Education.
- VIII.5.2 During discussion, the committee felt that the detailed syllabus and evaluation methodology of **M.Phil.** awarded by **Ganpat University, Mehsana**, needs to be examined in the first instance in order to take a decision of granting equivalence.
- VIII.5.3 The Equivalence Committee resolved as per VIII.3.3.
- VIII.6.1 Equivalence of **Doctor of Medicine (MD)** with **M. Phil** degree for direct admission to **Ph.D. programme** under **category 'A'**.
- VIII.6.2 During discussion, the committee felt that the matter needs to be examined by the Research Council in the first instance.
- VIII.6.3. The item has been withdrawn.
- VIII.7.1 Ratification of the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in recognizing **Certified Public Accountants Exam (CPA)** and **Certified Public Secretaries Examination (CPS)** conducted by **Kenya Accountants and Secretaries National Exam. Board (KASNEB)**, as professional qualification for purposes of admission to IGNOU's MBA Programme.
- VIII.7.2 The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council to ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in recognizing **Certified Public Accountants Exam (CPA)** and **Certified Public Secretaries Examination (CPS)** conducted by **Kenya Accountants and Secretaries National Exam. Board (KASNEB)**, as professional qualification for purposes of admission to IGNOU's MBA Programme.
- VIII.7.3 The Equivalence Committee also resolved to refer the matter back to School of Management Studies to re-examine the issue of continuance of above recognition in future.
- VIII.8.1 Recognition of **Degree of B.Sc. (Elect. & Commn. Engg.)** awarded by **Saint Louis Univ., Phillipines**, for purposes of admission to IGNOU's MBA and other Post-Graduate Programmes.
- VIII.8.2 The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council for recognition of **Degree of B.Sc. (Elect. & Commn. Engg.)** awarded by **Saint Louis University** and other **Accredited Universities of Phillipines** for purposes of admission to IGNOU's MBA and other Post-Graduate Programmes, subject to the condition that duration of the programme would be **11+4 years**, as prevalent in Phillipines.

- VIII.9.1 Recognition of **Bachelor of Education (Secondary) Degree awarded by National Institute of Education Samtse, Bhutan**, for purposes of admission to IGNOU's Post-Graduate Programmes.
- VIII.9.2 The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council for recognition of **Bachelor of Education (Secondary) Degree awarded by National Institute of Education Samtse, Bhutan**, for purposes of higher studies in IGNOU, provided the eligibility criteria for admission to B.Ed. (Secondary) programme is a Bachelor's degree of 3 year duration.
- VIII.10.1 Equivalence of **12 year High School Diploma awarded by CLONLARA School, Michigan, USA**, for purposes of admission to IGNOU's Under-graduate programmes.
- VIII.10.2 The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council for recognition of **12 year High School Diploma awarded by CLONLARA School, Michigan, USA**, for purposes of admission to IGNOU's Under-graduate programmes. The Equivalence Committee further resolved to recommend to the Academic Council for recognition of **High School Diploma of 12 year duration** awarded by various Schools in USA that are **accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, USA** (an Accreditation Institution in the State of New York, USA).
- VIII.11.1 Recognition of **Higher Secondary Vocational Course** awarded by **Board of Secondary Education, M.P.**, with Trade name '**Medical Laboratory Technology**' with subjects **Laboratory Medicines, Clinical Biochemistry, Micro Biology**, besides **English, Hindi and Environmental Edn.**, for purposes of admission to IGNOU's B.Sc. programme.
- VIII.11.2 During discussion, the committee felt that the detailed syllabus and evaluation methodology of the **Vocational Course** with Trade name '**Medical Laboratory Technology**' needs to be examined in the first instance in order to take a decision of granting equivalence/recognition.
- VIII.11.3 The Equivalence Committee resolved as per VIII.3.3.
- VIII.12.1 Ratification of the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in recognizing **GCSE's 'A' level Exam. conducted by Edexcel, UK, as equivalent to +2** for purposes of direct admission to Under-graduate programmes of IGNOU.
- VIII.12.2 The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council to ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in recognizing **GCSE's 'A' level Exam. conducted by Edexcel, UK, as equivalent to +2** for purposes of direct admission to Under-graduate programmes of IGNOU.

