

MINUTES OF THE 121ST (EMERGENT) MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON JUNE 21, 2014 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM, NEW VCO BLOCK, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068

The following were present:

1	Prof. M. Aslam, Vice-Chancellor	- Chairman
2	Shri Praveen Prakash, Joint Secretary (CC/DL), MHRD	- Representative, Secretary, MHRD
3	Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Pro-Vice Chancellor	- Member
4	Prof. Ruth Manorama	- Member
5	Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak	- Member
6	Dr. Anil Wali	- Member
7	Er. R.K. Gupta	- Member
8	Prof. Annu J. Thomas	- Member
9	Prof. S.R. Jha	- Member
10	Dr. Sanjeev Pandey	- Member
	Shri J. Ernest Samuel Ratnakumar, Registrar (Admn.)	- Secretary

The 121st (Emergent) Meeting of the Board of Management was held on June 21, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. in the Board Room of New VC's Block, IGNOU, New Delhi. The Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Prof. Ram G. Takwale, Prof. Bakul Dholakia and Prof. D.B. Phatak, members of the Board could not attend the meeting. The Secretary (Higher Education), MHRD, was represented by Joint Secretary(CC/DL). Prof. P. Prakash (PVC), Prof. Sushma Yadav (PVC) and Shri L.M. Pandey, Finance Officer attended the meeting as Special Invitees.

Shri Vinod Kumar, Asstt. Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Secretary.

At the outset, the Chairman informed the Board about the urgency to hold the emergent meeting of the Board of Management warranted by timely submission of Annual Accounts of the University to the Office of the Director General of Audit (Central Expenditure) for audit in terms of provisions under Section 29 of the IGNOU Act. The Chairman then welcomed all the Members and Special Invitees to the 121st (Emergent) meeting of the Board of Management. In particular, introduced Shri J. Ernest Samuel Ratnakumar, Registrar (Admn.) & Secretary,

BOM and Prof. Annu J. Thomas, new Member, BOM who were attending the meeting of the Board for the first time.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Board, also placed on record the appreciation for the valuable contributions made by the outgoing members, Prof. G. Sundar, Prof. Avadhesh Kumar Singh and Prof. S.V.S. Chaudhary, (Secretary of the BOM), during their tenure on the Board.

Before the Items on the Agenda were taken for consideration, the Chairman presented before the BOM a brief account of the important activities undertaken by the University since the 120th Meeting of the BOM which was held on 12th April, 2014.

The Chairman briefed the Board on the conduct of 27th Convocation of IGNOU held on 16th April, 2014, in which Shri Ashok Thakur, Secretary, Higher Education, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India participated as Chief Guest and Dr. Vijitha Nanayakkara, Vice Chancellor, Sri Lanka Open University, as Guest of Honour. He also informed the Board that the Convocation was well represented apart from Ph.D Scholars, awardees, representatives from various national organizations by diplomats of various countries particularly those where IGNOU is making its international presence felt.

The Chairman also briefed the Board in detail about the innovative methodology used and strategy adopted in publicizing the various programmes launched by the University for the July, 2014 admission cycle. It among other things includes multiple mode of publicity adopted by the Regional Centres to reach unreached, which is paying its dividends in terms of increased enrolment

Further, the Chairman informed the Board about the mammoth exercise of conducting the examination across the country and globe for the students of IGNOU appearing in TEE-June 2014. The Chairman also briefly touched upon the extensive task of evaluation involved after successful completion of the examination and the various activities ahead before declaration of results. The Chairman informed the Board about regular web conferencing conducted every week to monitor admission and examination activities being carried out at the Regional Centres.

The Board was also informed about the various international initiatives taken during immediate past and various delegations who visited IGNOU which among others included delegations from UK Open University, Yemini Delegation, University of Deusto-Spain International Tunning Academic (funded by European Union) and National Open University in Nigeria.

The Board was also informed about the student friendly measures initiated within the IGNOU Maidan Garhi Campus by strengthening 'Student Support Centre' and establishing 'Public Information Centre' to provide pre-admission

counseling to the students. The Board was also informed about the placement initiatives taken up by IGNOU which are yielding positive results.

The Chairman briefed the Board on the sensitive and complicated issues involved in IGNOU venturing into areas beyond its mandate in the past and the streamlining of the same resulting into lot of court cases being filed which strain administrative and financial resources of the University.

The Board highly appreciated the initiatives being taken to streamline IGNOU activities and assured its full support to the Chairman in putting back the IGNOU on the right track.

The Secretary, BOM thereafter presented the agenda items with the permission of the Chair.

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 120TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON APRIL 12, 2014 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN REPORT THEREON

BM 121.1.1 The Secretary informed that the Minutes of 120th Meeting of the Board of Management held on 12.04.2014 were circulated to all the members of the Board on 21.4.2014. The Secretary informed that comments were received from Prof. S.R.Jha and Dr. Sanjeev Pandey, Members, BOM and the same were placed before the Board for consideration.

