

IGNOU

MINUTES OF THE SIXTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON JANUARY 24, 2001, AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK-8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI - 110 068.

The following were present:

- (1) Prof. V.S. Prasad, Vice-Chancellor - Chairman
- (2) Shri M.K. Kaw
- (3) Prof. N.R.M. Menon
- (4) Prof. N.K. Ambasht
- (5) Shri J. Veeraraghavan
- (6) Prof. A.K. Agarwal
- (7) Dr. J..M. Parakh
- (8) Dr. D.K. Choudhry

Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rao, Registrar - Secretary

Shri L.N. Jhunjhunwala, Prof. H.C. Pandey and Shri Y.N. Chaturvedi could not attend the meeting.

Shri Vikram Chandra, Finance Officer, IGNOU, attended the meeting as a Special Invitee.

Shri D. Deb, Assistant Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Board.

At the outset, the Vice-Chancellor extended a hearty welcome to the new members nominated on the Board of Management by the Visitor. They are:

- (i) Dr. H.C. Pandey
- (ii) Shri L.N. Jhunjhunwala
- (iii) Prof. N.R.M. Menon
- (iv) Prof. N.K. Ambasht
- (v) Shri J. Veeraraghavan

The Vice-Chancellor also placed on record the University's appreciation and gratitude for the distinguished services rendered by Prof. A.W. Khan as the Vice-Chancellor of the University from June 1998 to September 2000.

The Vice-Chancellor in his introductory remarks apprised the members of the developments that have taken place since September, 2000. These developments are summarized as under:

- (i) There has been a steady increase in the enrolment figure of students in various courses/programmes. The annual enrolment has gone up to nearly 3 Lakhs, with total number of students in various programmes touching 6 Lakhs. Professional courses constitute 70% of all the programmes. There is also a noticeable shift in the enrolment towards the computer related programmes. Enrolment statistics further indicate that there is a sharp increase in enrolment for all parts of India. Enrolment of weaker sections, especially women and communities of North-Eastern Region, have been showing a gradual increase.
- (ii) As nodal agency for Gyan Darshan, the educational channel of Doordarshan, IGNOU has taken significant initiative in enriching a learning environment in the country with the applications of modern technologies. Efforts are being made to involve cable TV Net work so that the reach of IGNOU's courses and programmes expanded further.
- (iii) So far as the Campus Development is concerned, the construction of academic complex is progressing well. The complex is expected to be ready in the first half of 2002. It was also mentioned that Phase II construction has been entrusted to Engineers India Ltd.
- (iv) The 12th Convocation of the University has been scheduled on March 3, 2001. Prof. M.G.K. Menon will deliver the Convocation address. The Vice-Chancellor extended a cordial invitation to all the members to attend the Convocation.
- (v) The Vice-Chancellor also made a reference to an unfortunate incident of paper leakage in BCA/MCA/ Computer Programmes of the University in Delhi Region for the examinations scheduled in December 2000. The University has viewed the matter seriously and conducted a preliminary enquiry into the incident and had taken certain corrective measures. Further, the case has been handed over to Delhi Crime Branch to fully investigate the matter.

In response, the following views/suggestions were made by the members:

- (i) While appreciating the rapid growth of the University, it was suggested that the strategy for future should include consolidation as well.
- (ii) The Board of Management may be apprised of the various activities of the University through periodic presentations.
- (iii) There is a need for viewership survey especially regarding the reach of the programmes telecast through Gyan Darshan.
- (iv) Mention has also been made of Kargil and Leh Region where there are potential distant learners. There is a large migration in the Jammu area too. IGNOU should initiate steps to include this population into its courses and programmes through the efforts of student services activities.
- (v) The University should take steps to augment its infrastructure for student's support with a view to improve the services.
- (vi) The cable TV Network proposal of the University involving Gyan Darshan should impress upon the cable operators to telecast the Gyan Darshan on regular basis.

With the above observations, the main agenda was taken up.

The following items were considered:

ITEM NO. 1

TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 66TH AND 67TH MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON 7TH AND 24TH AUGUST, 2000 RESPECTIVELY AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON.

BM 68.1.1

The Item was considered. Registrar informed the Board that no comments have been received on the Minutes. The action taken on the Minutes was noted by the members. The Minutes of the 66th and 67th Meetings of the Board of Management held on 7th and 24th August, 2000 respectively were confirmed.