- VIII.12.3. The Equivalence Committee further resolved to ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in imposing the stipulation for acceptance of 'O' level and 'A' level, including that of *Edexcel*, as given below:

Level of Exam.	Requirement of courses	Remarks
<b>O' level</b>	Pass in minimum <b>5(five)</b> subjects.	Considered equivalent to 10 <sup>th</sup> Std. <b>Grade D(d) &amp; E(e) is treated as failed.</b>
<b>'A' level</b>	Pass in minimum <b>2(two)</b> subjects.	Considered equivalent to 12 <sup>th</sup> Std. <b>Grade A(a) to E(e) is treated as passed.</b>

- VIII.13.1 Equivalence of **two year National Trade Certificate**, awarded by **National Council for Vocational Training** with +2 level for purposes of direct admission to IGNOU's Under-graduate programmes.

- VIII.13.2 During discussion, the committee felt that IGNOU accepts 2/3 year Diploma/Certificate (after 10<sup>th</sup> Class) awarded by State Board of Technical Education/Polytechnic/ITI and other Educational Institutions recognized by Central/State Govts/ UTs as equivalent to +2 for direct admission to Under-graduate programmes, without any stipulation of minimum subjects required. Thus, the two year Trade Certificate awarded by the **National Council for Vocational Training** covering four subjects (after 10<sup>th</sup> Std.), could also be considered equivalent to +2 for direct admission to IGNOU's Under-graduate programmes.

- VIII.13.3 The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council for equivalence of **two year National Trade Certificate** (after 10<sup>th</sup> Std.), in the trade of '**DRAUGHTSMAN (CIVIL)**' and other similar courses awarded by **National Council for Vocational Training, Govt. of India**, covering **four subjects**, with +2 level for purposes of direct admission to IGNOU's Under-graduate programmes.

- VIII.14.1 Ratification of the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in recognizing **IASE University's** (Sardarshahr, Rajasthan) '**Off Campus**' programmes offered at **Bhubaneswar**, for the students already enrolled up to 2005-2006.

- VIII.14.2. The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council to ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in recognizing **IASE University's** (Sardarshahr, Rajasthan) '**Off Campus**' programmes offered at **Bhubaneswar**, for the students already enrolled up to 2005-2006 for purposes of direct admission to IGNOU's academic programmes.

- VIII.15.1 Ratification of the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in recognizing **12 year Vocational Higher Secondary Certificate of Board of Vocational Higher Secondary Education, Kerala**, for purposes of direct admission to IGNOU's Under-graduate Programmes.

- VIII.15.2 The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council to ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in recognizing **12 year Vocational Higher Secondary Certificate of Board of Vocational Higher Secondary Education, Kerala, with minimum 5(five) core subjects**, in addition to vocational courses, for purposes of direct admission to IGNOU's Under-graduate Programmes.
- VIII.16.1 Recognition of **qualifications awarded by National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)** for purposes of admission to higher Studies in IGNOU.
- VIII.16.2 During discussion, the committee felt that the nomenclature of various qualifications awarded by NIFT is required for according recognition. Therefore, the matter may be placed before the Committee at its next meeting with complete details.
- VIII.16.3 Matter to be placed in the next meeting with specific programme details and equivalence sought for.
- VIII.17.1 Acceptance of **2 year B.A/B.Com/B.Sc. pass degree (10+2+2 stream)** for those students who have registered for the **2 year Degree programme up to the year 1996 and have completed their Degree up to the year 1998-99.**
- VIII.17.2 During discussion, the committee felt that the UGC Regulations 1985 pertaining to **minimum standards of instructions for the grant of first degree through non-formal/distance education** stipulate that *"....no student shall be eligible to seek admission to the Master's Course in these faculties who has not successfully pursued the first degree Course of three years' duration....."*. The UGC Regulations further stipulate that *as a transitory measure where the Universities are unable to change over to a three year degree course, they may award a B.A/B.Sc/B.Com (Pass) degree on successful completion of two year course, but that no student of this stream shall be eligible for admission to the Master's course unless he has undergone a further one year bridge course and passed the same.*
- VIII.17.3 The Committee was also apprised of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgment dated 25.02.2009 wherein the provisions of UGC Regulations for the grant of first degree of three year duration has been insisted upon.
- VIII.17.4 The Committee was of the opinion that the holders of **2 year B.A/B.Com/B.Sc. pass degree (10+2+2 stream)** and similar degree courses [registered for the Degree programme up to the year 1996 and completed their Degree up to the year 1998-99] may pursue **courses worth 32 credits** of Arts/Commerce/Science stream, as the case may be. The Members opined that the stipulations envisaged in UGC Regulations need to be complied with.

- VIII.17.5 The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council that **2 year B.A/B.Com/B.Sc. pass degree (10+2+2 stream)** and other similar degree courses [registered for the Degree programme up to the year 1996 and completed their Degree up to the year 1998-99] may be accepted for admission to IGNOU's Master's degree programmes; provided such candidates first pursue IGNOU **courses worth 32 credits** of Arts/Commerce/ Science stream, as the case may be, for which IGNOU needs to devise a system similar to **Associate Studentship scheme**.
- VIII.18.1 **Assigning credit weightage** to the Certificate, Diploma and Associate Degree programmes being offered by **IGNOU-Air Force Community Colleges** and **IGNOU-Navy Community Colleges**.
- VIII.18.2 After detailed deliberation on the nature of courses offered under Certificate, Diploma and Associate Degree programmes and keeping in view the provisions of Ordinance 5 – **Ordinance on Recognition of Examinations/ Degrees** – the Equivalence Committee resolved to authorize the Chairman to constitute a Sub-Committee to examine and devise a mechanism to assign credit weightage to the programmes and also to issue proper Marksheet reflecting the courses and marks awarded against each course to the students registered under the Community Colleges of Defence Unit.
- VIII.18.3 Though the matter does not fall under the purview of Equivalence Committee, as special consideration on the matter, the Equivalence Committee authorized the Chairman to constitute a Sub-Committee to devise a mechanism for equivalence and to assign credit weightage to the programmes offered through the Community Colleges under Defence unit. Besides, an appropriate mechanism also needs to be developed so as to reflect the courses and marks awarded against each course pursued by the Defence personnel for the award of Certificate/Diploma/Associate Degree.
- VIII.18.4 The Equivalence Committee further resolved to place the recommendations of the Sub-Committee in the next meeting of the Equivalence Committee for consideration and decision.
- VIII.19 Other issues deliberated during the meeting:
- VIII.19.1 The Equivalence Committee resolved to recommend to the Academic Council for incorporation of an appropriate clause in all the MoUs/ MoAs to the effect that reciprocal recognition of degrees will be granted by the Universities/ Institutions signing the MoUs/ MoAs with IGNOU.
- VIII.19.2 As per para-VIII.18.2, the Chairman, Equivalence Committee, in consultation with Members, constituted the following Sub-Committees to examine various issues:

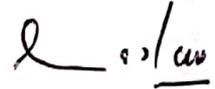
(A) **Sub-Committee for examining the Programmes and Courses** offered through the Community Colleges under Defence Unit and their equivalence to IGNOU Programmes and courses. The Committee will also devise a mechanism for equivalence and to assign credit weightage to the programmes and courses.

(i)	Prof. A.R. Khan, Head, Defence Unit	-	Chairman
(ii)	Prof. B.B. Khanna, SOMS	-	Member
(iii)	Prof. Gopinath Pradhan, Director, SOSS	-	Member
(iv)	Dr. Geeta Kaicker, Director, SOS	-	Member
(v)	Prof. T.K. Jena, Director, SOHS	-	Member
(vi)	Prof. Satyakam, SOH	-	Member
(vii)	Prof. C.B. Sharma, SOE	-	Member
(viii)	Dr. Pankaj Khare, Registrar, SRD	-	Convenor

(B) **Sub-Committee to devise a mechanism for equivalence** and also to examine the detailed curriculum and evaluation methodology of all such courses wherein equivalence and/or recognition is sought for.

(i)	Prof. Ravindra Kumar, Director, RU	-	Chairman
(ii)	Prof. A.R. Khan, Head, DU	-	Member
(iii)	Prof. Sunita Malhotra, SOS	-	Member
(iv)	Prof. S.V.S. Chaudhary	-	Member
(v)	Prof. Anju Seghal Gupta, SOH	-	Member
(vi)	Shri Sambhav Srivastava, Evaluation Officer, AIU	-	Member
(vii)	Dr. Pankaj Khare, Registrar, SRD	-	Convenor

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

  
Chairman