

MINUTES OF THE FORTIETH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1995, AT 1100 HOURS IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK NO.8, IGNOU CAMPUS, NEW DELHI.

The following were present:

1. Prof. R.G. Takwale, Vice-Chancellor, Chairman
2. Prof. Mihir Bhattacharya
3. Ms. Nirmala Deshpande
4. Prof. Prabhat Patnaik
5. Prof. S.K. Verma
6. Shri N.V.K. Murthy
7. Dr. S.K. Gandhe
8. Prof. Pandav Nayak
9. Dr P.K. Mehta
10. Prof. Kapil Kumar

Shri D.C. Pant, Registrar, (Acting)

Shri S.V. Giri, Shri Bhaskar Ghose, Shri Kapil Sibal and Shri C.K. Birla could not attend the meeting.

Shri C.R. Pillai, Director (Planning & Teachers Affairs) attended the meeting as a special invitee.

Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rao, Dy. Registrar (Governance), was present to assist the Registrar (Acting).

At the outset, the Vice-Chancellor extended a cordial welcome to the newly nominated members to the Board of Management, namely, Prof. Pandav Nayak, Prof. Kapil Kumar and Dr P.K. Mehta.

Before the items on the agenda were taken-up for consideration the Vice-Chancellor tabled a brief note titled "Major Concerns of IGNOU." He stated that, after assuming charge as Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU, he had visited all the Schools and Divisions and held discussions with both academics and officers. Based on these discussions, he had identified the following areas as major concerns for the development and management of IGNOU in the next three to five years.

1. Consolidation and System Development.
2. Role Clarifications
3. Development of extension and Continuing Education
4. Widening National Role of IGNOU.
5. International Role of IGNOU

249

He briefly highlighted the salient features of each of the above areas and requested the members to go through the note and offer their comments and suggestions, if any, so that the University's role could be properly defined. A copy of the Vice-Chancellor's note referred to above is placed at Appendix-1.

The following items were considered:

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 39TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON NOVEMBER 25, 1994 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON.

BM 40.1.1 The Vice-Chancellor informed that certain comments from Shri S.V. Giri, Education Secretary, a member of the Board of Management, were communicated to the University and that these points were placed before the Board in a tabulated statement giving details on the item referred, the decision of the Board in brief, the comments received from the Education Secretary and the decisions / comments of the University thereon. The Vice-Chancellor also briefly explained/ clarified the points raised by the Education Secretary vis-a-vis the comments of the University.

BM 40.1.2 While accepting the comments of the University on the points raised by the Education Secretary, the following views were expressed :

- (i) Drivers have to work many a time beyond the call of normal duty and therefore due consideration is required to be given to their promotional opportunities. Cases of drivers who stagnate at a particular level even after completing the required number of years for placement in the next higher scale for want of vacancies in the promotional quota require sympathetic consideration. The University may examine the possibility of considering any such hard cases for the promotion to the next stage by treating such promotions as personal to the person concerned ;
- (ii) A clarification was sought by one of the members regarding the functions of the Chief Engineer vis-a-vis the Chief Project Officer and whether there is overlapping of the responsibilities. In this context, a point was also made whether a person taken on deputation to the post of Chief Engineer from CPWD could have functional autonomy when dealing with his senior officials in the CPWD.

248

(iii) It was clarified that there is a clear demarcation of functions of the Chief Engineer and the Chief Project Officer because the Chief Engineer's primary role would be to oversee the construction programme of the main campus whereas the Chief Project Officer's responsibility relate to the maintenance functions of the existing buildings and future campus infrastructure. It was pointed out that as an officer of the University, the Chief Engineer, though taken on deputation from the CPWD, will have no problem in coordinating with the officials of that organisation ;

(iv) It was suggested that the directions given by the Board of Management at its earlier meeting for strengthening the vigilance set up in the University be expedited.

(v) It was suggested that the school concerned be consulted for allocation of posts for various disciplines in the School.

BM 40.1.3

The Board, having noted the above observations, confirmed the minutes of the 39th meeting of the Board of Management held on November 25, 1994. The Board also noted the action taken on the minutes.

ITEM NO. 2

TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME.

BM 40.2.1

The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained the main recommendations made by the Committee on legal education programmes. The recommendations cover the following areas:

- (1) Establishment of a School of Legal Studies.
- (2) Steps to be taken to develop the structure and content of professional legal education programmes in consultation with the Bar Council of India.
- (3) Identify and initiate non-professional legal education programmes which may include such areas as para legal education in court administration, law office management, legal aid administration and management oriented legal education for middle and top level personnel in Government, etc.

BM 40.2.2

In the course of the discussion that followed, the following views were expressed:

- i) The programmes suggested by the Committee could be offered by some of the existing schools.
- ii) As outlined in the Vice-Chancellor's note tabled at the meeting, consolidation of existing programmes should be the priority concern rather than undertaking new programmes.
- iii) The IGNOU should consider offering innovative awareness programmes in legal education specifically designed for the disadvantaged sections of the society rather than conventional LLB programme.
- iv) Since the Bar Council of India is not favourably inclined to recognise LLB programmes offered through the correspondence and distance education mode, it may be necessary to get the matter settled with the Bar Council of India in the first instance before the programmes are launched.