ITEM NO. 2

TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEES.

BM 68.2.1

The recommendations of the Selection Committees along with the profiles of candidates were tabled. The Board considered and approved the recommendations of the Selection Committees. A statement showing the recommendations made by the Selection Committees is placed at **Appendix-1**.

ITEM NO. 3

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF 38TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 10TH JANUARY, 2001.

BM 68.3.1

The Item was considered. The Board noted that the Finance Committee at its meeting held on January 10, 2001 recorded certain observations made by Shri Sanjay Narayan on the Minutes of the 37th Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 24-1-2000 and continued on March 9, 2000. Though, the Minutes of the said 37th Meeting of the Finance Committee were duly considered and approved by the Board of Management at its 66th Meeting held on 7th August, 2000, since, the observations made by Shri Sanjay Narayan came on record, the Board of Management was of the view that it consider these issues and decide on each of the observations made. The observations relate to

- (i) Reimbursement of cost of newspapers to IGNOU employees. (Item No.4 of the Minutes)
- (ii) Introduction of new cadre of multi-skilled workers (Item No. 11(i)).
- (iii) Estimates for Phase II construction including construction of Houses (Item No. 11(a))
- (iv) Rewarding of merit (Item No.11(9))
- (v) Medical Facilities (Item No. 9(14))
- (vi) Recommendations of the Cadre Review Committee for EMPC Staff (Item No.19).

BM 68.3.2

The Board having considered these observations at some length decided to record its decisions/observations as indicated below:

- (i) Reimbursement of cost of newspapers to IGNOU employees. (Item No.4 of the Minutes)

The Board decided that the proposal as implemented required no review.

- (ii) Introduction of new cadre of multi-skilled workers (Item No. 11(i)).

While noting that the proposal had gone through the required procedure like Finance Committee and the Board of Management, even so, the Board was of the view that this issue of multi-skilled workers is an important service condition and which is likely to have impact on other Central Universities. Therefore, it was decided that the University may refer this matter to the Government for consideration.

- (iii) Estimates for Phase II construction including construction of Houses (Item No. 11(a))

The Board having noted that the Phase-2 construction of the Campus have been cleared by the Finance Committee and the Board of Management, further clearance from MHRD was not considered necessary. The University may go ahead with the project within the overall approvals given.

- (iv) Rewarding of merit (Item No.11(9))

The Board decided that the University may implement it as proposed and no review was considered necessary.

- (v) Medical Facilities (Item No. 9(14))

The Board was of the view that University could either follow CS(MA) Rules or the CGHS Rules. It was stated by the Registrar that University is following generally the CS(MA) Rules with certain modifications/revisions taking into account the requirement and such modifications were made only with the due approval of the Board of Management. It was also stated that the coverage of retired employees was envisaged as a welfare measure in line with certain public sector undertakings and Government of India. The Board

having considered the matter, decided that the scheme as it is in vogue in the University may continue to be followed. However, the deviations, if any, from the CS(MA) Rules may be referred to Government for consideration. The Board also suggested that the University may adopt any one scheme, such as CS(MA) Rules, or CGHS Rules or schemes obtaining in institutions like IIT, IIMs or Public Sector Undertakings. The University may also explore the possibility of insurance linked medical scheme.

- (vi) Recommendations of the Cadre Review Committee for EMPC Staff (Item No.19).

While noting that the recommendations of the Finance Committee on this subject was duly approved by the Board of Management in its 66th Meeting, yet the Board felt that this requires further examination in Government. Therefore, the matter be referred to Government.

BM 68.3.3

With the above observations, the decisions taken by the Board of Management on the Minutes of the 37th Meeting of the Finance Committee at its 66th Meeting of the Board of Management held on August 7, 2000, stand modified to the extent indicated above.

BM 68.3.4

Thereafter, the Board considered the minutes of the 38th Meeting of the Finance Committee held on January 10, 2001 and approved them. The Board, in particular, gave its approval to the items specifically recommended as indicated below:

- (i) Revision in the rates of remuneration for part time staff of Study Centres.
- (ii) Rates for self-activities for B.Sc. (Nursing) Programmes.
- (iii) Rates of remuneration for various activities connected with the B.Ed. Programme as proposed.