BM 121.1.2 On the comments received from Dr Sanjeev Pandey, the Board noted that in view of the clear decision taken by the Board in its 120th meeting, under Item No.11 '*to consider the report of the High Power Committee for revamping of the Regional Services Division (RSD) of the University*', the matter was dealt in detail in its previous meeting and reiterated its decision taken in its 120th Meeting. The Board, however felt that the report of the High Power Committee for revamping of the Regional Services Division needs to be expedited and directed the same may be conveyed to the Committee.

BM 121.1.3 On the suggestions made by Prof S.R. Jha, Member BOM, the Board approved the following modifications in Para 4(a)(i) & Para 5(a) and 5(a)(ii) of Guidelines for re-employment of Professors after the age of superannuation in IGNOU, as approved by the Board in its 120th meeting (Annexure-4 of the Minutes).

Para 4(a)(i): '*Research work done and published in learned journals*'

Para 5 (a): *‘On the basis of the consent given by the Professor concerned, the School Board/Discipline Group as the case may be shall formulate the proposal that should include.’*

(ii) ‘Vetted by the School Board /Discipline Group a meeting of which is convened by the Director of School, the proposal with a detailed justification will be forwarded to the Vice Chancellor.’

BM 121.1.4 The Action Taken Report on the various decisions taken by the Board at the 119th & 120th meetings were placed before the Board for consideration. While noting the Action Taken/Status Report of various items, the attention of the BOM was drawn towards an e-mail communication received from Director (STRIDE) addressed to Director (ACD) enclosing a copy of the e-mail dated June 7, 2014 sent by Dr. R. Sudarsan to all containing derogatory remarks made about various officials and faculty of the University.

BM 121.1.5 The Board expressed its concern on the continued insubordinate/indiscipline behavior in particular the continued action of issuance of defamatory and illegal communication by Dr. R. Sudarsan. The Board in its capacity as Appointing and Disciplinary Authority approved and directed to file appropriate FIR under the provisions of Indian Penal Code and Information Technology Act with the concerned authority. The Board also directed ACD that a communication may be sent to the Officer (under suspension) conveying displeasure of BOM and this may also be brought to the attention of the Inquiry Officer.

BM 121.1.6 With the above observations/modifications, the Board approved & confirmed the minutes of the meeting of the 120th Board of Management of IGNOU held on 12.4.2014 and the ‘Action Taken Report’.

ITEM NO.2 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 84TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 04.6.2014 PARTICULARLY TO CONSIDER THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2013-14 OF IGNOU

BM 121.2.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. Sh. L.M. Pandey, Finance Officer made a presentation on the Annual Accounts of the University for the Financial Year 2013-14.

The Board noted the salient features of the Annual Accounts 2013-14 and more importantly the efforts made by the Chairman in bringing the financial discipline at IGNOU which has resulted in favorable balance of finance.

The Board appreciated the efforts in finalizing the Annual Accounts of the University within the stipulated time frame. The Board approved the recommendations of the Finance Committee made at its 84th Meeting held on 04.6.2014. The Board authorized the University to submit the same to the Office of the Director General of Audit (Central Expenditure) for audit, in terms of the provisions under Section 29 of IGNOU Act.

A copy of the Minutes of the 84th Meeting of the Finance Committee is placed as **Appendix-1**.

ITEM NO. 3 TO CONSIDER STRENGTHENING THE OPERATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL DIVISION AND STREAMLINING FUNCTIONING OF OVERSEAS STUDY CENTRES (PRESENTLY KNOWN AS PARTNER INSTITUTIONS)

BM 121.3.1 The Item was taken up for consideration. The Item was presented by Prof. P. Prakash, Pro Vice Chancellor. The Board was informed that an amendment to IGNOU Act was enacted by the Parliament in the year 1997 which stated, "Provided that the University may, with the prior approval of the Visitor, also establish Study Centres outside India." Recently, it was observed that specific approval of the Visitor was not taken up for the establishment of Overseas Study Centres. IGNOU kept its operation in abeyance and sought the willingness of concerned Overseas Study Centres for continuance of their association with IGNOU.

The Board was also informed that IGNOU also took up the matter with the Ministry of Human Resource Development for obtaining approval of Visitor, Hon'ble President of India, for establishment of 29 Overseas Study Centres in 15 Countries. The MHRD suggested that a comprehensive proposal in respect of all these centres be submitted for approval of the Visitor.

Accordingly, IGNOU had written letters to Partner Institutions (Overseas Study Centres) to submit complete list of approved Academic Counsellors; Schedule of Counselling Session; details of infrastructure available; availability of laboratory facilities (wherever necessary); list of secondary/sr. secondary schools identified and to be utilised for Teacher Education Programme; details of support staff etc.

The Board was also informed that simultaneously, the concerned Embassy/High Commission were also contacted to verify the credentials

of the Partner Institutions and their willingness to assist IGNOU for smooth conduct of Term End Examinations.

Keeping in view the interest of already enrolled students and repeated requests received through e-mail from the Partner Institutions (Overseas Study Centres), IGNOU sought permission from MHRD, pending approval of the Visitor, to allow Overseas Study Centres Re-registration of the existing students and admission of BPP qualified students in BDP and conduct of Term End Exam, etc. MHRD permitted the same. Accordingly, IGNOU allowed re-registration of International students of Overseas Partner Institutions and conducting June'14 Term End Exam and also allowed BPP qualified students to take admission in BDP.

BM 121.3.2 The Board was further informed that IGNOU is in the process of obtaining and compiling aforementioned details from each of the Partner Institutions (Overseas Study Centres). Few of the Partner Institutions (Overseas Study Centres) have already forwarded requisite information and some are in the process of sending the same. As soon as the complete information is received, a comprehensive proposal will be submitted to the MHRD for obtaining approval of the Visitor for IGNOU's operation through Overseas Study Centres. Till then fresh admissions for July 2014 have been kept on hold.

BM 121.3.3 The Board after detailed deliberation appreciated the efforts being made by IGNOU to streamline its international operations and approved the action taken to do so.

ITEM NO. 4 **TO CONSIDER THE RE-CONSTITUTION OF THE GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL COMMITTEE, A STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

BM 121.4.1 The Board reconstituted the Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) as under:

- (i) Prof. J. M. Parakh, SOH -Chairperson [Under Clause (i)]
- (ii) Prof. V.R. Jagannathan Former Director (SOH)[Under Clause (ii)]
- (iii) Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak, Member, BOM [Under Clause (iii)]
- (iv) Registrar (Admn.) - Convenor

BM 121.4.2 The Board also considered and approved the terms of reference of the GRC as under:

- (i) The scope of the Grievance Redressal Committee would exclude matters for which separate committees are constituted such as House Allotment Committee, Transport Committee, Canteen

- Committee, Creche Committee, SC/ST Welfare Committee, etc.
- (ii) The employees should have exhausted the normal channels available to him as per service rules or orders for redressal of grievance before approaching the Grievance Redressal Committee.
 - (iii) The Committee may look into grievances over matters such as denial of service benefits to which the employees are entitled as per rules, matters involving equitable dispensation, non-implementation of decision taken, etc. but the Committee may not entertain grievances against the decisions of statutory authorities or quasi-judicial authority. Also only such grievances which the University is competent to redress may be referred to the Committee.
 - (iv) Comments of the administrative authorities whose decision gave rise to grievance may be obtained by the Committee and considered.
 - (v) Grievances formulated in anticipation of decision/action of an administrative authority should not be entertained.
 - (vi) Personal hearing to the aggrieved employee may be granted at the discretion of the Committee.

Besides observing the broad guidelines set out as above for determining the procedure for transacting the business of the Committee, in cases where the final decision goes against aggrieved employee every possible attempt should be made to convince him/her that justice was done to him/her.

ITEM NO. 5 TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT UNDER CLAUSE (1)(VI)(B) OF STATUTE 6A

BM 121.5.1 The Board authorized the Chairman to nominate a Member on the Board of Management under Clause (1)(vi)(b) of Statute 6A.

ITEM NO. 6 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR RECRUITMENT TO VARIOUS TEACHING/ACADEMIC AND GROUP-A NON-ACADEMIC POSITIONS

BM 121.6.1 The recommendations of the Selection Committee meetings for recruitment to various teaching/academic and Group-A non-academic positions were placed before the Board by the Chairman. The Board considered and approved the recommendations of the Selection Committee meetings, as per details given below:

1. Teaching/Academic positions

Date of Meeting	Position	Name(s) recommended by the Selection Committee	Remarks
17.5.2014	Appointment to the post of Director, International Division in the Pay Band of Rs.37400-67000 with AGP Rs.10,000/-	Major General (Retd.) Sunil Chandra	
19.5.2014	Appointment to the post of Director, Planning & Development Division in the Pay Band of Rs.37400-67000 with AGP Rs.10,000/-	None was found suitable	The Selection Committee recommends that IGNOU may review the requirements of this position in view of poor response. Till such review is taken and if this position is re-advertised requirements of the post be clearly mentioned.

BM 121.6.2

While approving the above, the Board with reference to the appointment of Director, Planning & Development Division (P&DD), appreciated the difficulties experienced by the University to fill the position of the Director, Planning & Development Division on regular basis vis-a-vis compliance with the statutory provisions of reservation and allied matters. The Board resolved that the position of Director, P&DD be re-advertised as recommended by the committee.

Keeping in view the importance, exigencies involved and urgent requirement of the position, the Board authorised the Chairman to constitute a committee to review the roster of reservations vis-a-vis various positions keeping in view the availability of experts in the particular field.

2. Non-Academic Group-A position

Dates of Meeting	Position	Name(s) recommended	Selection Committee's remarks
07.6.2014	Selection to the post of Deputy Director (Software), Computer Division in the Pay Band-III: Rs.15600-39100 with GP Rs.7600/-	1. Dr. Pankaj Kumar (OBC) 2. Shri Lalit Mohan Pant (UR) <u>Panel/Waiting List:</u> Sh. Abhishek Misra (UR)	

ITEM NO.7 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 33RD AND 34TH MEETINGS OF THE STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE, STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE BOM HELD ON 11.11.2013 & 09.04.2014 RESPECTIVELY

BM 121.7.1 The agenda item was presented by Director (RSD).The Board expressed its appreciation for the action being initiated in curtailing the expenditure on account of payment of huge rent by hiring the building for the use of Regional Centres and for other activities of IGNOU. The Board also appreciated the idea for establishing 'Study Centre' to be maintained by IGNOU. The Board was also informed about steps being taken to translate the study materials in to vernacular languages to attract more and more students from different linguistic regions.

The Joint Secretary, MHRD suggested that IGNOU may explore the feasibility of extending the scholarship for the girl students from underprivileged and minority segment.

BM 121.7.2 The Board considered and approved the recommendations of the Student Services Committee, Standing Committee of the Board made at its 33rd and 34th meetings held on 11.11.2013 & 09.04.2014 respectively.

ITEM NO. 8 TO CONSIDER DECLARATION OF PENDING RESULTS OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES

BM 121.8.1 The Director (RSD) presented this agenda item. He informed the Board that the Board of Management in its 118th meeting had considered and approved the report of the Screening Committee in which it was

recommended that, “since the existing Community College Scheme does not meet the requirements of the University Act, Statutes/ Ordinances, therefore, it needs to be discontinued and the existing students admitted till January 2012 admission cycle may be allowed to complete their programme of studies”. The Board had also approved recommendations of the Screening Committee for declaration of the pending results under Community College Scheme. The University had initiated the process of issuing Grade Cards/Provisional Certificates in compliance to the above directions of the Board of Management. In the meantime, the Hon’ble High Court of Delhi in CWP No. 5789/2012 on 23.07.2013 observed that prima facie IGNOU is not mandated to offer face-to-face programmes as per IGNOU Act. This matter was brought to the notice of the Board of Management at its 119th Meeting held on 30th November, 2013. The Board had directed that University may seek legal advise for proceeding further in the matter. The University sought legal opinion and accordingly an appeal was filed in the Hon’ble High Court of Delhi (LPA-755/2013) for further direction for declaration of the result and issue of Grade Cards. The next hearing of this LPA is scheduled for 4th July, 2014.

BM 121.8.2

The Board was also informed that on 27th May, 2014 a group of representatives of the Community Colleges from Delhi NCR, Haryana, MP and Rajasthan visited University and agitated for declaration of the pending results. They also submitted their demands which included the declaration of pending results upto June, 2012 and conduct of examinations of those students who are already enrolled with these Community Colleges upto January 2012. The issue was discussed with the MHRD. The MHRD suggested that IGNOU should “get the issue clarified and vetted by IGNOU’s legal advisor and accordingly take further course of action necessary to protect the interest of the students”. IGNOU accordingly sought the opinion of two senior Advocates. The legal advise stated that “Taking a holistic view and keeping in view the mounting pressure of the students and the staff of the various colleges to declare the result of students whose examination have been conducted by the Community Colleges upto June 2012, the legal view opined that results of such students be declared with following rider that “Under the Community College Scheme, the admission and the examination of these courses have been conducted by the Community College and that the declaration of the results should also carry a caveat to the effect that the declaration of result further shall be subject to any further Orders in the pending appeals and that declaration of results would not create any special equity in favour of the student or the collaborator institution.”

BM 121.8.3

The Board was further informed that the entire issue along with legal opinion was examined by the Admission and Examination Committee of IGNOU in its meeting held on 29th May, 2014. The Committee after examining the issue in detail recommended that on the advise of the legal counsel, results of the those students whose examination have been conducted by the Community Colleges upto June 2012, with a caveat be declared. The Committee further recommended that the 2nd issue regarding conduct of the exams of the students enrolled in January, 2012 could be referred to MHRD with a request that it may be referred to the Committee constituted by the Govt. of India with the approval of the Visitor.” Accordingly results are being declared. The Board of Management appreciated action taken by IGNOU in the given situation.

BM 121.8.4

The Board approved declaration of pending results upto June 2012 with a caveat as recommended by the Screening and Admission and Examination Committees.

Regarding the issue of conduct of examination for the students admitted by these Community Colleges upto January 2012, the Board after reviewing its earlier decision, noted that the number of programmes and courses is very large and that IGNOU has no domain knowledge or approval of the Academic Council. The Board of Management, therefore, resolved that:

- The list of colleges requesting IGNOU to conduct examination for students enrolled under Community College Scheme be forwarded to MHRD.
- MHRD may exercise its good office to ascertain the credentials of these Community Colleges from the respective State Governments.
- In the meantime IGNOU may consolidate details received from various Community Colleges and if necessary further ascertain from them number of programmes/courses, number of students etc. to know as to whether prescribed norms of Community College have been followed in offering these programmes.
- The IGNOU may then after consultation with MHRD constitute a Committee to examine the entire issue and make appropriate recommendations for consideration of the Board of Management.

**ITEM NO. 9 TO CONSIDER THE CONSTITUTION OF A COMMITTEE TO
LOOK INTO THE IGNOU STATUTES & ORDINANCES**

BM 121.9.1 The Secretary presented the agenda item. He informed the Board of Management that Since the establishment of Indira Gandhi National Open University in 1985, the IGNOU Statutes have undergone lot of changes. There were also quite a number of suggestions received from time to time to have a re-look at the membership/composition of the Board of Management, Planning Board, Academic Council, etc. Suggestions were also received to have a review to evolve appropriate delegation of Academic, Financial and Administrative powers of various Authorities of the University. All these pertain to Statutes, Ordinances & Regulations of the University.

BM 121.9.2 The Board was further informed that repealing of Statute 28 concerning Distance Education Council has also necessitated need to create appropriate Statutes to fulfill the mandate of the University. Similarly, Review Committee on composition, powers and functions of the Standing Committees of the BOM also recommended changes in respect of composition, powers and functioning of the Standing Committees of the Board of Management.

BM 121.9.3 The Board had a detailed discussion on the issues raised and resolved that a High Power Committee be constituted to have a re-look at the Statutes and Ordinances so as to address the above concerns and also to bring this basic statutory document with the contemporary scenario to facilitate reaching unreached through Open and Distance Learning. The Board constituted the following High Power Committee:

1. Prof. S. K. Sopory Vice-Chancellor, JNU - *Chairman*
2. Prof. V. S. Prasad, Former PVC, IGNOU/Director, NAAC
3. Prof. Sudha Rao, Former Vice-Chancellor, KSOU
4. Prof. Shahid Mahdi, Former Vice-Chancellor, JMI
5. A representative from MHRD
6. Prof. Vinay Pathak, Member BOM
7. Dr (Mrs) Ruth Manorama, Member BOM
8. Prof. S.C. Garg, IGNOU
9. Prof. A.R. Khan, IGNOU
10. Prof. CRK Murthy, IGNOU
11. Registrar (Admn.), IGNOU - *Convenor*

The Board authorised the Vice-Chancellor to nominate one member to the above committee preferably either a former High Court Judge or a Senior Advocate. The Board expected completion of the task assigned to the Committee within a reasonable time. The Board approved the

following terms of reference for the above committee:

- (i) To review the powers and functions of the Board, under Statute 7 of the University (BOM Res.118.3.2).
- (ii) To review the powers of the Board, in relation to the powers and functions of the '**Authorities**' of the University, such as, Academic Council, Planning Board, Finance Committee, Research Unit etc., as defined under various Statutes.
- (iii) To review the powers and functions of the '**officers**' of the University (**Section 9**), viz. the Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellors, Directors, Registrars, Finance Officers, as per the Statutes 2, 3(h), 4(4), 5(7) and Statute 6 (4) respectively, for smooth functioning of the University, and the extent to which additional powers may be delegated to them, consistent with the provisions of the Act, Statutes & Ordinances.
- (iv) To review the IGNOU Statutes in view of repealing of Statute 28 concerning the Distance Education Council.
- (v) To review the powers of the Board in relation to the **Standing Committees**, other Committees/Special Committees of the Board, constituted under the provisions of **Statute 16** of the University, covering inter-alia the competent authority to approve the recommendations of these standing committees/sub committees.
- (vi) To review the powers of the Board in relation to purchase of articles/equipments etc. like, papers for printing of study material, equipments and procurements of services etc. for use by EMPC.
- (vii) To review the powers of the Board in the matters such as grant of leave, EOL, Lien/deputation of the employees, as per the provisions under the Leave Ordinance of the University, and the decision of the BOM/Govt. of India Rules from time to time.
- (viii) To review the powers of the Board in matters relating to the GPF and CPF Schemes of the University under **Statute 23** including counting of the past services rendered by the employees in other deptts./institutes etc., under the Central or State Governments, for the purpose of pensionary/other retirement benefits in the University
- (ix) To review the powers of the Board, under **Clause (o) of Statute 7** to delegate any of its powers to the 'officers' / 'authorities' of the University, other 'employees' of the University or 'authorities' (defined under Sections 9 and 16 of the IGNOU Act respectively) and to evolve appropriate delegation of financial, administrative and academic powers.

- (x) To review the powers and functions of Standing Committees and the extent to which they may be delegated with additional powers/responsibilities, in respect of the matters. In this regard, the High Power Committee shall also take into consideration the recommendations of the **Review Committee** which has already submitted its report dealing with the compositions, powers and functions of the Standing Committees of the Board.
- (xi) With a view to give effect to the directions of the Board, the High Power Committee shall evolve appropriate delegation of Powers to/among the ‘other authorities’/ ‘officers’/ ‘Standing Committees’ / ‘Committees’ etc. consistent with the provisions under IGNOU Statutes/Ordinances and in line with the powers of the Board under Clause (o) of Statute 7.

ITEM NO. 10 TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST OF PROF. PUSHPLATA TRIPATHI, PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF SCIENCES (SOS) AND REGISTRAR, SED FOR GRANT OF EOL WITH LIEN TO JOINING AS PVC IN GGSIP UNIVERSITY

BM 121.10.1 The Board was informed that the University received a communication from the Registrar, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi dated 15th May, 2014 informing that Prof. Pushplata Tripathi currently working as Registrar (SED), IGNOU has been offered the post of Pro-Vice-Chancellor in that University. Prof. Pushplata Tripathi subsequently requested to grant her 3 years of EOL to facilitate her to join the above mentioned post. The Clause (v) stimulates “*a teacher/academic may be sanctioned 2, 3 and 5 years of Extra Ordinary Leave if she/he rendered 5, 7 and 10 years of service in the University respectively*”. Although she had not taken competent authority into confidence before giving her consent, but keeping in view that it is an important assignment the Board may consider granting her EOL.