BM 40.2.3

Considering the views expressed at the meeting as also the recommendations made in the report by the Madhava Menon Committee, it was felt appropriate that a separate Committee be appointed to examine all the issues involved. The Board authorised the Vice-Chancellor to appoint such a committee to examine the matter in depth and submit its report to the Board for further consideration.

ITEM NO.3

TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR RELEASE OF GRANT TO STATE OPEN UNIVERSITIES DURING THE EIGHTH PLAN PERIOD.

BM 40.3.1

The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained that the Visiting Committee appointed by the DEC visited Dr B.R. Ambedkar Open University and the YCMOU and after scrutiny of the 8th plan development proposals submitted by these Universities had recommended grants ranging between Rs.1.50 and Rs.1.60 crores as development grants to each of these two Universities during the 8th plan period. The recommendation of the DEC, which was duly approved by the Board, was that the total allocation for these two Universities be restricted to 1.25 crores each and that they

240

should indicate their urgent requirements and priorities in the implementation of their development proposals. As an interim measure, the DEC had also recommended Rs.30 lakhs each to the two Universities for the year 1993-94, which was already released with Board's approval.

BM 40.3.2

The proposal now before the Board is that an amount of Rs.30 lakhs each to BRAOU and YCMOU be released during the current year, i.e., 1994-1995 out of their total allocation of Rs.125 lakhs. It was further stated that release of any grant to Kota Open University will be considered in 1995-96 after receipt of their revised proposals, and scrutiny thereof by the Visiting Committee.

BM 40.3.3

The Board approved the release of Rs.30 lakhs each to the BRAOU and YCMOU during the current year, i.e., 1994-95 as part of the development grants of these Universities for the Eighth plan.

ITEM NO.4

TO CONSIDER NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF CLAUSES (1)(iv) & (1)(vi) OF STATUTE 9 OF THE STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY.

BM 40.4.1

The Vice-Chancellor recommended the following under clause (1)(iv) and (1)(vi) of the Statute 9 for nomination to the Academic Council:

Under Clause (1)(iv)

- (1) Prof. Asha Kanwar, School of Humanities
- (2) Dr (Mrs) Madhulika Kaushik, School of Management Studies
- (3) Dr (Mrs.) Geeta Kaickar, School of Sciences
- (4) Shri Akshay Kumar, School of Computer and Information Sciences

Under Clause (1)(vi)

Shri C.R. Pillai, Director, Teachers Affairs.

BM 40.4.2 The Board, accepting the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor, nominated the above persons to the Academic Council in terms of Clauses 1 (iv) and (1) (vi) of Statute 9.

ITEM NO.5

TO CONSIDER THE NOMINATION OF A MEMBER TO THE DISTANCE EDUCATION COUNCIL UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF CLAUSE (3) (a)(vii) OF STATUTE 28.

BM 40.5.1

The Board considered the matter. The Board was informed that, in addition to the vacancy of Dr.

22/8

K. Ayyakannu, Dr (Mrs) Upinderjit Kaur, a member of the DEC under the provisions of Clause 3 (a) (vii) of Statute 28, has also ceased to be a member of the DEC having relinquished the post of Director, Directorate of Correspondence Courses at Punjabi University. The Board nominated the following two persons on the Distance Education Council under the provisions of Clause 3 (a) (vii) of Statute 28 :

- i) Dr. (Mrs) Jyostna Dhuru, Director, Deptt. of Correspondence and Distance Education Courses, SNDT Women's University, Bombay **vice** Dr. K. Ayyakannu, for a two year period.
- ii) Dr. V. Abraham, Director, School of Correspondence Courses, Andhra University, **vice** Dr. Upinderjit Kaur, for the residual term, i.e., till 23.2.1996.

ITEM NO.6 TO CONSIDER THE NOMINATION OF A MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF CLAUSE (1) (iv) OF STATUTE 10.

BM 40.6.1 The Board considered the matter and nominated Prof. D.D. Joshi as a member of the Planning Board representing the area of Distance Education for the residual term of Professor R.G. Takwale i.e., upto 4.10.96.

ITEM NO.7 TO CONSIDER COOPTION OF A MEMBER ON THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT IN PLACE OF PROF. T.N. BHARDWAJ UNDER CLAUSE (1) (vi) (a) OF STATUTE 6A.

BM 40.7.1 The Board coopted Prof. B.S. Sharma, Vice-Chancellor, Kota Open University as a member of the Board of Management under the provisions of Clause (1)(vi)(a) of Statute 6A for the residual term of the earlier nominee i.e., upto 30.11.96.

ITEM NO.8 TO CONSIDER THE NOMINATION OF MEMBERS ON DIFFERENT STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

BM 40.8.1 The Board considered the proposal of nomination of members to its various Standing Committees. The following nominations were made: