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**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY STUDIES**

Minutes of the Third School Board Meeting held on October 15, 2008 at 11.30 a.m. in the Board Room, Block No. 8, IGNOU, New Delhi – 110068

The following were present:

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| 1. Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU | - Chairman |
| 2. Prof. Dilip R Ahuja, ISRO Professor,
National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore | - Member |
| 3. Prof. Nawal Kishore, Professor, SOMS, IGNOU | - Member |
| 4. Prof. N.K.Dash, Professor, SOE, IGNOU | - Member |
| 5. Dr. Jaswant Sokhi, Reader, SOS, IGNOU | - Member |
| 6. Dr. Nandini Sahu, Reader, SOH, IGNOU | - Member |

The following could not attend:

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| 1. Prof. D.P. Chattopadhyaya, Chairman,
Centre for Studies in Civilisations, Kolkata | - Member |
| 2. Dr. Ranabir Samaddar, Director,
Mahanirbhan Calcutta Research Group, Kolkata | - Member |
| 3. Prof. Vijay Kapur, Professor, FMS, University of Delhi | - Member |
| 4. Prof. Chandan Mahanta, IIT, Guwahati | - Member |

Dr. Ananda Reddy, SACAR, Pudhuchery, Dr. S. Basu Ray, MCRG, Kolkata, Dr. C.K. Ghosh, SSC, IGNOU, and Prof. GD. Gopal, SOSS were also present as special invitees. Dr. C.G. Naidu, Nodal Officer, New Schools was present to assist the Chairman of the School Board.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members and special invitees. The item-wise discussions and recommendations of the School Board are as follows:

SOITS 3.1: Confirmation of Minutes of the first School Board meeting.

SOITS 3.1.1: Dr. Naidu said that no comments were received on the Minutes of the second School Board.

SOITS 3.1.2: The School Board confirmed the Minutes of the second School Board.

SOITS 3.2: To consider Phase-3 (Programme Design and Detailed Programme Report) form for "PG Diploma in Folklore and Culture Studies".

SOITS 3.2.1: Dr. Nandini Sahu, Programme Coordinator briefly explained the design and detailed structure of the "PG Diploma in Folklore and Culture Studies". She also briefed the progress on Unit writing of courses.

SOITS 3.2.2: After a detailed discussion, the School Board approved the Phase-3 (Programme Design and Detailed Programme Report) form for "PG Diploma in Folklore and Culture Studies".

SOITS 3.3: To consider a proposal for collaboration between Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (MCRG), Kolkata.

SOITS 3.3.1: Dr. S. Basu Ray, MCRG, Kolkata briefly explained the salient features of the proposal for collaboration between MCRG and IGNOU. The main focus of the proposal is:

1. to offer M.Phil./Ph.D. programmes in the areas of Globalisation and Postcolonial Studies
2. to support a proposed resource centre at MCRG for the benefit of scholars from East and Northeast for cutting edge research in the areas of: (a) Forced Migration, (b) Human Rights, (c) Border Studies, (d) Gender Studies, (e) Social Justice, (f) Minority Rights, and (g) Autonomy
3. to offer a course on Forced Migration

SOITS 3.3.2: To a query Dr. Basu Ray said that the course on Forced Migration is being offered by MCRG in the form of distributing lecture notes and organizing personal contact programme. The members suggested developing the learning materials in the form of Self Learning Materials (SLM). The chairman said that normally the forced migration is viewed from socio-political perspectives and we cannot ignore the forced migration from economic angle. In the proposal submitted by MCRG it was indicated that Ph.D. dissertation has to be written within 6 months. The members observed that the dissertation cannot be written in 6 months time. This needs to be clarified/modified.

SOITS 3.3.3: After a detailed discussion, the School Board approved the proposal to have collaboration between IGNOU and MCRG for offering programmes in the identified areas. For this a MoU could be signed.

SOITS 3.4: To consider a proposal for Integrated Ph.D. programme in Physics & Astrophysics in collaboration with Indian Institute of Astrophysics.

SOITS 3.4.1: Dr. C.K. Ghosh briefed the members about the proposal of Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bangalore on Integrated PhD programme in Physics and Astrophysics. He said that the Board of Management, IGNOU in its meeting held on January 07, 2007 has approved the proposal. IGNOU and IIA have signed Memorandum of Collaboration (MoC) on April 25, 2008 for offering the Integrated Ph.D. programme. The programme was advertised and the first batch of students has been given the offer of admission. He requested that the programme could be located in the School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies.

SOIT 3.4.2 Prof. Dilip R Ahuja sought a clarification on whether the programme will be offered through face-to-face or distance education. The Chairman said that although the programme is not a distance education programme, ODL technology capabilities will be provided. The Chairman asked Dr. C.K. Ghosh to submit all the Phase forms for approval.

SOITS 3.4.2: The School Board discussed the item and approved the request for location of Integrated Ph.D. programme in Physics and Astrophysics in the School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies.