BM 121.10.2 The Board after due consideration resolved that Prof. Pushplata Tripathi be initially granted EOL for a period of two years w.e.f. 08.7.2014 with Lien to join as Pro Vice Chancellor in Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, after completion of Term-End Examination and complete the pending activities relating to this examination.

BM 121.10.3 The Board directed that Prof. Pushplata Tripathi be advised to apply before three months for the extension of EOL for a further period of one year on expiry of grant of EOL by 07.7.2016 for consideration of the Competent Authority as per IGNOU Rules.

ITEM NO. 11 TO REPORT ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR IN GIVING THE CHARGE OF THE DIRECTORS/HEADS OF DIVISIONS/UNITS/CENTRES

BM 121.11.1 The Board noted the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in entrusting the charge of Directors of the following Divisions/Units/Centres, as per details given below:

S.No.	Name of the Division	Name of the official
1.	Academic Co-ordination Division	Prof. Debal K. Singharoy w.e.f. 31.03.2014 till further orders
2.	Inter University Consortium	Prof. Anu Aneja w.e.f. 09.01.2014 till further orders
3.	Library & Documentation Division	Prof. Jaideep Sharma w.e.f. 31.12.2013 till further orders
4.	Research Unit	Prof. S.V.S. Choudhary w.e.f. 31.03.2014 till further orders

ITEM NO.12 TO REPORT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR IN GIVING THE CHARGE OF DIRECTOR OF CERTAIN SCHOOL OF STUDIES TO THE SENIOR-MOST TEACHERS

BM 121.12.1 The Board noted the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in giving the charge of Director of the following Schools of Studies to the Senior-most Teachers, as per details given below:

S.No.	Name	Period of Terms	Name of the School
1.	Dr. Rajinder Prasad Pandey	w.e.f. 02.06.2014 till further order	School of Translation Studies & Training
3	Dr. Rose Nembiakkim	w.e.f. 20.6.2014 till further order	School of Social Work
2.	Prof. Anurag Saxena	w.e.f. 18.6.2014 till further order	School of Tourism, Hospitality, Services Sectoral Management

BM 121.12.2 The Board was informed by the Director, ACD that a communication was received from Dr. Rose Nembiakkim expressing her inability to

take up the assignment in view of her health problem (complicated pregnancy). The Board directed the ACD to verify the same and take necessary action with approval of the Vice-Chancellor and report the same in the next BOM meeting.

ITEM NO.13 TO REPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF A COMMITTEE BY MHRD ON THE FUNCTIONING OF IGNOU

BM 121.13.1 The Board noted the constitution of the Committee by MHRD on the functioning of IGNOU.

ITEM NO. 14 APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANTS – EXTENSION BEYOND TWO YEARS

BM 121.14.1 The Board noted and ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in granting approval for the period beyond two years to Sh. K.K. Kutty, Consultant with a reasonable break.

ITEM NO. 15 TO REPORT THE JOINING OF SHRI J. ERNEST SAMUEL RATNAKUMAR AS REGISTRAR (ADMINISTRATION) ON 06.6.2014

BM 121.15.1 The Board noted that Shri J. Ernest Samuel Ratnakumar had joined the University as Registrar (Administration) on 06.6.2014 and wished him the very best.

ITEM NO. 16 TO REPORT THE AMENDMENTS IN THE ORDINANCE ON RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMMES OF THE UNIVERSITY

BM 121.16.1 The Board was informed that in the light of the UGC Regulation, 2009 (Minimum Standards and Procedure for awards of MPhil/PhD Degree), a strong need was felt to incorporate the major amendments in the Ordinance on Research Degree Programmes of the University. Accordingly, a Committee was constituted by the University to suggest the necessary amendments in the Ordinance and to prepare a draft IGNOU Research Ordinance accordingly. The draft Ordinance was considered by the Research Council and subsequently by the Academic Council of the University.

Further, the Board of Management of the University at its 119th Meeting held on 30.11.2013 considered and approved the amendments in the IGNOU Research Ordinance as recommended by the Academic Council. Accordingly, in terms of the provision of Clause (4) of Statute 26 of the IGNOU Act, the Ordinance approved by the Board of

Management was forwarded to the MHRD for onward submission to the Visitor for his kind consideration.

The MHRD vide their letter No.F.5-15/2014-DL dt.16.4.2014 observed that the language used in the middle of the proposed amendments and Clause after amendment under heading ‘Preamble’ in Column No.2 and 3 under Clause 1 of the proposal did not seem to be appropriate. The Ministry requested IGNOU to carry out the necessary corrections in the relevant column as well as in columns of other clauses of the proposal wherein such language had been used and resubmit the same.

BM 121.16.2

Keeping in view the above observations of the MHRD, the Committee constituted to draft the Research Ordinance deliberated on the issue in detail in its meeting held on 12.5.2014. The observations made by the Ministry referred only to the column No.2 and 3 under Clause 1 in its second para and nowhere else in the text. The Committee recommended the following replacement under Column No.2 and 3 under clause in its second para:

Existing provisions	Proposed amendments* duly approved by the 119 th BOM and forwarded to the MHRD	Amendments** carried out by the Committee and forwarded to the MHRD for its consideration
<p>1. Preamble:</p> <p>The Degree of Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or such other degree may be awarded by the University to a registered student on his/her successfully completing the</p>	<p>1. Preamble:</p> <p>Research is an academic institution’s most lasting contribution to society. It entails creation of new knowledge and an integral experiential encounter with subjects constituting the society. Together, this forms a research canon that is central to the functioning of a reputed academic institution like IGNOU and is a material expression of its scholarship reflected in the award of Research Degree/s.</p>	<p>1.Preamble:</p> <p>Research is an academic institution’s most lasting contribution to society. It entails creation of new knowledge and an integral experiential encounter with subjects constituting the society. Together, this forms a research canon that is central to the functioning of a reputed academic institution like</p>

<p>prescribed programme of research offered by the University in Integrated mode or otherwise.</p>	<p>‘This Ordinance gives details of the process for the award of Research Degree/s, viz. Master of Philosophy (MPhil), Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Doctor of Science (DSc) and Doctor of letters (DLitt). The award shall be given by the University to a registered candidate on his/her successfully completing the prescribed programme of research offered by IGNOU.’</p>	<p>IGNOU and is a material expression of its scholarship reflected in the award of Research Degree/s.</p> <p>‘The Research Degree Programmes i.e. Master of Philosophy (MPhil), Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Doctor of Science (DSc) and Doctor of Letters (DLitt) will be offered and conducted by the University in accordance with the provisions contained herein.’</p>
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** Sent to the MHRD vide letter No.IG/Admn.(G)/Ord.13/2005/3245 dt. 16.01.2014, in terms of the BOM Res.119.17.1 (Annexure-II).*

*** Amendments proposed in response to the MHRD letter dt.16.4.2014.*

BM 121.16.3 Accordingly, the revised Research Ordinance incorporating the necessary corrections has been forwarded to the MHRD vide our letter No.IG/Admn.(G)/ Ord.13/2005/3305 dt. 12.6.2014 for placing the same before the Visitor for consideration.

BM 121.16.4 The Board ratified the action taken as suggested by MHRD and forwarding the same to MHRD for consideration by the Visitor.

BM 121.16.5 During the discussion on the above amendment, the Board enquired about the current status of research degree programme of IGNOU. While discussing the same, the Board expressed its concern and apprehension about the quality of research particularly the way large enrolment is taking place and number of Research Scholars being allotted to a Guide. The Board felt that it needs to be carefully

examined so that the quality of research is ensured.

BM 121.16.6 The Board resolved that the matter may be referred to the Research Council of IGNOU to have a fresh look at the research degree programme of IGNOU in terms of its quality, feasibility of integrated research programme and functioning of recognized research centres. The Research council meeting may be convened at the earliest and recommendations of the Research Council be finalized for consideration by the next BOM meeting. Till such time fresh admissions in Research Degree Programme be kept on hold

ITEM NO. 17 TO CONSIDER REGULAR DEPARTMENTAL PROCEEDINGS FOR MAJOR PENALTY AGAINST DR. (MRS.) VARDHINI BHATTACHARJEE, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, IGNOU REGIONAL CENTRE, GUWAHATI (PRESENTLY DEPUTY DIRECTOR, RESEARCH UNIT)

BM 121.17.1 The agenda item regarding confidential communication received from the CBI to initiate regular Departmental Proceedings for major penalty against Dr. (Mrs.) Vardhini Battacharjee was presented by the Director, ACD. Since the Board of Management being the Appointing Authority and hence the Disciplinary Authority to initiate disciplinary action against Teachers/Academics of IGNOU. The Board was also informed that Dr (Mrs) Vardhini Bhattacharjee was expected to superannuate by the end of June, 2014.

BM 121.17.2 The Board noted the contents of the Article of Charges leveled against Dr. Vardhini Bhattacharjee, during her tenure as Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre, Guwahati and approved appropriate disciplinary action against Dr. Vardhini Bhattacharjee in terms of relevant provisions. The Board also directed that a legal opinion may be sought to decide the course of action in view of superannuation of the concerned officer and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to take necessary action accordingly. The Board also directed that ACD may enquire into delay in reporting this matter to BOM.

ITEM NO. 18 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR IN ACCEPTING THE TECHNICAL RESIGNATION TENDERED BY DR. MANJEET BARUAH, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN THE SCHOOL OF TRANSLATION STUDIES AND TRAINING (SOTST)

BM 121.18.1 The Board noted the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in accepting the technical resignation tendered by Dr. Manjeet Baruah, Assistant

Professor w.e.f. 16th January 2014 (A/N)

ITEM NO. 19 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR NOMINATIONS OF MEMBERS ON THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL UNDER CLAUSE (1)(IV),(VI) & (IX) OF STATUTE 9 OF THE IGNOU ACT

BM 121.19.1 The Board approved the recommendations of the Chairman for nominating the following members on the Academic Council under Clause (1)(iv),(vi) & (ix) of Statute 9 of IGNOU Act.

A. Under Clause (1)(iv):

Professor

- (i) Prof. Satyakam, SOH
- (ii) Prof. Neerja Chadha, SOCE
- (iii) Prof. P.K. Biswas, STRIDE

Readers/Associate Professors

- (i) Dr. Shubha Gokhale, SOS
- (ii) Dr. Bharti Dogra, SOE
- (iii) Dr. B. Kiranmayi, SOSS

Lecturers/Assistant Professors

- (i) Dr. Madhulika, SOMS
- (ii) Dr. Nisha Varghese, SOEDS
- (iii) Dr. Vijay Kumar, SOA

B. Under Clause (1)(vi):

- (i) Director, RSD
- (ii) Director, Research Unit
- (iii) Director, STRIDE

C. Under Clause (1)(ix):

- (i) Dr. P. Sivaswaroop, RD, Nagpur
- (ii) Dr. S.K. Prasad, NCDS

ITEM NO. 20 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR REGARDING QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE FOR THE POSTS OF CHIEF ENGINEER, CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER AND ESTATE OFFICER

BM 121.20.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor regarding framing the qualifications and experience for the posts of Chief Engineer, Chief Security Officer and Estate Officer.

BM 121.20.2 The Board while recognising the importance the above positions in IGNOU approved and authorized the Chairman to constitute a Screening Committee for the position of Chief Engineer. Also, the Board authorized the Chairman to constitute a Selection Committee for the selection of Chief Engineer and to appoint the candidate recommended by the Selection Committee and same may be reported to the next meeting of the Board of Management. .

ITEM NO.21 TO CONSIDER THE STATUS REPORT ON THE CONVERGENCE SCHEME

BM 121.21.1 The Agenda Item was presented by the Director, RSD. The Board was informed that its decision taken in 118th meeting held on 15.6.2013 to close down the operations under Convergence Scheme with immediate effect was communicated to all the 500 Partner Institutes (PIs). The Convergence Unit was attached to RSD. The interest of the students admitted up to January 2012 Session was protected. The Partner Institutes were given an option to become Study Centres by following established procedures of the University. PIs having no enrolment were informed to submit utilization certificate for the grants received, return the assets lying with them and to refund the unutilized grants. The Board was also informed that only 59 PIs submitted proposals showing interest to become Study Centres of the University and these proposals are under various processing stages. The Board was also informed that Rs. 3,96,00,000 (Rs. three crores ninety six lacs) were sanctioned as grant to 75 PIs with nil admission. Out of that Rs.1,41,65,299 (Rs. one crore forty one lac sixty five thousand two hundred ninety nine only) was recovered from these PIs. In the absence of norms of grant for Coordinating Partners (CPs) verification of utilization of grant is not possible.

The Board was further informed that response from the PIs is not encouraging and it is difficult to ascertain that as to whether the Partner Institutes have purchased furniture and equipments from the grant given to them by following Govt. Financial Rules (GFR). It is also difficult to ascertain as to how these accounts were managed by the PIs

as the grants, fees, examination, advance all were mixed in many cases and separate accounts were not maintained.

BM 121.21.2 The Board was also informed that IGNOU was able to recover an amount of Rs.7,96,52,255 (Rs. Seven crores ninety six lacs fifty two thousand two hundred fifty five only) from PIs from March 2012 to November, 2013 and that in spite of best efforts no further recovery was possible. The Board was also informed that all students registered in IGNOU programmes under Convergence Scheme are now being shifted to respective Regional Centres as per the location of PIs and students.

BM 121.21.3 The Board expressed its serious concern on the way the Scheme was conceived, designed and implemented and appreciated the efforts being made now to protect the interest of the students and providing an opportunity to the PIs to become regular Study Centres of IGNOU. The Board recognized the position that in the given situation, it may not be possible to recover further grants given to these centres but share of IGNOU fee be reconciled as far as possible.

BM 121.21.4 The Board also reiterated its earlier decision as recommended by the Convergence Review Committee for fixing the responsibility as was approved by the Board in its 118th meeting should be pursued and if necessary, a Committee be constituted for the same.

ITEM NO.22 TO REPORT THE MEMORANDUM OF COLLABORATION (MOC) SIGNED BY IGNOU AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THROUGH STATE COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING, GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA

BM 121.22.1 The Board noted signing of MOC between IGNOU and Govt. of Tripura for training 11,884 teachers. The Board appreciated the initiative taken by the University in addressing the problem of 'Teacher Training' in the country.

BM 121.22.2 The Board was also informed about another MOC likely to be signed with Hero Motocorp Ltd. for Vocational Training and Skill Development. The BOM in principle approved signing of the MOC and the same can be reported to next meeting of BOM.

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

(M. Aslam)
Chairman