SOITS 3.5: To consider Phase-1 (Programme Proposal) and Phase-3 (Programme Design and Detailed Programme Report forms for various programmes in Sri Aurobindo Studies.
SOITS 3.10:

SOITS 3.5.1: Dr. Ananda Reddy briefed the member on the collaboration between IGNOU and SACAR for offering the following programmes:
To

SOITS 3.10.1:

1. Certificate in Sri Aurobindo Studies
2. PG Diploma in Studies in Indian Culture
3. PG Diploma in Integral Education
4. MA in Sri Aurobindo Studies
5. M.Phil in Sri Aurobindo Studies
6. Ph.D in Sri Aurobindo Studies

Dr. Reddy said that on August 15, 2008, MoU was signed between IGNOU and SACAR and the programmes were launched by Dr. Karan Singh, Rajya Sabha member. All the programmes are being offered through online. A rigorous process of short listing of candidates for the programmes is being followed by SACAR. Till the date they have received 100 applications and about 25 were admitted to the programmes.

Dr. Reddy said that they are receiving a number of applications from foreign nationals. They are facing the problem on the recognition status of foreign Universities. The Chairman said that the AIU has published a manual on it. In any case all the applications with foreign qualifications needs to be forwarded to SRD for further process. Also, Dr. Reddy should send all the original applications to IGNOU along with the SACAR recommendations for further processing and finalization of admission data.

SOITS 3.5.2: The School Board approved the Phase-1 (Programme Proposal) and Phase-3 (Programme Design and Detailed Programme Report) forms for the following programmes in Sri Aurobindo Studies:
To
SOITS 3.10.2

1. Certificate in Sri Aurobindo Studies
2. PG Diploma in Studies in Indian Culture
3. PG Diploma in Integral Education
4. MA in Sri Aurobindo Studies
5. M.Phil in Sri Aurobindo Studies
6. Ph.D in Sri Aurobindo Studies

The School Board also ratified the signed MoU between IGNOU and SACAR.

SOITS 3.11. To Consider Design and Development of Programmes in:
1. Foundations of Indian Culture
2. Programme on Integral Education

SOITS 3.11.1 The Vice Chancellor said that IGNOU wish to launch a course on "Foundations of Indian Culture". The real purpose of this course is imparting some basic idea of Indian Culture to the young modern minds of our country on the foundations of our culture. The Vice Chancellor will constitute an expert Committee for developing the course. He requested Dr. Ananda Reddy to take initiative for this and provide a list of experts. The course could be developed as a stand alone

course or can also be made as an elective course/integral course to the students of other programmes of IGNOU.

The Vice Chancellor also asked Dr. Ananda Reddy to propose a Programme on "Integral Education". The integral education course will be general in nature as part of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary studies and will be different from PG Diploma in Integral Education presently offered in collaboration with SACAR. The teacher education component could be separately taken up by School of Education as per the requirement of NCTE. He requested Dr. Ananda Reddy to take initiative for this and provide a list of experts.

SOITS 3.12: To consider Phase-1 (Programme Proposal) form for:

1. P.G. Certificate in Gandhi and Peace Studies
2. P.G. Diploma in Gandhi and Peace Studies
3. Master's Programme in Gandhi and Peace Studies

SOITS 3.12.1: Prof. D. Gopal, Programme Coordinator explained the rationale for developing the above programmes. The programmes will be offered through, Print, Online, and face-to-face (at pilot stage) modes. The programme is modular in nature with multiple exit points. The first six months of the programme forms PG Certificate and next 6 months PG Diploma and one more year Masters Degree. The programmes are being developed in collaboration with the International Centre for Gandhian Studies and Peace Research, New Delhi.

SOITS 3.12.2 The University has established IGNOU—International Centre for Gandhian Studies & Research. Prof R.P. Mishra, former Vice-Chancellor, Allahabad University and renowned Gandhian Scholar is appointed as a Director of the Centre. The Vice Chancellor informed the members that the University has introduced the Research and Teaching Assistanceship (RTA). An advertisement is being issued to appoint RTAs in Gandhian Studies with focus of research and teaching in Gandhian Studies.

SOITS 3.12.3: The School Board approved the Phase-1 (Programme Proposal) form for:

1. P.G. Certificate in Gandhi and Peace Studies
2. P.G. Diploma in Gandhi and Peace Studies
3. Master's Programme in Gandhi and Peace Studies

SOITS 3.13: To consider "Sustainable Development" as a discipline in the School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies".

SOITS 3.13.1: The Vice Chancellor informed the members that the University has established a Chair on Sustainable Development. Prof. M.S. Swaminathan is the honorary Chairman. A lot of activities in the areas of research, compiling and dissemination of information and knowledge have been taken up by the Chair. Some of the activities of the Chair may lead to courses and programmes. Therefore, there is a need to identify "Sustainable Development" as separate discipline in the School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies.

SOITS 3.13.2: The School Board approved the "Sustainable Development" as a separate discipline in the School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies.

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


(V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai)
Chairman